

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)? | | |

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|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|
| 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? | | |