**Interview Guideline**

1. Preliminary information
2. Welcome and introduction of the interviewer
3. Notes on the course of the interview

* First discussion of the content of the course, then discussion of the answers in the questionnaire regarding satisfaction, opportunities, barriers

1. Agreement on the planned duration of the interview

* Time frame: approx. 15 min, but generally open-ended depending on the willingness of the interviewee

1. Information on the use and release of the data

* The University Hospital of Cologne processes the data concerning you as part of the project “Survey of established communication skills trainings (CSTs) at oncology centers in Germany” for the purpose of further research and as part of a doctoral thesis. The data will be stored for 2 years after the end of the project. You have the right of access, rectification, erasure, restriction of processing, a right to object to further processing, the right to data portability and a right to lodge a complaint with the competent supervisory authority.
* The data you provide to us will not be associated with you as a private individual or with your center in the finished work; pseudonyms are used. Your personal contact details, which you have provided to us for the purpose of contacting you, will not be mentioned anywhere in the final work.

1. Declaration of consent
2. Interview

Beginning

a) How long have you been working at the center?

b) Have you already attended courses in the form of communication skills training as a participant?

2. Main part

*Refers to* Stiefel, F., Kiss, A., Salmon, P., Peters, S., Razavi, D., Cervantes, A., Margulies, A., & Bourquin, C. (2018). Training in communication of oncology clinicians: a position paper based on the third consensus meeting among European experts in 2018.

(1) Content-related questions on the CST based on the work of Stiefel et al. (2018), as open questions

c) What content were you taught in the course? What was the focus?

(2) Content-related questions on the CST based on the work of Stiefel et al. (2018), structured (if not already answered in a))

d) Dealing with emotions

* Is the focus placed on understanding the patient's individual psychological situation and associated uncertainties? To what extent?

e) Relationship building

* Were techniques for learning how to build relationships with patients, relatives and team members taught?
* Are the interpersonal aspects of communication addressed?

f) Involve relatives:

* Has communication with the patient's partner also been addressed?

g) Interprofessional cooperation

* Was there a focus on the topic of collaboration with team members?

h) Reflection

* Was the topic of self-reflection in the role of the attending physician discussed sufficiently?
* *If there is a lack of understanding*: for example, is an awareness conveyed that your personal experiences as a private individual will involuntarily shape your communication with the patient?

(3) Questions on satisfaction with regard to the answers in the questionnaire

i) You have indicated that...

* What is already going well?
* Can you give an example from everyday life where this deficiency became apparent/where you noticed that the skills training was of some use to you?
* To what extent could the situation in this regard be improved locally at your center and in Germany as a whole?

j) How important do you yourself consider the skills training to be for your work?

1. Review and outlook

a) Brief summary of the interview to avoid misunderstandings

b) Space for comments/questions from the interviewee:

* Do you have any questions?
* Anything else you would like to add?

c) Outlook

* Evaluation of the questionnaires and interviews
* Question: Would you like us to keep you informed about the further course of the study, e.g. the results or a possible publication?

d) Thank you and farewell