**Supplementary Data File 1.**

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

Developed from: Tong A, Sainsbury P, Craig J. Consolidated criteria for reporting qualitative research (COREQ): a 32-item checklist for interviews and focus groups. International Journal for Quality in HealthCare.;19(6):349–57. Available from: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov /pubmed /17872937.

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| **No. Item**  | **Guide questions/description**  | **Reported on Page #**  |
| **Domain 1: Research team and reflexivity**  |      |
| *Personal Characteristics*  |
| 1. Interviewer/facilitator  | Which author/s conducted the interview or focus group?  | Resom Berhe, Adane nigusie, Zemekale Legese, and Mekuriawu Alemayehu |
| 2. Credentials  | What were the researcher's credentials? E.g. PhD, MD  | **Resom Berhe**BSc, MPH**Mark Spigt**MSc, PhD, Associate Professor**Mekuriaw Alemayehu****MPH, PhD, Associate Professor****Lucy Paintain**MPH, PhD, Assistance professor**Cherinet Adera**MPH, MD**Adane Nigusie**MPH, PhD candidate **Zemichael Gizaw** MPH, PhD candidate**Dia-Eldin A. Elnaiem**MSc, PhD, Professor |
| 3. Occupation  | What was their occupation at the time of the study?  | Researcher at Gondar University, Maastricht University, LSHTM, Kala CORE, the Marry land University |
| 4. Gender  | Was the researcher male or female?  | Male reported in Methods |
| 5. Experience and training  | What experience or training did the researcher have?  | Methods - The researcher has a certificated in Qualitative Mixed Methods in international health from Emory University in 2017.  |
| *Relationship with participants*  |    |
| 6. Relationship established  | Was a relationship established prior to study commencement?  | No  |
| 7. Participant knowledge of the interviewer  | What did the participants know about the researcher? e.g. personal goals, reasons for doing the research  | Participant information sheet and Consent Form  |
| 8. Interviewer characteristics  | What characteristics were reported about the interviewer/facilitator? e.g. bias, assumptions, reasons and interests in the research topic  | Methods  |
| **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?  | Methods  |
| 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 nonparticipants  | Was anyone else present besides the participants and researchers?  | Methods  |
| 16. Description of sample  | What are the important characteristics of the sample? e.g. demographic data, date  | Methods  |
| *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?  | No  |
| 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 interview 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?  | Methods  |
| **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?  | Methods  |
| 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?  | Methods  |
| 28. Participant checking  | Did participants provide feedback on the findings?  | Methods  |
| *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?  | Discussion |
| 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?  | Results |