## **APPENDIX 2**

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

| No                | Item                    | Guide questions/description  |  |
|-------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Domain 1:         |                         |                              |  |
| Research team and |                         |                              |  |
| reflexivity       |                         |                              |  |
| Personal          |                         |                              |  |
| Characteristics   |                         |                              |  |
|                   |                         | Which author/s conducted the | Yasuki Fujinuma conducted the focus group interview. |
| 1.                | Interviewer/facilitator | interview or focus group?    | Masayasu Seki and Tatsuhiro joki assisted. Page 7.   |
|                   |                         |                              | Masayasu Seki, MD, PhD                               |
|                   |                         |                              | Yasuki Fujinuma, MD                                  |
|                   |                         |                              | Masato Matsushima, MD, PhD, MPH                      |
|                   |                         |                              | Tatsuhiro Joki, MD, PhD                              |
|                   |                         |                              | Hideo Okonogi, MD, PhD                               |
|                   |                         |                              | Yasuhiko Miura, MD, PhD                              |
|                   |                         | What were the researchers'   | Jun Hiramoto, MD, PhD                                |
| 2.                | Credentials             | credentials? E.g., PhD, MD   | Iwao Ohno, MD, PhD. Page 1.                          |

| No                             | Item                  | Guide questions/description                         |   |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|---|---|
| 3.                             | Occupation            | What was their occupation at the time of the study? | All researchers were primary care physician. Page 1.                                |
| 4.                             | Gender                | Was the researcher male or female?                  | All researchers were male. Page 1.  |
|                                |                       |   | We conducted this research using the same analysis as for a previous study. Page 4. |
|                                | Experience and        | What experience or training                         | previous study. Fage 4.   |
| 5.                             | training              | did the researcher have?                            |   |
| Relationship with participants |                       |   |   |
|                                |                       |   | Participants were interviewed after taking the Family                               |
|                                | Relationship          | Was a relationship established                      | Medicine Brush-up Program for two years. Interviewers                               |
| 6.                             | established           | prior to study commencement?                        | facilitated the program. Page 4, 5, 6.  |
|                                |                       |   | The participants received an explanation of the taped focus                         |
|                                | Participant knowledge | What did the participants know                      | group interview process and gave their consent to participate.                      |
| 7.                             | of the interviewer    | about the researcher? e.g.,                         | Page 5, 6, 7.   |

| Item                                  | Guide questions/description  |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|
|                                       | personal goals, reasons for doing the research   |  |
| Interviewer characteristics           | What characteristics were reported about the interviewer/facilitator? e.g., Bias, assumptions, reasons and interests in the research topic | The main interviewer (Yasuki Fujinuma) was practicing primary care and was engaged in research and education activities in family medicine. Page 7.  |
|                                       |  |  |
|                                       |  |  |
| Methodological orientation and theory | What methodological orientation was stated to underpin the study? e.g., grounded theory, discourse analysis, ethnography,                  | We analyzed the interview records with the Steps for Coding and Theorization (SCAT) method, which is a grounded theory-based thematic analysis approach. This method is suitable for the analysis of relatively small samples. The SCAT method improves reflexivity by looking back each                       |
|                                       | Interviewer characteristics  Methodological  | personal goals, reasons for doing the research  What characteristics were reported about the interviewer/facilitator? e.g., Bias, assumptions, reasons and interests in the characteristics research topic  What methodological orientation was stated to underpin the study? e.g., grounded theory, discourse |

| No                    | Item               | Guide questions/description   |  |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---|--|
|                       |                    | phenomenology, content<br>analysis  | steps, and can be expected to improve the possibility of falsifiability by clarifying the analysis process. Page 7, 8. |
| Participant selection |                    |   |  |
| 10.                   | Sampling           | How were participants selected? e.g., purposive, convenience, consecutive, snowball | Participants were all those who had completed the two-year program. Page 5, 6.   |
| 11.                   | Method of approach | How were participants approached? e.g., face-to-face, telephone, mail, email        | Face-to-face. Page 6, 7.   |
| 12.                   | Sample size        | How many participants were in the study?  | 8 participants. Page 5, 6.   |
| 13.                   | Non-participation  | How many people refused to participate or dropped out? Reasons?                     | None. Page 5, 6.   |
|                       |                    |   |  |

