**Appendix B Interview Guide**

International Guidelines for foreign medical workers responding to natural disasters in low and middle income countries: Do they exist and are they being followed?

**Interview Guide:**

Participant ID:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Interview method (Skype or phone) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Location of Participant:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Start time:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ End time:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Demographics:*

Gender:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Profession/ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Job Title/ Field Role:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Number of “missions” up to and including Nepal, or years in disaster response:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Confirmation of Consent:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Opening Questions:

Maybe we can start off by your telling me how you got involved in disaster response work.

Prompts – what led up to it, why did you decide to try it

Theme 1: Personal Preparation

Thinking back to before you decided to go to Nepal, can you describe for me what you expected to find when you got there

Follow-up: Was there anything you had done, even prior to the earthquake, to prepare for working in a post-disaster environment?

(Prompt: courses, training, prior experience)

What took you to Nepal following the earthquake?

Theme 2: Team Preparation

Tell me a bit about the people you went over with

(Prompts: mix of professions, people they were familiar with)

Follow-up: How did you fit into the mix? How were roles determined before you went?

What sort of equipment and supplies did you bring with you and how were these decided on?

Theme 3: Arrival in Nepal

What was it like for you when you arrived in Nepal? How did you feel?

(Prompts: ready to go, shocked, overwhelmed, prepared)

Probing question: Why?

Theme 4: Location (co-ordination)

Then what happened?

(Prompts: where did you go? When did you start working?)

Follow-up: How was the decision made for you to go where you did? Did you stay there or move somewhere else? Why?

Theme 5: Work

Tell me what you, both yourself and your team as a group, do when you were at [name of site where located].

Follow-up: How is this similar or different from what you would normally do, or expected to do? How long did you stay?

Theme 6: Local Populations

What were some of your, and your team’s interactions with the Nepalis?

(Prompts: strictly as patients, part of the health care team, part of management)

Theme 7: Data Collection and Reporting

What sorts of report were made or records were kept?

(Prompts: patient charts, surgical legers, daily reports to central authorities, etc.)

Probing question: where did these go?

Theme 8: Observation of other FMTs

While in Nepal, did you meet, work with or just run into any other international health workers or teams? What were the circumstances?

Follow-up: What was your impression of their preparedness? Were there any incidents, relating to other teams or individuals, which stand out in your mind as being particularly good or, alternatively, inappropriate?

Probing question: Can you give me an example?

Theme 9: View of quality of response

If you had one suggestion for improving the health sector response to disasters like Nepal, what would it be?

Theme 10: Guidelines

Taking a step back from Nepal, I’d like to move on to talking about guidelines for health sector workers. Does your [organization, agency, team, …] talk about guidelines or best practices, basically what you should or shouldn’t be doing, when responding to a disaster like the one in Nepal?

Follow-up: What do you know of international guidelines ?

(Prompts: Sphere, WHO FMTs)

Follow-up: What do you feel about having these types of guidelines or regulation?

Probing question: From your experience, what sort of guidelines do you think are needed?

Theme 11: Overall view of response

In closing, given the opportunity to participate in a health response to a sudden onset disaster in a low or middle income country, would you want to go again?

Probing question: What would you feel went well that you would like to see done again? What would you like to do differently?