**Appendix: Interview Guide**

1. **Overview of Traumatic Brain Injury in the Community**
   1. Tell us about the risk of concussion or mild TBI for children and adolescents in your patient population. How often do you assess a potential concussion or mild TBI in a month?
   2. Where do most children in your community who experience a mild TBI receive care? (e.g. emergency department, outpatient clinic, urgent care)
2. **Mild TBI in pediatric populations**
3. What resources, if any, do you use in your initial evaluation or management of a pediatric patient for a mild TBI? (Interviewer: If needed, can prompt with: For example, websites, at-a-glances, validated symptom scales, EHR clinical decision support, colleagues, etc.).
4. What kind of challenges do you experience in using these materials/resources?
5. **CDC’s Pediatric Mild TBI Guideline Materials**

***INTRODUCTION OF mTBI GUIDELINE MATERIALS***

Before we start, I wanted to share some information about CDC HEADS UP, which is a campaign to protect children and adolescents from concussions by increasing knowledge and awareness about concussions and their potentially devastating effects. HEADS UP translates the latest concussion science into educational products that are tailored for key groups. CDC collaborates with partner organizations to share and integrate HEADS UP materials and messages into existing programs. The new Pediatric mild TBI Guideline, also developed by CDC in collaboration with partners, is intended for healthcare providers who care for pediatric patients, in the primary care, outpatient specialty, inpatient, and emergency care settings. It includes recommendations about pediatric mild TBI diagnosis, prognosis, treatment, and management. The new guideline materials will be part of CDC’s HEADS UP resources for healthcare providers.

For our conversation, we will use the term mild TBI interchangeably with the term concussion. Also, we are defining mild TBI based on Glasgow Coma Scale scores of 13-15, with and without the complication of intracranial injury on neuroimaging, and regardless of potentially requiring a hospital admission and/or neurosurgical intervention.

Once again, the main purpose of our discussion is to get your feedback on the recommendations that CDC developed for healthcare providers about diagnosing and managing mild TBI. Your feedback will help us improve related materials and determine how to best implement and promote the Guideline in rural areas.

We emailed and sent you the pediatric mild TBI guideline recommendations by FedEx, and will be asking you questions about them. Keep in mind that this document is a part of CDC's HEADS UP campaign that shares tailored information about concussion with groups including athletes, parents, coaches, school professionals, and healthcare providers.

*Ask the following questions for the pediatric mTBI guideline recommendations:*

1. How would you use these recommendations?

Probes:

Would you refer to these recommendations while you were currently visiting a patient? How so?

Would you share these recommendations with a colleague?

1. What, if anything, could be changed to make the recommendations more useful for you?
2. How realistic and feasible are these recommendations for you to use or implement in your practice? Is it a realistic expectation for healthcare providers to integrate this guideline as the new standard of care in their practice? Why?
3. What barriers do you face in your practice to utilizing these recommendations? What specific barriers do you think you will face with the recommendations from the new mild TBI Guideline, as seen in these materials? How can the CDC support you in overcoming these barriers?
4. Do you have any suggestions or tips to make these recommendations easier for rural healthcare providers like yourself to implement?
5. What suggestions do you have to increase awareness of the Guideline and these recommendations among rural healthcare providers?
6. Overall, what is the best way to get these pediatric mild TBI guideline recommendations into the hands of healthcare providers who practice in rural areas?
7. **Conclusion/Wrap-Up**
8. What do you want the CDC to know about mild TBI in children and adolescents living in rural communities?
9. Is there any additional information about your experiences with mild TBI and concussions that you would like to share at this time?

Thank you for taking the time out of your schedule to speak with us today. The information you provided, and your experiences, will help inform CDC’s future TBI related work supporting rural health care providers. We appreciate and value your contribution. Thank you.