**Appendix 1. Focus Group Questions**

**Exploring Family Physicians’ Challenges of Dementia Care in Rural Southern Alberta – A Qualitative Study**

**Focus Group Questions**

Thank you for joining us today in our focus group session. We are family medicine residents and what we learn today will contribute to our residency research project. Our project aims to explore the experiences of family doctors caring for elderly patients with dementia in rural settings through the use of semi-structured focus groups.

This focus group will run approximately 1 hour and we will be conducting three separate focus groups in three different rural towns in Southern Alberta. One of us will be acting as a moderator and another will be a scribe.

We have formulated some questions to help guide the discussion about the facilitators and barriers to providing care to persons with dementia in the rural setting. The focus group will be audio recorded and then transcribed to aid in analysis. No identify information will be included in the transcripts, the notes taken by the scribe, or any resulting publications. Once the discussion is transcribed, the recording will be destroyed. Some of the following questions will ask you to reflect on yourselves as physicians and some will ask about other external factors.

**Questions**

1. Can we explore the challenges that you experience in your practice with dementia diagnosis and management?
2. Is there anything about your skills, knowledge, or beliefs that may make this challenging? (TDF domains: knowledge, skills, beliefs about capabilities)
3. Can we explore the strengths of dementia diagnosis and management?
4. Is there anything about your skills, knowledge or beliefs that help in your practice with dementia? (TDF domains: knowledge, skills, beliefs about capabilities)
5. How does geography play a role in dementia care within your practice? (TDF domain: environmental constraints)
6. Tell us about your experiences with family or caregivers of patients with dementia? (TDF domain: social influences)
7. Tell us about the appropriateness and access to support services for dementia care or diagnosis? (TDF domain: environmental constraints)
8. Tell us about the access to investigations for patients with dementia in your practice? (TDF domain: environmental constraints)
9. How do time constraints play a role in dementia care within your practice?
10. What motivates you to care for patients with dementia in your practice? (TDF: motivation and goals)
11. What discourages you from caring for patients with dementia in your practice? (TDF: motivation and goals)
12. How do your emotions play a role in the care for patients with dementia? How does this affect you? (TDF: emotion)
13. Do you have suggestions for improving dementia care in your setting?
14. What is your overall outlook regarding dementia care in your community?
15. Are there any other thoughts in regards to dementia care in rural settings that you would like to share?