| No              | Item                             | Guide questions/description  |  |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|--|--|
| Setting         |                                  |  |  |
| 14.             | Setting of data collection       | Where was the data collected? e.g., home, clinic, workplace                        | The participants were interviewed in a quiet room undisturbed by daily activities. Page 7.   |
| 15.             | Presence of non-<br>participants | Was anyone else present besides the participants and researchers?                  | No. Page 6, 7.   |
| 16.             | Description of sample            | What are the important characteristics of the sample? e.g., demographic data, date | Eight participants completed the Family Medicine Brush-up<br>Program targeting physicians who had not undertaken<br>specialist training in family medicine and had qualified at<br>least 10 years previously. Page 5, 6. |
| Data collection |                                  |  |  |
| 17.             | Interview guide                  | Were questions, prompts, guides provided by the authors? Was it pilot tested?      | The interview was conducted using the guiding questions and was not pilot tested. Page 6, 7.   |

| No  | Item                   | Guide questions/description   |   |
|-----|------------------------|---|---|
| 18. | Repeat interviews      | Were repeat interviews carried out? If yes, how many?                         | A single focus group interview was conducted. Page 5, 6.                                |
| 19. | Audio/visual recording | Did the research use audio or visual recording to collect the data?           | The interview was audio-recorded using a digital recorder. Page 5, 6.                   |
| 20. | Field notes            | Were field notes made during<br>and/or after the interview or<br>focus group? | Yes. Page 6, 7.   |
| 21. | Duration               | What was the duration of the interviews or focus group?                       | 72 minutes. Page 7.   |
| 22. | Data saturation        | Was data saturation discussed?  | Saturation was defined as the point with no new comments from the participants. Page 7. |
| 23. | Transcripts returned   | Were transcripts returned to participants for comment and/or correction?      | No. Page 7.   |

| No                              | Item                           | Guide questions/description                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Domain 3: analysis and findings |                                |   |   |
| Data analysis                   |                                |   |   |
| 24.                             | Number of data coders          | How many data coders coded the data?                        | Two. Page 7.                                  |
| 25.                             | Description of the coding tree | Did authors provide a description of the coding tree?       | Yes (see results). Page 7, 8.                 |
| 26.                             | Derivation of themes           | Were themes identified in advance or derived from the data? | Themes were derived from the data. Page 7, 8. |
| 27.                             | Software                       | What software, if applicable, was used to manage the data?  | Not applicable. Page 7.                       |
| 28.                             | Participant checking           | Did participants provide feedback on the findings?          | No. Page 7.                                   |

| No        | Item                 | Guide questions/description       |  |
|-----------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Reporting |                      |                                   |  |
|           |                      | Were participant quotations       | Yes, quotations are presented and identified. Page 8, 9. |
|           |                      | presented to illustrate the       |  |
|           |                      | themes/ findings? Was each        |  |
|           |                      | quotation identified? e.g.,       |  |
| 29.       | Quotations presented | participant number                |  |
|           |                      | Was there consistency between     | Yes. Page 8, 9, 10, 11.                                  |
|           | Data and findings    | the data presented and the        |  |
| 30.       | consistent           | findings?                         |  |
|           | Clarity of major     | Were major themes clearly         | Yes. Page 8, 9.  |
| 31.       | themes               | presented in the findings?        |  |
|           |                      | Is there a description of diverse | Yes. Page 8, 9, 10, 11.                                  |
|           | Clarity of minor     | cases or                          |  |
| 32.       | themes               | discussion of minor themes?       |  |
|           |                      |                                   |  |