*Interview Guide*

We will begin with interview questions about your understanding of the spiritual and/or religious needs of persons with mild dementia.

1. What are the particular religious and/or spiritual needs of persons with mild dementia? Anything else? How do the religious and/or spiritual needs of persons with mild dementia differ from people with chronic illness generally?

PROBE: For example, feeling connected to God/a higher power, feeling connected to others, feeling peaceful, and/or finding meaning in life.

1. What makes it hard for persons with mild dementia to meet their religious and/or spiritual needs on their own? What makes it easy for persons with mild dementia to meet these needs on their own?

1. What makes it hard for family and friends to help the person with mild dementia meet their religious and/or spiritual needs? What makes it easy for family and friends to help the person with mild dementia to meet these needs?

Now we’ll talk about health professionals and their efforts to meet the religious and/or spiritual needs of persons with mild dementia.

1. What do you see as your professional role in meeting the religious and/or spiritual needs of persons with mild dementia? What do you currently do as part of that role? How do you need to modify your care to address such needs in persons with mild dementia?
2. Do you feel professionally prepared to address the religious and/or spiritual needs of persons with mild dementia? What makes you feel the way you do?
3. Do you feel personally comfortable addressing the religious and/or spiritual needs of persons with mild dementia? What makes you feel the way you do?
4. What should be the professional role of other health care professionals [other than your profession] in meeting the religious and/or spiritual needs of persons with mild dementia?

PROBE: What should be the role of social workers/nurses/physicians and/or chaplains?

1. What makes it hard for health care professionals to help the person with mild dementia meet their religious and/or spiritual needs? What makes it easy for health care professionals to help the person with mild dementia meet these needs?

How have you been professionally trained in dementia care? In religious and/or spiritual care generally? In the religious and/or spiritual needs of persons with mild dementia in particular? How helpful was each type of training?

What topics do you think are essential to include in professional training about meeting the religious/and or spiritual needs of persons with mild dementia? What skills are essential to include?

1. What else would you like to tell me about religion and spirituality regarding persons with mild dementia?