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Table 1. Domains identified from initial long list (survey questionnaire items)

Broad health domain	Domain	
Quality of life after discharge from hospital (n=38 items)		
Activities of daily living and work/employment	1	Able to carry out usual activities
	2	Able to participate/enjoy physical activities
Eating and drinking	3	Able to eat/drink more easily (dysphagia)
	4	Able to swallow without pain (odynophagia)
	5	Able to enjoy healthy/balanced eating pattern
	6	Problems with acid indigestion/heartburn including at night (reflux)
	7	Problems eating socially
	8	Problems with regurgitation and/or vomiting
	9	Belching, bloating or gas (flatulence)
	10	Feeling out of breath/difficulties breathing (dyspnoea)
	11	Problems choking when eating/drinking
	12	Problems with appetite loss
	13	Problems with sense of taste
	14	Sudden dizziness, sweating and/or feeling drained after eating (dumping)
Physical health	15	Problems with feeling sick (nausea)
	16	Problems with diarrhoea, including frequent bowel movements
	17	Having good general health
	18	Problems with general pain/discomfort
	19	Problems with weak voice/hoarseness
	20	Problems with constipation
	21	Problems with coughing
	22	Problems with a dry mouth
	23	Problems with sleeping
	24	Problems with tiredness (fatigue)
Physical appearance	25	Problems with weight
	26	Feeling in control of weight and appearance
	27	Feeling satisfied/confident with one's body
	28	Problems with hair loss
Social life and relationships	29	Interested in and able to enjoy sex
	30	Able to have relationships with friends
	31	Able to have relationships with family members

Mental health	32	Problems with concentration and memory (cognitive function)
	33	Problems with anxiety
	34	Problems with depression
	35	Problems with changes in general mood
Overall health, wellbeing and life	36	Money worries due to loss of earnings (finances)
	37	Overall quality of life
	38	Spiritual or faith issues
Benefits of esophageal cancer surgery (n=4 items)		
Improving problems of esophageal cancer	39	Improving patient's ability to eat and drink (dysphagia)
Survival and controlling cancer	40	How long a patient will live (overall survival)
	41	How long a patient may live free of oesophageal cancer (Cancer-specific survival)
	42	The chances that the cancer will come back (recurrence)
In-hospital events (n=18 items)		
Events during surgery	43	Inoperability
	44	Organ injury
	45	Haemorrhage
Post-operative events related to esophagectomy	46	Chyle/pleural leak
	47	Anastomotic leak
	48	Conduit necrosis
	49	Re-insertion of chest/abdominal/stomach drain
	50	Laryngeal nerve palsy
Other post-operative events	51	Wound infection or dehiscence
	52	Cardiac complications
	53	Renal complications
	54	Severe urine infection (septicaemia)
	55	Cerebral complications
	56	Liver failure
	57	Respiratory complications
	58	Blood clots in the legs or lungs (deep vein thrombosis; pulmonary embolism)
	59	Re-ventilation
	60	In-hospital mortality
Events after discharge (n=8 items)		
Events related to eating and drinking	61	Esophageal stricture
	62	Pyloric dilatation

	63	Total parenteral nutrition
Complications needing re-operation or re-intervention	64	Need for further surgery for a build-up of fluid around the lung (empyema)
	65	Need for further stomach surgery due to abdominal hernia
	66	Colonic interposition
	67	Diaphragmatic hernia repair
	68	Need for another operation