

Appendix 1: Consolidated criteria for reporting qualitative studies (COREQ): 32-item checklist

No.	Item	Guide questions/description	Section
Domain 1: Research team and reflexivity			
Personal characteristics			
1.	Interviewer/facilitator	Which author/s conducted the interviews or focus groups?	6
2.	Credentials	What were the researcher's credentials? e.g., PhD, MD	Title page
3.	Occupation	What was their occupation at the time of the study?	Title page
4.	Gender	Was the researcher male or female?	See note
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 research? e.g., personal goals, reasons for doing the research	6
8.	Interviewer characteristics	What characteristics were reported about the interviewer/facilitator? e.g., bias, assumptions, reasons and interests in the research topic	N/A
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	6
Participant selection			
10.	Sampling	How were the participants selected? e.g., purposive, convenience, consecutive, snowball	6
11.	Method of approach	How were participants approached? e.g., face-to-face, telephone, mail, email	6
12.	Sample size	How many participants were in the study?	8
13.	Non-participation	How many people refused to participate or dropped out? Reasons?	N/A
Setting			
14.	Setting of data collection	Where was the data collected? e.g., home, clinic, workplace	6-7
15.	Presence of non-participants	Was anyone else present besides the participants and researchers?	N/A
16.	Description of sample	What are the important characteristics in the sample? e.g., demographic data, date	8
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?	N/A
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?	7
21.	Duration	What was the duration of the interviews or focus group?	6
22.	Data saturation	Was data saturation discussed?	6
23.	Transcripts returned	Were transcripts returned to participants for comment and/or correction?	8

No.	Item	Guide questions/description	Section
Domain 3: analysis and findings			
Data analysis			
24.	Number of data coders	How many data coders coded the data?	N/A
25.	Description of the coding tree	Did authors provide a description of the coding tree?	N/A
26.	Derivation of themes	Were themes identified in advance or derived from the data?	N/A
27.	Software	What software, if applicable, was used to manage the data?	6-7
28.	Participant checking	Did participants provide feedback on the findings?	8
Reporting			
29.	Quotations presented	Were participant quotations presented to illustrate the themes/findings? Was each quotation identified? e.g., participant number	N/A
30.	Data and findings consistent	Was there consistency between the data presented and the findings?	9
31.	Clarity of major themes	Were major themes clearly presented in the findings?	N/A
32.	Clarity of minor themes	Is there a description of diverse cases or discussion of minor themes?	N/A

Taken from: Tong A, Sainsbury P, Craig J. Consolidated criteria for reporting qualitative research (COREQ): a 32-item checklist for interviews and focus groups. *Int J Qual Health Care*. 2007;19(6):349-357. doi:10.1093/intqhc/mzm042

Question on gender omitted in response to recent update: Albury C, Pope C, Shaw S, et al. Gender in the consolidated criteria for reporting qualitative research (COREQ) checklist. *International Journal for Quality in Health Care*. 2021;33(4):2021. doi:10.1093/intqhc/mzab12