

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?

Valerie Brueton

2. Credentials

What were the researcher's credentials?

The interviewer has 10 years experience coordinating research. This included conducting semi-structured interviews, data analysis, interpretation of results and report writing. PhD submitted in (April 2013). Viva scheduled for July 2013.

3. Occupation

What was their occupation at the time of the study?

Research Fellow at Medical Research Council General Practice Research Framework

4. Gender

Was the researcher male or female?

Female

5. Experience and training

What experience or training did the researcher have?

The researcher has previous interviewing experience and qualitative paper/report writing. Valerie Brueton has had training in qualitative data analysis at London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine as part of an MSc Medical Demography (1999). More recently she has had training at National Centre for Social Research in qualitative data analysis and report writing (2011)

Relationship with participants

6. Relationship established

Was a relationship established prior to study commencement?

VB knew a small proportion of the interviewees professionally.

7. Participant knowledge of the interviewer

What did the participants know about the researcher? e.g. personal goals, reasons for doing the Research

Each interviewee was sent an information sheet explaining the reasons for conducting the research. The reasons for the study were explained prior to each individual interview.

8. Interviewer characteristics

What characteristics were reported about the interviewer/facilitator? e.g. Bias, assumptions, reasons and interests in the research topic

Page 1 of the article shows the interviewer characteristics

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

Content analysis underpinned the study, see page 6 of the article

Participant selection

10. Sampling

How were participants selected? e.g. purposive, convenience, consecutive, snowball

Purposive and snowball sampling was used for our study see pages 5 and 6 of the article.

11. Method of approach

How were participants approached? e.g. face-to-face, telephone, mail, email

Email was used to approach participants, see page 6 of the article

12. Sample size

How many participants were in the study?

There were 29 interviewees in the study, see page 7

13. Non-participation

How many people refused to participate or dropped out? Reasons?

No one dropped out of this study once they were recruited to participate. 29/54 agreed to participate

14. Setting of data collection

Where was the data collected? e.g. home, clinic, workplace

Data were collected at a place and time convenient to the interviewee, usually this was their place of work. See page 6.

15. Presence of non-participants

Was anyone else present besides the participants and researchers?

No one else was present at the interview besides the participants and the researchers

16. Description of sample

What are the important characteristics of the sample? e.g. demographic data, date

The important characteristics of the sample are outlined in Tables 1 and 2 of the accompanying tables and figures document and on page 7 of the article.

Data collection

17. Interview guide

Were questions, prompts, guides provided by the authors? Was it pilot tested?

Questions, prompts and guides were provided and this was piloted in one pilot interview. The interview schedule is included in the Tables and Figures accompanying document.

18. Repeat interviews

Were repeat interviews carried out? If yes, how many?

No repeat interviews were carried out.

19. Audio/visual recording

Did the research use audio or visual recording to collect the data?

All interviews were digitally recorded. See page 6

20. Field notes. Were field notes made during and/or after the interview or focus group?

Yes field notes were kept by VB

21. Duration

What was the duration of the interviews or focus group?

All interviews were less than one hour in length, see page 6

22. Data saturation

Was data saturation discussed?

Yes, this was discussed among the study group and is reported on page 7 of the article.

23. Transcripts returned

Were transcripts returned to participants for comment and/or correction?

Transcripts were not returned to participants for comments or corrections.

Domain 3: analysis and findings

Data analysis

24. Number of data coders

How many data coders coded the data?

One author coded data. This was the interviewer VB

25. Description of the coding tree

Did authors provide a description of the coding tree?

A description of the coding tree is not provided in the article.

26. Derivation of themes

Were themes identified in advance or derived from the data?

Themes were derived from the data

27. Software What software, if applicable, was used to manage the data?

Atlas ti 6.1

28. Participant checking

Did participants provide feedback on the findings?

Participants have not had the opportunity to do this yet

Reporting

29. Quotations presented

Were participant quotations presented to illustrate the themes / findings?

Yes we have included participant quotes to illustrate the data through-out the results section, extra quotes to support the results can be found in Boxes 1 and 2 of the accompanying tables and figures document.

Was each quotation identified? e.g. participant number

Yes each quotation is identified with the researcher's role in randomised trials and the interview number. See pages 8 – 16 of the article and Boxes 1 and 2 of the accompanying tables and figures document.

30. Data and findings consistent

Was there consistency between the data presented and the findings?

Yes there is consistency between the data presented and the findings.

31. Clarity of major themes

Were major themes clearly presented in the findings?

Yes major themes are clearly presented in the findings, see pages 7 - 15 of the article

32. Clarity of minor themes

Is there a description of diverse cases or discussion of minor themes

Yes there is a description of diverse cases and minor themes where these have occurred, see pages 7 - 15 of the article.