

| Types of mixed methods study components or primary studies | Methodological quality criteria (see tutorial for definitions and examples) | Responses | | | |
|--|--|-----------|----|------------|----------|
| | | Yes | No | Can't tell | Comments |
| Screening questions (for all types) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are there clear qualitative and quantitative research questions (or objectives*), or a clear mixed methods question (or objective*)? Do the collected data allow address the research question (objective)? E.g., consider whether the follow-up period is long enough for the outcome to occur (for longitudinal studies or study components). | | | | |
| | <i>Further appraisal may be not feasible or appropriate when the answer is 'No' or 'Can't tell' to one or both screening questions.</i> | | | | |
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| 1. Qualitative | 1.1. Are the sources of qualitative data (archives, documents, informants, observations) relevant to address the research question (objective)? | | | | |
| | 1.2. Is the process for analyzing qualitative data relevant to address the research question (objective)? | | | | |
| | 1.3. Is appropriate consideration given to how findings relate to the context, e.g., the setting, in which the data were collected? | | | | |
| | 1.4. Is appropriate consideration given to how findings relate to researchers' influence, e.g., through their interactions with participants? | | | | |
| 2. Quantitative randomized controlled (trials) | 2.1. Is there a clear description of the randomization (or an appropriate sequence generation)? | | | | |
| | 2.2. Is there a clear description of the allocation concealment (or blinding when applicable)? | | | | |
| | 2.3. Are there complete outcome data (80% or above)? | | | | |
| | 2.4. Is there low withdrawal/drop-out (below 20%)? | | | | |
| 3. Quantitative non-randomized | 3.1. Are participants (organizations) recruited in a way that minimizes selection bias? | | | | |
| | 3.2. Are measurements appropriate (clear origin, or validity known, or standard instrument; and absence of contamination between groups when appropriate) regarding the exposure/intervention and outcomes? | | | | |
| | 3.3. In the groups being compared (exposed vs. non-exposed; with intervention vs. without; cases vs. controls), are the participants comparable, or do researchers take into account (control for) the difference between these groups? | | | | |
| | 3.4. Are there complete outcome data (80% or above), and, when applicable, an acceptable response rate (60% or above), or an acceptable follow-up rate for cohort studies (depending on the duration of follow-up)? | | | | |
| 4. Quantitative descriptive | 4.1. Is the sampling strategy relevant to address the quantitative research question (quantitative aspect of the mixed methods question)? | | | | |
| | 4.2. Is the sample representative of the population understudy? | | | | |
| | 4.3. Are measurements appropriate (clear origin, or validity known, or standard instrument)? | | | | |
| | 4.4. Is there an acceptable response rate (60% or above)? | | | | |
| 5. Mixed methods | 5.1. Is the mixed methods research design relevant to address the qualitative and quantitative research questions (or objectives), or the qualitative and quantitative aspects of the mixed methods question (or objective)? | | | | |
| | 5.2. Is the integration of qualitative and quantitative data (or results*) relevant to address the research question (objective)? | | | | |
| | 5.3. Is appropriate consideration given to the limitations associated with this integration, e.g., the divergence of qualitative and quantitative data (or results*) in a triangulation design? | | | | |
| | <i>Criteria for the qualitative component (1.1 to 1.4), and appropriate criteria for the quantitative component (2.1 to 2.4, or 3.1 to 3.4, or 4.1 to 4.4), must be also applied.</i> | | | | |