

1. Research conducted on humans and/or human data, or material must be in compliance with the Helsinki Declaration (<https://www.wma.net/policies-post/wma-declaration-of-helsinki/>). Please include a statement clarifying whether your study adhered to the Declaration of Helsinki to this effect in the 'Ethics approval and consent to participate' section of the Declarations.

Response from author: Ethics approval and consent to participate

This study was conducted in accordance with the ethical principles of the Declaration of Helsinki. Ethical approval was obtained from Ethical Review Board (ERB) of the Nepal Health Research Council (NHRC) (Registration No. 574/2022). All participants were thoroughly informed about the purpose of the study, their right to withdraw at any time, the importance of their participation, the confidentiality of their responses, and the absence of any financial incentives. Written informed consent was obtained from all participants prior to their inclusion in the study.

2. Please clarify whether the [questionnaire/interview/survey] used in your study was developed for this study or has previously been published elsewhere. If the [questionnaire/interview/survey] has been published elsewhere, please provide a reference to it in your manuscript. If the [questionnaire/interview/survey] was developed for this study, please upload an English language version as a supplementary file and cite it in your main manuscript.

Response from author: the principal investigator in coordination with the supervisor developed the questionnaire for this study. The questionnaire has been uploaded in English language version as a supplementary file.

3. Kindly provide the same data availability statement in the tracking system data availability section same as the one which you have provided in the manuscript file in the declaration section.

Response from author: Yes, I have provided the same statement. Thank you