# Purposive sampling strategy

To draw a maximally diverse interview sample from the pool of 122 self-nominated recruits, we devised 16 codes comprising of four binary categorizations (see Table 1): age (65-79 or 80+ years), sex (female or male), income level (low-income or mid-high income), and marital status (married/de facto or not married). We then assigned codes to each participant with the aim of contacting 2 recruits per a code, with 1 per an interviewer ([Author 1, Author 2]). In some cases, either because a code did not correspond to 2 participants or participants were not contactable or could not be interviewed, we had to contact participants belonging to an adjacent code (See Table 2).

Table 1. Sampling framework

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. Female | | | | | | | | 1. Male | | | | | | | |
| C. Married/de facto | | | | D. Not married\* | | | | C. Married/de facto | | | | D. Not married\* | | | |
| E. Low income | | F. Mid/high income | | E. Low income | | F. Mid/high income | | E. Low income | | F. Mid/high income | | E. Low income | | F. Mid/high income | |
| G. 65-79 | H. 80+ | G. 65-79 | H. 80+ | G. 65-79 | H. 80+ | G. 65-79 | H. 80+ | G. 65-79 | H. 80+ | G. 65-79 | H. 80+ | G. 65-79 | H. 80+ | G. 65-79 | H. 80+ |
| 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |

\* Single, divorced, or widowed.

Table 2. Interview sample drawn from sampling framework (A1 and A2 refer to study authors)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Code | A1 | A2 |
| ACEG | 1 | 2 |
| ACEH | 0 | 0 |
| ACFG | 2 | 1 |
| ACFH | 1 | 1 |
| ADEG | 1 | 1 |
| ADEH | 1 | 1 |
| ADFG | 2 | 1 |
| ADFH | 0 | 1 |
| BCEG | 1 | 0 |
| BCEH | 1 | 1 |
| BCFG | 2 | 2 |
| BCFH | 1 | 2 |
| BDEG | 1 | 0 |
| BDEH | 0 | 0 |
| BDFG | 1 | 1 |
| BDFH | 1 | 1 |

# Interview questionnaire

***Interviewers should feel free to follow interesting new themes that arise during interviews and ask their own follow up questions to tease them out.***

## Introductory statement

I’m going to ask you some questions about your experience of the COVID-19 pandemic and how the pandemic and the lockdown restrictions have affected your life.

The interview will take around 40 to 60 minutes and we would like to audio-record it, if that is OK with you.

Are you happy to proceed?

**I will start the recording now. [start recording]**

We sent you a consent form. Can you once again confirm that you received it and read it?

You are not obliged to answer any questions you don’t want to. If at any point you wish to discontinue the interview, you may do so.

## General views about the COVID-19 pandemic

1. Is the COVID-19 pandemic something you have followed in the news?
   1. What do you think of the media coverage?
   2. Do you trust the media’s coverage?
2. Is COVID-19 something you are worried about?
   1. Why/why not?
3. Have you or has anyone you know contracted COVID-19?
   1. *If ‘yes’:* Do you mind telling me what happened?
4. Was the lockdown the right thing for government to do?
   1. Why/why not?
5. Do you think Governments here in Australia has managed the pandemic well?
   1. Do you trust the government’s response?
   2. What about the health experts, do you trust them? *(if they ask mention people like Brett Sutton (Chief Health Officer), epidemiologists, medical scientists)*
6. How do you think the virus will affect us in the future?
7. How much do you think a vaccine will help?

## Personal experiences

1. What was the COVID-19 pandemic like for you?
2. What was your day-to-day life like during the restrictions?
   1. How did you spend your days under lockdown?
   2. How was that different to usual *(i.e. before the lockdown)*?
3. How did the restrictions affect you and your life?
   1. How did the restrictions make you feel?
   2. How did they affect your family life?
   3. How did they affect your social life?
4. How did the restrictions affect your health?

## Living and financial situation

1. What was your living situation during the restrictions *(if asked for clarification, where they lived, with whom, size of house, etc.)*?
   1. Did your living situation change as a result of restrictions?
2. Did you experience financial stress because of the pandemic?
   1. What about your family of friends, did they experience financials stress?
3. Did you did find yourself supporting other people more than usual *(this could mean financially, emotionally, direct care, housing, etc.)*?
   1. *If “yes”:* Tell me about that.
4. Did anyone support you?
5. Do you provide care for anyone else *(i.e. an older person, child, person with a disability)*?
   1. How was your care role affected?

## Conclusion

1. Is there anything else you would like to say about the COVID-19 pandemic or your experiences of it?

**I will stop the recording now. [stop recording]**

Do you have any questions for me?

Thank you for your time.