Quality assessment criteria for survey research reports

Category	Item	Reported on Page Number/Line Number	Reported on Section/Paragraph
Title and abstract			
	Is the design of the study stated in the title and/or abstract?		
Introduction			
	a) Is there an explanation of why the research is necessary, placing the study in context of previous work in relevant fields?		
	b) Is the purpose or aim of the paper explained?		
Methods			
Research tool	a) Is the questionnaire described?		
	b) If an existing tool was used, are its psychometric properties presented?		
	c) If an existing tool was used, are references to the original work provided?		
	d) If a new tool was used, are the procedures used to develop and pre-test provided?		
	e) If a new tool was used, have its reliability and validity been reported?		
	f) Is a description of the scoring procedures provided?		
Sample selection	a) Is there a description of the survey population and the sample frame used to identify this population?		
	b) Do the authors provide a description of how representative the sample is of the underlying population?		
	c) Is a sample size calculation or rationale/justification for the sample size presented?		
Survey administration	a) Mode of administration?		
	b) Do the authors provide information on the type of contact and how many attempts were made to contact subjects (i.e., prenotification by letter or telephone, reminder postcard, duplicate questionnaire with reminder)?		
	c) Do the authors report whether incentives were provided (financial or other)?		
	d) Is there a description of who approached potential participants (e.g., identification of who signed the covering letter)?		

Analysis	a) Is the method of data analysis described?		
	b) Do the authors provide methods for analysis of nonresponse error?		
	c) Is the method for calculating response rate provided?		
	d) Are definitions provided for complete versus partial completions?		
	e) Are the methods for handling item missing data provided?		
Results			
	a) Is the response rate reported?		
	b) Are all respondents accounted for?		
	c) Is information given on how nonrespondents differ from respondents?		
	d) Are the results clearly presented?		
	e) Do the results address the objective(s)?		
Discussion			
	a) Are the results summarized with reference to the study objectives?		
	b) Are the strengths of the study stated?		
	c) Are the limitations of the study (taking into account potential sources of bias or imprecision) stated?		
	d) Is there explicit discussion of the generalizability (external validity) of the results?		
Ethical quality indicators			
	a) Study funding reported?		
	b) Research Ethics Board (REB) review reported?		
	c) Reporting of subject consent procedures?		