Supplementary file / Appendix 1:
Management of Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillators in Advanced Heart Failure: An exploration of the issues
Semi-Structured Interview Guide for Patient & Carer interviews.

Introduction:
Expression of thanks for willingness to take part in this study.
Reiterate what the study is about: - hopes and concerns (particularly regarding ICD) in advanced heart failure.
Reaffirm consent to participate with the interview & right to withdraw at any time.
Give reassurance of confidentiality.

Examples of open & probing questions that may be used during the interview:
Can you tell me about how your health is currently?
What do you understand about the ICD - its role and how it affects your life?
What comes to mind when you think about the future?
Can you tell me what your clinical team has said about what may happen in the future? (Probe- ICD)
How does this make you feel?
Do you think your voice/say is important? (Probe)
Have you any other concerns/ worries that you would like to talk about?

Closure:
Explain what will happen to the information which has been collected.
Reinforce confidentiality.
Request if participant would like a copy of the research findings.
Ascertain that the participant is not distressed
Expression of thanks for participating