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? **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** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |