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

| **No** | | | | | | **Item** | | | | | | | | | | **Guide questions/description** | | | | | | |
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| **Domain 1: Research team and reflexivity** | | | | | |  | | | | | | | | | |  | | | | | | |
| Personal Characteristics | | | | | |  | | | | | | | | | |  | | | | | | |
| 1. | | | | | | Interviewer/facilitator | | | | | | | | | | Which author/s conducted the interview or focus group? **M van den Berg** | | | | | | |
| 2. | | | | | | Credentials | | | | | | | | | | What were the researcher's credentials? *E.g. PhD, MD*  **MSc, PhD candidate** | | | | | | |
| 3. | | | | | | Occupation | | | | | | | | | | What was their occupation at the time of the study?  **PhD Student** | | | | | | |
| 4. | | | | | | Gender | | | | | | | | | | Was the researcher male or female?  **Female** | | | | | | |
| 5. | | | | | | Experience and training | | | | | | | | | | What experience or training did the researcher have?  **Training in qualitative methods. Previous xperience in the field with a qualitative research team conducting 76 interviews (Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania).** | | | | | | |
| Relationship with participants | | | | | |  | | | | | | | | | |  | | | | | | |
| 6. | | | | | | Relationship established | | | | | | | | | | Was a relationship established prior to study commencement?  **Yes, introducing the study a year before and visiting the site.** | | | | | | |
| 7. | | | | | | Participant knowledge of the interviewer | | | | | | | | | | What did the participants know about the researcher? e*.g. personal goals, reasons for doing the research*  **Researcher is aiming to have a PhD following the project, reasons for the research are to improve clinical trial design in these settings.** | | | | | | |
| 8. | | | | | | Interviewer characteristics | | | | | | | | | | What characteristics were reported about the interviewer/facilitator? e.g. *Bias, assumptions, reasons and interests in the research topic*  **As an outsider there were certain areas that I had to learn about, local language in particular. As a young female interviewer with both male and female across the age spectrum, there is the possibility for differing dynamics across these groups. Interested in the subject as there is a need to better support researchers in low-resource settings.** | | | | | | |
| **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 using a framework to guide it.** | | | | | | |
| Participant selection | | | | | |  | | | | | | | | | |  | | | | | | |
| 10. | | | | | | Sampling | | | | | | | | | | How were participants selected? *e.g. purposive, convenience, consecutive, snowball*  **Purposive** | | | | | | |
| 11. | | | | | | Method of approach | | | | | | | | | | How were participants approached? e*.g. face-to-face, telephone, mail, email*  **Face-to-face** | | | | | | |
| 12. | | | | | | Sample size | | | | | | | | | | How many participants were in the study?  **11** | | | | | | |
| 13. | | | | | | Non-participation | | | | | | | | | | How many people refused to participate or dropped out? Reasons? **None** | | | | | | |
| Setting | | | | | |  | | | | | | | | | |  | | | | | | |
| 14. | | | | | | Setting of data collection | | | | | | | | | | Where was the data collected? e*.g. home, clinic, workplace*  **Workplace** | | | | | | |
| 15. | | | | | | Presence of non-participants | | | | | | | | | | Was anyone else present besides the participants and researchers? **No** | | | | | | |
| 16. | | | | | | Description of sample | | | | | | | | | | What are the important characteristics of the sample? *e.g. demographic data, date* **Educated researchers working on the vaccine clinical trial.** | | | | | | |
| Data collection | | | | | |  | | | | | | | | | |  | | | | | | |
| 17. | | | | | | Interview guide | | | | | | | | | | Were questions, prompts, guides provided by the authors? Was it pilot tested?  **Yes it was pilot tested.** | | | | | | |
| 18. | | | | | | Repeat interviews | | | | | | | | | | Were repeat interviews carried out? If yes, how many? **No** | | | | | | |
| 19. | | | | | | Audio/visual recording | | | | | | | | | | Did the research use audio or visual recording to collect the data? **Yes audio.** | | | | | | |
| 20. | | | | | | Field notes | | | | | | | | | | Were field notes made during and/or after the interview or focus group? **Yes.** | | | | | | |
| 21. | | | | | | Duration | | | | | | | | | | What was the duration of the interviews or focus group? **On average 53 minutes.** | | | | | | |
| 22. | | | | | | Data saturation | | | | | | | | | | Was data saturation discussed? **Yes.** | | | | | | |
| 23. | | | | | | Transcripts returned | | | | | | | | | | Were transcripts returned to participants for comment and/or correction? **Upon request.** | | | | | | |
| **Domain 3: analysis and findings**z | | | | | |  | | | | | | | | | |  | | | | | | |
| Data analysis | | | | | |  | | | | | | | | | |  | | | | | | |
| 24. | | | | | | Number of data coders | | | | | | | | | | How many data coders coded the data? **Two** | | | | | | |
| 25. | | | | | | Description of the coding tree | | | | | | | | | | Did authors provide a description of the coding tree? **No** | | | | | | |
| 26. | | | | | | Derivation of themes | | | | | | | | | | Were themes identified in advance or derived from the data? **Derived from the Data** | | | | | | |
| 27. | | | | | | Software | | | | | | | | | | What software, if applicable, was used to manage the data?  **MAXQDA** | | | | | | |
| 28. | | | | | | Participant checking | | | | | | | | | | Did participants provide feedback on the findings? **No** | | | | | | |
| Reporting | | | | | |  | | | | | | | | | |  | | | | | | |
| 29. | | | | | | Quotations presented | | | | | | | | | | Were participant quotations presented to illustrate the themes / findings? Was each quotation identified? e*.g. participant number* **Yes** | | | | | | |
| 30. | | | | | | Data and findings consistent | | | | | | | | | | Was there consistency between the data presented and the findings? **Yes** | | | | | | |
| 31. | | | | | | Clarity of major themes | | | | | | | | | | Were major themes clearly presented in the findings? **Yes** | | | | | | |
| 32. | | | | | | Clarity of minor themes | | | | | | | | | | Is there a description of diverse cases or discussion of minor themes?  **yes** | | | | | | |
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