

■ Research review guidelines : modified from RATS guidelines

ASK THIS OF THE MANUSCRIPT	THIS SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE MANUSCRIPT	✓ <>
<p>R Relevance of study question</p> <p>Is the research question interesting?</p> <p>Is the research question relevant to clinical practice, public health, or policy? <i>It is relevant to policy</i></p>	<p>Research question explicitly stated</p> <p>Research question justified and linked to the existing knowledge base (empirical research, theory, policy)</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>✓</p>
<p>A Appropriateness of the method</p> <p>Is the methodology used the best approach for the study aims?</p>	<p>Study design described and justified : <i>data for all organ donations and registrations was required in order to compare trends across the four UK regions.</i></p>	<p>✓</p>
<p>T Transparency of procedures</p>		
<p><i>Data collection</i></p> <p>Was collection of data systematic and comprehensive?</p> <p>Why and when was data collection stopped, and is this reasonable?</p>	<p>Method (s) outlined : <i>all available data from centralized sources collected</i></p> <p>End of data collection justified and described: <i>all available complete data was collected</i></p>	<p>✓</p> <p>✓</p>
<p>S Soundness of interpretive approach</p> <p><i>Analysis</i></p> <p>Is the type of analysis appropriate for the type of study?</p> <p>Are the interpretations clearly presented and adequately supported by the evidence?</p>	<p>Analytic approach described in depth and justified</p> <p>Statistical analysis conducted using appropriate test</p> <p>Analysis, presentation and interpretation provided</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>✓</p>

<p><i>Discussion and presentation</i></p> <p>Is adequate account taken of previous knowledge and how the findings add?</p> <p>Is the manuscript well written and accessible?</p>	<p>Findings presented with reference to existing literature, and how they contribute</p> <p>Evidence of following guidelines (format, word count) Written for a health sciences audience</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>✓</p>
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