

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

No	Item	Guide questions/description
Domain 1: Research team and reflexivity		
Personal Characteristics		
1.	Interviewer/facilitator	Which author/s conducted the interview or focus group? <i>page 13</i>
2.	Credentials	What were the researcher's credentials? <i>E.g. PhD, MD page 13</i>
3.	Occupation	What was their occupation at the time of the study? <i>page 13</i>
4.	Gender	Was the researcher male or female? <i>page 13</i>
5.	Experience and training	What experience or training did the researcher have? <i>page 13</i>
Relationship with participants		
6.	Relationship established	Was a relationship established prior to study commencement? <i>page 13</i>
7.	Participant knowledge of the interviewer	What did the participants know about the researcher? <i>e.g. personal goals, reasons for doing the research page 13, additional files 1 & 2</i>
8.	Interviewer characteristics	What characteristics were reported about the interviewer/facilitator? <i>e.g. Bias, assumptions, reasons and interests in the research topic page 13, additional files 1 & 2</i>
Domain 2: study design		
Theoretical framework		
9.	Methodological orientation and Theory	What methodological orientation was stated to underpin the study? <i>e.g. grounded theory, discourse analysis, ethnography, phenomenology, content analysis page 14</i>
Participant selection		
10.	Sampling	How were participants selected? <i>e.g. purposive, convenience, consecutive, snowball page 12</i>
11.	Method of approach	How were participants approached? <i>e.g. face-to-face, telephone, mail, email page 13</i>
12.	Sample size	How many participants were in the study? <i>pages 11, 13</i>
13.	Non-participation	How many people refused to participate or dropped out? Reasons? <i>pages 11, 13</i>
Setting		
14.	Setting of data collection	Where was the data collected? <i>e.g. home, clinic, workplace page 13</i>
15.	Presence of non-participants	Was anyone else present besides the participants and researchers? <i>page 13</i>
16.	Description of sample	What are the important characteristics of the sample? <i>e.g. demographic data, date additional file 1</i>
Data collection		
17.	Interview guide	Were questions, prompts, guides provided by the authors? Was it pilot tested? <i>page 8</i>
18.	Repeat interviews	Were repeat interviews carried out? If yes, how many? <i>N/A page 13, addl. file 2.</i>
19.	Audio/visual recording	Did the research use audio or visual recording to collect the data? <i>page 13</i>
20.	Field notes	Were field notes made during and/or after the interview or focus group? <i>N/A</i>
21.	Duration	What was the duration of the interviews or focus group? <i>page 13</i>
22.	Data saturation	Was data saturation discussed? <i>page 13</i>
23.	Transcripts returned	Were transcripts returned to participants for comment and/or correction? <i>N/A</i>
Domain 3: analysis and findings		
Data analysis		
24.	Number of data coders	How many data coders coded the data? <i>page 13</i>
25.	Description of the coding tree	Did authors provide a description of the coding tree? <i>page 13</i>
26.	Derivation of themes	Were themes identified in advance or derived from the data? <i>pages 13-15.</i>
27.	Software	What software, if applicable, was used to manage the data? <i>page 13</i>
28.	Participant checking	Did participants provide feedback on the findings? <i>N/A</i>
Reporting		
29.	Quotations presented	Were participant quotations presented to illustrate the themes / findings? Was each quotation identified? <i>e.g. participant number page 14</i>
30.	Data and findings consistent	Was there consistency between the data presented and the findings? <i>N/A</i>
31.	Clarity of major themes	Were major themes clearly presented in the findings? <i>page 14</i>
32.	Clarity of minor themes	Is there a description of diverse cases or discussion of minor themes? <i>page 14.</i>

(ii) Participant selection: Researchers should report how participants were selected. Usually purposive sampling is used which involves selecting participants who share particular characteristics and have the potential to provide rich, relevant and diverse data pertinent to the research question

[13, 17]. Convenience sampling is less optimal because it may fail to capture important perspectives from difficult-to-reach people [16]. Rigorous attempts to recruit participants and reasons for non-participation should be stated to reduce the likelihood of making unsupported statements [18].