**Consolidated criteria for reporting qualitative studies (COREQ): 32-item checklist**

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| **No. Item**  | **Guide questions/description** | **Reported on Page #** |
| **Domain 1: Research team and reﬂexivity**  |  |  |
| *Personal Characteristics*  |  |  |
| 1. Inter viewer/facilitator | Which author/s conducted the inter view or focus group?  | Discussion  |
| 2. Credentials | What were the researcher’s credentials? E.g. PhD, MD  | Discussion |
| 3. Occupation | What was their occupation at the time of the study?  | Discussion |
| 4. Gender | Was the researcher male or female?  | N/A |
| 5. Experience and training | What experience or training did the researcher have?  | Discussion |
| *Relationship with participants*  |  |  |
| 6. Relationship established | Was a relationship established prior to study commencement?  | N/A |
| 7. Participant knowledge of the interviewer  | What did the participants know about the researcher? e.g. personal goals, reasons for doing the research  | N/A |
| 8. Interviewer characteristics | What characteristics were reported about the inter viewer/facilitator? e.g. Bias, assumptions, reasons and interests in the research topic  | Discussion |
| **Domain 2: study design**  |  |  |
| *Theoretical framework*  |  |  |
| 9. Methodological orientation and Theory  | What methodological orientation was stated to underpin the study? e.g. grounded theory, discourse analysis, ethnography, phenomenology, content analysis  | Methods |
| *Participant selection*  |  |  |
| 10. Sampling | How were participants selected? e.g. purposive, convenience, consecutive, snowball  | Methods |
| 11. Method of approach | How were participants approached? e.g. face-to-face, telephone, mail, email  | Methods |
| 12. Sample size | How many participants were in the study?  | Findings |
| 13. Non-participation | How many people refused to participate or dropped out? Reasons?  | Methods |
| *Setting* |  |  |
| 14. Setting of data collection | Where was the data collected? e.g. home, clinic, workplace  | Methods |
| 15. Presence of non-participants | Was anyone else present besides the participants and researchers?  | Results |
| 16. Description of sample | What are the important characteristics of the sample? e.g. demographic data, date  | Results |
| *Data collection*  |  |  |
| 17. Interview guide | Were questions, prompts, guides provided by the authors? Was it pilot tested?  | Methods |
| 18. Repeat interviews | Were repeat inter views carried out? If yes, how many?  | N/A |
| 19. Audio/visual recording | Did the research use audio or visual recording to collect the data?  | Methods |
| 20. Field notes | Were ﬁeld notes made during and/or after the inter view or focus group? | Methods |
| 21. Duration | What was the duration of the inter views or focus group?  | Methods |
| 22. Data saturation | Was data saturation discussed?  | Methods |
| 23. Transcripts returned | Were transcripts returned to participants for comment and/or correction?  | N/A |
| **Domain 3: analysis and ﬁndings**  |  |  |
| *Data analysis*  |  |  |
| 24. Number of data coders | How many data coders coded the data?  | Methods |
| 25. Description of the coding tree | Did authors provide a description of the coding tree?  | N/A |
| 26. Derivation of themes | Were themes identiﬁed in advance or derived from the data?  | Methods |
| 27. Software | What software, if applicable, was used to manage the data?  | Atlasti |
| 28. Participant checking | Did participants provide feedback on the ﬁndings?  | No  |
| *Reporting*  |  |  |
| 29. Quotations presented | Were participant quotations presented to illustrate the themes/ﬁndings? Was each quotation identiﬁed? e.g. participant number  | Results |
| 30. Data and ﬁndings consistent | Was there consistency between the data presented and the ﬁndings?  | Relationship to existing knowledge |
| 31. Clarity of major themes | Were major themes clearly presented in the ﬁndings?  | Results |
| 32. Clarity of minor themes | Is there a description of diverse cases or discussion of minor themes?  | Discussion |