

## Supplemental Material

### COREQ (COnsolidated criteria for REporting Qualitative research) Checklist

A checklist of items that should be included in reports of qualitative research. You must report the page number in your manuscript where you consider each of the items listed in this checklist. If you have not included this information, either revise your manuscript accordingly before submitting or note N/A.

Topic	Item No.	Guide Questions/Description	Reported on Page No
<b>Domain 1: Research Team and reflexivity</b>			
<i>Personal Characteristics</i>			
Interviewer/facilitator	1	Which author/s conducted the interview or focus group:	7
Credentials	2	What were the researcher's credentials?	7
Occupation	3	What was their occupation at the time of the study?	7
Gender	4	Was the researcher male or female?	n/a
Experience and training	5	What experience or training did the researcher have?	7
<i>Relationship with participants</i>			
Relationship established	6	Was a relationship established prior to study commencement?	7
Participant knowledge of the interviewer	7	What did the participants know about the researcher?	7
Interviewer characteristics	8	What characteristics were reported about the interviewer/facilitator?	7
<b>Domain 2: Study Design</b>			
<i>Theoretical framework</i>			
Methodological orientation and Theory	9	What methodological orientation was stated to underpin the study? E.g., grounded theory, discourse analysis, ethnography, phenomenology, content analysis	7
<i>Participant selection</i>			
Sampling	10	How ere the participants selected? E.g., purposive, convenience, consecutive, snowball	5
Method of approach	11	How were participants approached? E.g., face-to-face, telephone, mail, email	5-6
Sample size	12	How many participants were in the study?	8
Non-participation	13	How many people refused to participate or dropped out? Reasons?	7-8
<i>Setting</i>			
Setting of data collection	14	Where was the data collected?	6
Presence of non-participants	15	Was anyone else present besides the participants and researchers?	n/a
Description of sample	16	What are the important characteristics of the sample? Eg. Demographic data, date	Table 1
<i>Data collection</i>			
Interview guide	17	Were questions, prompts, guides provided by the authors? Was it pilot tested?	6; Supplement
Repeat interviews	18	Were repeat interviews carried out?	n/a
Audio/visual recording	19	Did the research use audio or visual recording to collect the data?	6
Field notes	20	Were field notes made during and/or after the interview or focus group?	n/a
Duration	21	What was the duration of the interviews or focus group?	6
Data saturation	22	Was data saturation discussed?	7
Transcripts returned	23	Were transcripts returned to participants for comment and or correction?	7
<b>Domain 3: analysis and findings</b>			
<i>Data analysis</i>			
Number of data coders	24	How many data coders coded the data?	7
Description of the coding tree	25	Did authors provide a description of the coding tree?	7
Derivation of themes	26	Were themes identified in advance or derived form the data?	7
Software	27	What software, if applicable, was used to manage the data?	6

Participant checking	28	Did participants provide feedback on the findings?	7
<i>Reporting</i>			
Quotations presented	29	Were participant quotations presented to illustrate the themes/findings? Was each quotation identified? E.g., participant number	Table 2
Data and findings consistent	30	Was there consistent between the data presented and the findings?	8-17
Clarity of major themes	31	Were major themes clearly presented in the findings?	8-17; Table 1; Figure 1
Clarity of minor themes	32	Is there a description of diverse cases or discussion of minor themes?	Table 2; Figure 1

## Interview Question Guide

CKD Patient Interview Script: Introduction – read: This is a study about learning how people with kidney disease manage their disease at home. You are the expert and I would like to learn from you about living with kidney problems and how you manage at home. Your participation in this study is strictly confidential. Your participation today will not impact the care that you receive. With your permission I would like to record our conversation. Is this ok? (Pause for confirmation). This is just to make sure that I do not miss anything that you share. I may also take a few notes while we talk. Please know that everything you say today is confidential. The things you share will not be connected to your name, and the tape will be destroyed after it is transcribed and reviewed for accuracy. Any identifying information, like your name or your doctor's name will be removed from the transcript. Your participation in this study is important. If you need a break or want to stop at any point, please let me know. Please feel free to ask me any questions concerning your participation in this interview or study during or after the interview. Do you have any questions before we start? May we begin?

1. How long have you known you have had problems with your kidneys?
2. What is it like for you to live with kidney disease from day-to-day? (If none- list a few symptoms to get any traction)
3. What are some things that you feel you can do for yourself to keep your kidneys healthy?
4. What has the doctor told you to do to help take care of your kidneys?
  - a. PROBE: How do you feel about that?
  - b. PROBE: Can you tell me about anything besides medications that can help your kidneys? If you don't know of any, would you be interested?
5. What do you do day-to-day to follow these recommendations? What's your daily routine like?
6. What have you learned that can hurt our kidneys on a day-to-day basis?
7. Where do you get your information about your kidney health? Does this differ from the rest of your health?
8. What helps you stay on track with your doctor's instructions? What are some tips/tricks you have found that help?
9. What would you want to learn from your HCP to help you more with your kidney health? Sort of like a wish list?
10. People often find it hard to do everything the doctor tells them to do. What are some of the things the doctor asked you to do that are hard for you?
  - a. Can you tell me why those are difficult? How so?
  - b. Can you tell me about a specific time that it was hard for you to follow your doctor's recommendations for your kidney problems?

- i. How did you deal with this?
11. Can you tell me why some tasks are easier to do? How come?
    - a. PROBE: Could you describe what makes your doctor's recommendations easier to follow?
    - b. Reword: Could you describe the difference between what makes some things easy to follow compared to some things that are hard to follow?
    - c. (use examples from interview- X was difficult but Y was easy; what makes these 2 things different?)
  12. Let's now think about your BP. What do you do to take care of your BP at home?
    - a. How has it been checking your BP at home? What do you do with the BP measurements? Tell me what you would do if the measurements were too high or low?
    - b. Can you tell me about times when it is difficult to take care of your BP?
    - c. What makes it easy?
  13. Let's now think about your general physical activity. Please tell me about your physical activity at home? What kind of physical activities do you do?
    - a. Can you tell me about what makes it difficult to participate in physical activity on a regular basis?
    - b. Please tell me about the safety of exercising in your neighborhood?
    - c. What makes being active easy?
    - d. PROBE: examples of physical activity- walking, riding a bike, or gardening
  14. It is common that many people with kidney problems take multiple medications. Now, I'd like for you to think about all of your medications. Can you tell me how you manage your medications?
    - a. What makes it difficult to manage taking your medications?
    - b. What makes it easy to take your medications?
    - c. How do you know when you've taken your medications? How do you deal with getting refills?
    - d. How do you keep track of your medications?
  15. Sometimes people with kidney issues are on a special diet. What has been your experience of following a special diet?
    - a. Can you tell me about how you stay away from salt or sodium? Or potassium?
  16. Who do you turn to help you manage your kidney health? Where do you turn to for support of your kidney health?
    - a. Is this the same or different than where you turn to for other health issues?
      - i. How is it different?
    - b. Can you tell me about the support you receive from family and friends?
      - i. PROBE: Who is typically involved in your care?
  17. What would you tell someone with newly diagnosed kidney disease what to expect? What advice would you share?

- 18.** If we were to develop a program to help people manage living with kidney disease like yourself, what would be most helpful?
- a. PROBE: What things would you want from your HCP to help you?
  - b. PROBE: How would this be helpful?
- 19.** Is there anything else that you would like to share?