Supplementary table S1. Interview guide

Opening remarks

* Hello Dr. X. Thank you for agreeing to speak with me.
* The overall purpose of our study is to understand if there is a need for better communication about, and monitoring of medical device incidents
* We are speaking with cardiovascular physicians and orthopedic surgeons who use implantable devices that have been associated with complications
* The focus is on indicated use of devices, not off-label use, and complications that arise during or after device use as a direct consequence of device-related issues such as labelling, packaging, technical issue or malfunction, rather than due to a surgical technique or patient characteristics such as age or health status.

Recall of an Incident and Associated Details

Your specialty uses particular devices that have been associated with incidents, for example [mention hip/knee replacement or pacemakers/defibrillators]. Please describe a particular incident that recently arose with that type of device.

Additional prompts if needed:

* Describe the clinical procedure and nature of incident
* What were the clinical implications for the procedure, patient, yourself?
* How was it identified and when (during, sometime after the procedure, or ever)?
* How was it managed or resolved, and with what outcome (discussions among colleagues or division, feedback to company rep, continue stocking product)?

Individual Knowledge and Behaviour

How do you decide what type or model of device to use in a given patient?

What information do you use, or who do you consult to make such a decision?

Additional prompts if needed:

* Evidence from medical literature (ie. Medline, UptoDate)
* Colleagues
* Hospital purchasing/procurement or other department
* Device manufacturer/distributors or their representatives

How do you or others in your hospital routinely learn about medical device safety issues?

* Do you monitor or receive alerts and notices?
* How are they acted upon?

Institutional Policies and Procedures

What policies or procedures are in place in your department or hospital to prevent, identify, report, monitor, or manage single device-related incidents, or device safety in general?

Additional prompts if needed:

* Explicit policies and procedures
* Purchasing/procurement
* Hospital error reporting system
* Department/specialty-specific registry
* Rounds, meetings
* Training

Role of manufacturers/distributors

What is the role of industry representatives or manufacturers in providing information about devices, training, identifying problems, or acting on problems?