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Appendix

Topic Guide – Focus Groups

	Post-Course Focus Groups	**Refresher Class Focus Groups**
	Key Objectives: • Establishing prior experience of ICT before their stroke and before classes • Establishing individual experiences of the course • Establishing how individuals envisage future computer use • Establish how ICT can help them with post-stroke communication difficulties	**Key Objectives:** • Establishing individual experiences of the course *(to include those few participants who did not attend immediate post-course focus groups)* • Establishing ICT use and change since the course • Establishing impact in everyday lives • Establish usefulness of Refresher Class • Establish how ICT can help them with post-stroke communication difficulties
1.	Introductions • Purpose of discussion • Explain emphasis on ICT rather than their broader experiences of stroke • Ensure each member included and given opportunity to have their voice heard	
2.	ICT use before their stroke and before the classes *PROBE: distinguish between ICT high users/very experienced before stroke (i.e. relearning lost knowledge) and ICT inexperienced (learning for first time)*	Relate their experiences of the course *PROBE: what wanted to learn; what achieved; did it meet expectations; what helped most; method of delivery (talk, student mentoring etc.); length of course, useful/irrelevant; focus on contact with people e.g. grandchildren, relatives abroad, shopping rather than keyboard use etc.*
3.	Relate their experiences of the course *PROBE: what wanted to learn; what achieved; did it meet expectations; what helped most; method of delivery (talk, student mentoring etc.); length of course, useful/irrelevant; focus on contact with people e.g. grandchildren, relatives abroad, shopping rather than keyboard use etc.*	How much have they used ICT at home since the course? Is it different than before the course *PROBE: distinguish between ICT high users/very experienced before stroke (i.e. relearning lost knowledge) and ICT inexperienced (learning for first time)and changes since the course*
4.	Relate how they are expecting to use computers in the future *PROBE: link to what they said originally and their expectations; do they need additional help and are there people there to provide it (spouses/children etc.); optimism future computer use and what for, e.g. connectivity and networking using computers – can it reduce experience of isolation felt by many?*	What are they using the computer for since the course *PROBE: functional use i.e. using for things like Facebook or emails to keep in touch with people; finding out information on the Internet; online shopping etc. what impact is this making on their lives?*
5.	More general discussion about how much computers can help them cope with difficulties they experience following stroke *PROBE: needs of people with aphasia; potential for ICT training to help people re-establish networks; get back into employment; take control of their lives or do they think computers are mainly for entertainment (e.g. films). How should such training be offered? Is this a question of SLT due to communication needs? Should we be developing the course further and looking for funding or should a*	Usefulness of Refresher Class *PROBE: how has this helped e.g. more practice, help remember things forgotten, enjoyed meeting people again/new people etc. ask for specifics & examples. Briefly probe how important the lunchtime break was in getting the opportunity to chat with other people who have aphasia*

	wider range of people offer this locally?	
6.		Relate how they are expecting to use computers in the future *PROBE: link to what they said originally and their expectations; do they need additional help and are there people there to provide it (spouses/children etc.); optimism future computer use and what for, e.g. connectivity and networking using computers – can it reduce experience of isolation felt by many?*
7.		More general discussion about how much computers can help them cope with difficulties they experience following stroke *PROBE: needs of people with aphasia; potential for ICT training to help people re-establish networks; get back into employment; take control of their lives or do they think computers are mainly for entertainment (e.g. films). How should such training be offered? Is this a question of SLT due to communication needs? Should we be developing the course further and looking for funding or should a wider range of people offer this locally?*