

COREQ Criteria for reporting qualitative research

“Northern perspectives on medical elective tourism: Creating a curriculum for medical students and residents traveling to Northern communities”

Domain 1: Research team and reflexivity

Personal Characteristics

1. *Interviewer/facilitator: Which author/s conducted the interview or focus group?* The primary author, Sarah Coke
2. *Credentials: What were the researcher’s credentials?* MD, bachelor of science
3. *Occupation: What was their occupation at the time of the study?* Resident, Internal Medicine at University of Toronto
4. *Gender: Was the researcher male or female?* Female
5. *Experience and training: What experience or training did the researcher have?* Limited training in qualitative research

Relationship with participants

6. *Relationship established: Was a relationship established prior to study commencement?* Yes, between the primary research team and a local Aboriginal health access centre (WNHAC)
7. *Participant knowledge of the interviewer: What did the participants know about the researcher? e.g. personal goals, reasons for doing the research?* The participants were given a summary of the goals of the project, including an introduction to myself (the primary researcher), and my goals for coming to Kenora. My long term goal is to move to Kenora, Ontario with my husband/family and I felt it was important for everyone involved in the research to know this.
8. *Interviewer characteristics: What characteristics were reported about the interviewer/facilitator? e.g. Bias, assumptions, reasons and interests in the research topic?* Characteristics of the interviewer were not included in the report.

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?* Constant concurrent comparative analysis allowed theoretic coding of the data within a critical constructivist framework based on decolonizing Indigenous research methodology.

Participant selection

10. *Sampling: How were participants selected? e.g. purposive, convenience, consecutive, snowball?* Purposive and snowball sampling was used.
11. *Method of approach: How were participants approached? e.g. face-to-face, telephone, mail, email?* Face to face, via email and via telephone.
12. *Sample size: How many participants were in the study?* 17
13. *Non-participation: How many people refused to participate or dropped out? Reasons?* All participants who were approached and who were available participated. None of the participants dropped out or withdrew consent.

Setting

14. *Setting of data collection: Where was the data collected? e.g. home, clinic, workplace?* Data was collected in the Lake of the Woods District Hospital, offices of participants, or on reserves surrounding Kenora.
15. *Presence of non-participants: Was anyone else present besides the participants and researchers?* No.
16. *Description of sample: What are the important characteristics of the sample? e.g. demographic data, date?* The sample was mainly health care employees (16 of 17 participants).

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Data collection

17. *Interview guide: Were questions, prompts, guides provided by the authors? Was it pilot tested?* An interview guide was used which was a collaborative process between WNHAC and the primary research team. It was not piloted.
18. *Repeat interviews: Were repeat interviews carried out? If yes, how many?* No.
19. *Audio/visual recording: Did the research use audio or visual recording to collect the data?* Audio recording was used to collect the data.
20. *Field notes: Were field notes made during and/or after the interview or focus group?* No.
21. *Duration: What was the duration of the interviews or focus group?* Average interview time was 40 minutes, however the range of interview times were from 8 minutes to 93 minutes.
22. *Data saturation: Was data saturation discussed?* Yes.
23. *Transcripts returned: Were transcripts returned to participants for comment and/or correction?* No.

Domain 3: Analysis and findings

Data analysis

24. *Number of data coders: How many data coders coded the data?* The primary researcher coded the data, however this was checked by two members of the research team.
25. *Description of the coding tree: Did authors provide a description of the coding tree?* No.
26. *Derivation of themes: Were themes identified in advance or derived from the data?* Themes were derived from the data.
27. *Software: What software, if applicable, was used to manage the data?* NVivo for Mac was used to code the data.
28. *Participant checking: Did participants provide feedback on the findings?* No they did not.

Reporting

29. *Quotations presented: Were participant quotations presented to illustrate the themes / findings? Was each quotation identified? e.g. participant number.* Yes.
30. *Data and findings consistent: Was there consistency between the data presented and the findings?* Yes.
31. *Clarity of major themes: Were major themes clearly presented in the findings?* Yes.
32. *Clarity of minor themes: Is there a description of diverse cases or discussion of minor themes?* Yes.

Resource:

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 Health Care* 2007;19(6):349-357.