

Supplementary Table 1: Four Components for Trustworthiness in Qualitative Research

Research component	Research element	Study detail
Credibility	Engagement with the participants	The interviewers hold leadership roles in the Weill Cornell Center for Human Rights & the Human Rights Impact Lab. They have engaged with asylum seekers for numerous hours in the setting of providing pro-bono forensic evaluations. Prof Yale-Loehr is a leader in immigration law and oversees a pro-bono law clinic that assists hundreds of asylum seekers in their immigration applications. Drs. Barazova and Powers have extensive experiences in conducting qualitative research with disadvantaged groups.
	Interviewing process and techniques	The interview guide was developed through extensive research and review of the available literature, a process that took over six months. The interview protocol was tested using a pilot interview, and was intentionally open-ended, and minimally structured to ensure gathering of information-rich data.
	Establishing investigators' authority	The investigators have several IRB-approved, NIH-funded protocols with displaced populations, and have extensive experience with conducting qualitative surveys and collecting sensitive clinical information from this population. All research personnel have taken human subject training and research ethics certificate. The study has a certificate of confidentiality from the NIH. Medical and legal experts on the research protocol participated in development of the interview guide.
	Collection of referential adequacy materials	All interviews were audio-recorded. The recordings were stored on a secure server. All recordings were de-identified before being transcribed.
	Peer debriefing	Weekly and bi-weekly meetings were held with the research personnel and collaborators to ensure that all research was conducted with the utmost ethical standards.
Dependability	Description of the study methods	A detailed description of the development and conceptualization of our interview guide was provided. Inclusion and exclusion criteria were clearly defined.
	Reproducibility	Coding accuracy was measured and reported. Inter-rater reliability coefficient of 90% was achieved.

Confirmability	Reflexivity & triangulation	<p>Two types of triangulation methods were used: method and investigator.</p> <p>Method triangulation: interviews were used in this study. Prior observations and field notes were based on 400+ affidavits from clients who received forensic evaluations from the Weill Cornell Center for Human Rights and 50+ clients of the pro-bono clinic of the Cornell Law schools representing this population.</p> <p>Investigator triangulation: this study was led by four lead investigators: medical lead investigator (Gunisha Kaur), law lead investigator (Stephen Yale-Loehr), and 2 qualitative research investigators (Jane Powers and Natalie Bazarova) who have decades of experience working with this population. The study design and findings were discussed in bi-weekly meetings.</p>
Transferability	Purposive sampling and data saturation	<p>Two purposive sampling methods were used: typical case and heterogenous sampling. Data saturation was measured per interview and throughout the entire dataset such that no new codes and concepts emerged through an iterative process.</p>