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

The COREQ checklist [9] provides a consolidated reporting framework for qualitative research.

### Domain 1: Research team and reflexivity

*Personal Characteristics*

1. Interviewer/facilitator: Which author/s conducted the interview or focus group? *Appendix II/Interviews/Heidelberg (p. 3)*
2. Credentials: What were the researcher’s credentials? *See above*
3. Occupation: What was their occupation at the time of the study? *See above*
4. Gender: Was the researcher male or female? *Male, see above*
5. Experience and training: What experience or training did the researcher have? *See above*

*Relationship with participants*

1. Relationship established: Was a relationship established prior to study commencement? *Manuscript/Limitations (p.19):* *All study participants were at least vaguely acquainted with the investigator, and some had previously worked with him on several occasions.*
2. Participant knowledge of the interviewer: What did the participants know about the researcher? *See above*
3. Interviewer characteristics: What characteristics were reported about the interviewer/facilitator? *See above*

### Domain 2: Study design

*Theoretical framework*

1. Methodological orientation and theory: What methodological orientation was stated to underpin the study? *See Manuscript/Methods (p. 5) and Appendix II/Data Analysis/Methodology (p. 5)*

*Participant selection*

1. Sampling: How were participants selected? *see Appendix II/Data Collection/Recruitment (p. 3)*
2. Method of approach: How were participants approached? *see Appendix II/Data Collection/Recruitment (p. 3)*
3. Sample size: How many participants were in the study? *see Appendix II/Data Collection/Recruitment (p. 3, 2nd paragraph)*
4. Non-participation: How many people refused to participate or dropped out? Reasons? *None, see Appendix II/Data Collection/Recruitment (p. 3)*

*Setting*

1. Setting of data collection: Where was the data collected? *see Appendix II/Data Collection/Sample and Setting (p. 3)*
2. Presence of non-participants: Was anyone else present besides the participants and researchers? *See above*
3. Description of sample: What are the important characteristics of the sample? *See Manuscript/Participants and demographics (p. 6)*

*Data collection*

1. Interview guide: Were questions, prompts, guides provided by the authors? Was it pilot tested? *see Appendix II/Data Collection/Interview questions (p. 3)*
2. Repeat interviews: Were repeat interviews carried out? If yes, how many? *No, see* *Manuscript/Participants and demographics (p. 6)*
3. Audio/visual recording: Did the research use audio or visual recording to collect the data? *see Appendix II/Data Collection/Transcription and translation (p. 4)*
4. Field notes: Were field notes made during and/or after the interview or focus group? *No, only audio recordings, see Appendix II/Data Collection/Transcription and translation (p. 4)*
5. Duration: What was the duration of the interviews or focus group? *No, see* *Manuscript/Participants and demographics (p. 7)*
6. Data saturation: Was data saturation discussed? *Yes, see* *Appendix II/Data Collection/Recruitment (p. 3)*
7. Transcripts returned: Were transcripts returned to participants for comment and/or correction? *Transcripts were not returned to participants for comment or correction.*

### Domain 3: Analysis and findings

*Data analysis*

1. Number of data coders: How many data coders coded the data? *Two, see* *Appendix II/Data Analysis/Methodology (p. 6, items 3-7)*
2. Description of the coding tree: Did authors provide a description of the coding tree? *See Appendix III*
3. Derivation of themes: Were themes identified in advance or derived from the data? *Both, see Appendix II/Data Analysis/Methodology (p. 5-6)*
4. Software: What software, if applicable, was used to manage the data? *NVIVO 12 for Mac, see* *Manuscript/Methods (p. 6)*
5. Participant checking: Did participants provide feedback on the findings? *Several informants inquired about the findings and generally agreed with the conclusions.*

*Reporting*

1. Quotations presented: Were participant quotations presented to illustrate the themes / findings? Was each quotation identified? *Yes, see explanation under Manuscript/Methods (p. 7, 1st paragraph)*
2. Data and findings consistent: Was there consistency between the data presented and the findings? *Yes, see Manuscript/Results (p. 7ff)*
3. Clarity of major themes: Were major themes clearly presented in the findings? *Yes, see Manuscript/Results (p. 9-12ff)*
4. Clarity of minor themes: Is there a description of diverse cases or discussion of minor themes? *Yes, see Manuscript/Results (p. 9-12ff)*