

Supplementary materials 1– Researcher reflexivity

Recruitment

One method of recruitment was to advertise the study on social media. Flyers as well as a brief video were shared across the research teams accounts and reshared widely by non-research team members. This recruitment strategy was limited as although it was a successful approach to reach other relevant professionals working within the field, social media was not a particularly effective way of reaching eligible parents or caregivers.

In addition, recruitment also took place via contacting eligible participants on an existing database held at the University of Birmingham. Recruitment through this existing database was a more popular route given the increased opportunity for potential participants to ask questions. Participants on the research database had either participated in previous research or expressed an interest for their details to be held by the research team, thus perhaps explaining the increased success of this approach.

Rapport

All participant contact within the current study was with myself, meaning that from the point of recruitment to the interviews I was able to build rapport with families to ensure a level of comfortableness communicating a potentially vulnerable experience. I explained that the interview studies comprised a section of my PhD research studies, and discussed how they would hopefully shape it's conclusions and overall suggestions for future research and clinical practice. I aimed to ensure throughout all interactions that participants felt comfortable sharing personal experiences, were aware of their freedom to withdraw and understood the detailed security procedures in place to maintain data protection. I positioned myself as someone who did not have lived experience of being a parent of a MLPT infant but was committed to ensuring high quality research was conducted to promote the best and most positive outcome for those born MLPT and their families.

Philosophical Standpoint

I held an interpretivism perspective throughout this study, allowing me to consider participants experiences in an open manner. This approach considers personal experiences to be shaped by situations and contexts pertinent to an individual. Within the current study this approach allowed me to gain an in depth understanding of individuals experiences as well as the contributing factors that shape their recollections and lasting emotions.