

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

No	Item	Guide questions/description	Manuscript Pg.
Domain 1: Research team and reflexivity			
Personal Characteristics			
1	Interviewer/facilitator	Which author/s conducted the interview or focus group?	6
2	Credentials	What were the researcher's credentials? <i>E.g. PhD, MD</i>	6
3	Occupation	What was their occupation at the time of the study?	6
4	Gender	Was the researcher male or female?	6
5	Experience and training	What experience or training did the researcher have?	6
Relationship with participants			
6	Relationship established	Was a relationship established prior to study commencement?	6
7	Participant knowledge of the interviewer	What did the participants know about the researcher? <i>e.g. personal goals, reasons for doing the research</i>	6, this was explained before the interview as part of the informed consent process
8	Interviewer characteristics	What characteristics were reported about the interviewer/facilitator? <i>e.g. Bias, assumptions, reasons and interests in the research topic</i>	6-7
Domain 2: study design			
Theoretical framework			
9	Methodological orientation and Theory	What methodological orientation was stated to underpin the study? <i>e.g. grounded theory, discourse analysis, ethnography, phenomenology, content analysis</i>	5-7
Participant selection			
10	Sampling	How were participants selected? <i>e.g. purposive, convenience, consecutive, snowball</i>	6
11	Method of approach	How were participants approached? <i>e.g. face-to-face, telephone, mail, email</i>	6-7
12	Sample size	How many participants were in the study?	6
13	Non-participation	How many people refused to participate or dropped out? Reasons?	NA, none of the contacted participants

			refused to take part in the study
Setting			
14	Setting of data collection	Where was the data collected? <i>e.g. home, clinic, workplace</i>	6-7
15	Presence of non-participants	Was anyone else present besides the participants and researchers?	6-7
15	Description of sample	What are the important characteristics of the sample? <i>e.g. demographic data, date</i>	data not collected to maintain anonymity of respondents because the teams from which participants were selected were relatively small. Only their cadre was recorded
Data collection			
17	Interview guide	Were questions, prompts, guides provided by the authors? Was it pilot tested?	6
18	Repeat interviews	Were repeat interviews carried out? If yes, how many?	NA
19	Audio/visual recording	Did the research use audio or visual recording to collect the data?	7
20	Field notes	Were field notes made during and/or after the interview or focus group?	NA
21	Duration	What was the duration of the interviews or focus group?	7
22	Data saturation	Was data saturation discussed?	6-7
23	Transcripts returned	Were transcripts returned to participants for comment and/or correction?	NA, not requested
Domain 3: analysis and findings			
Data analysis			
24	Number of data coders	How many data coders coded the data?	7
25	Description of the coding tree	Did authors provide a description of the coding tree?	8, figure 1
26	Derivation of themes	Were themes identified in advance or derived from the data?	7-8
27	Software	What software, if applicable, was used to manage the data?	7

28	Participant checking	Did participants provide feedback on the findings?	yes, the first author briefed participants on findings at a follow up informal meeting, but no major comments were raised
Reporting			
29	Quotations presented	Were participant quotations presented to illustrate the themes / findings? Was each quotation identified? <i>e.g. participant number</i>	9-17
30	Data and findings consistent	Was there consistency between the data presented and the findings?	9-17
31	Clarity of major themes	Were major themes clearly presented in the findings?	9-17
32	Clarity of minor themes	Is there a description of diverse cases or discussion of minor themes?	9-17

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