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? | Page1-2/Line1-42. | Title and abstract/Para1-5. |
| Introduction | | | |
| | a) Is there an explanation of why the research is necessary, placing the study in context of previous work in relevant fields? | Page2-3/Line52-93. | Background/Para1-4. |
| | b) Is the purpose or aim of the paper explained? | Page3/Line94-97. | Background/Para5. |
| Methods | | | |
| Research tool | a) Is the questionnaire described? | Page4-8/Line93-194. | Methods/Para1-10. |
| | b) If an existing tool was used, are its psychometric properties presented? | Page4-8/Line93-194. | Methods/Para1-10. |
| | c) If an existing tool was used, are references to the original work provided? | Page4-8/Line93-194. | Methods/Para1-10. |
| | d) If a new tool was used, are the procedures used to develop and pre-test provided? | Page4-8/Line93-194. | Methods/Para1-10. |
| | e) If a new tool was used, have its reliability and validity been reported? | Page4-8/Line93-194. | Methods/Para1-10. |
| | f) Is a description of the scoring procedures provided? | Page4-8/Line93-194. | Methods/Para1-10. |
| Sample selection | a) Is there a description of the survey population and the sample frame used to identify this population? | Page3-5/Line93-98. | Methods/Para1. |
| | b) Do the authors provide a description of how representative the sample is of the underlying population? | Page3-5/Line93-98. | Methods/Para1. |
| | c) Is a sample size calculation or rationale/justification for the sample size presented? | Page3-5/Line93-98. | Methods/Para1. |
| Survey administration | a) Mode of administration? | Page5-8/Line103-171. | Methods/Para2-10. |
| | 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)? | Page5-8/Line103-171. | Methods/Para2-10. |
| | c) Do the authors report whether incentives were provided (financial or other)? | Page5-8/Line103-171. | Methods/Para2-10. |
| | d) Is there a description of who approached potential participants (e.g., identification of who signed the covering letter)? | Page5-8/Line103-171. | Methods/Para2-10. |

| Analysis | a) Is the method of data analysis described? | Page5-8/Line103-171. | Methods/Para2-10. |
|-----------------|--|----------------------|---------------------|
| | b) Do the authors provide methods for analysis of nonresponse error? | Page5-8/Line103-171. | Methods/Para2-10. |
| | c) Is the method for calculating response rate provided? | Page5-8/Line103-171. | Methods/Para2-10. |
| | d) Are definitions provided for complete versus partial completions? | Page5-8/Line103-171. | Methods/Para2-10. |
| | e) Are the methods for handling item missing data provided? | Page5-8/Line103-171. | Methods/Para2-10. |
| Results | | | |
| | a) Is the response rate reported? | Page8/Line172-237 | Results/Para1-10. |
| | b) Are all respondents accounted for? | Page8/Line172-237 | Results/Para1-10. |
| | c) Is information given on how nonrespondents differ from respondents? | Page8/Line172-237 | Results/Para1-10. |
| | d) Are the results clearly presented? | Page8/Line172-237 | Results/Para1-10. |
| | e) Do the results address the objective(s)? | Page8/Line172-237 | Results/Para1-10. |
| Discussion | | | |
| | a) Are the results summarized with reference to the study objectives? | Page9-19/Line238-281 | Discussion/Para1-4. |
| | b) Are the strengths of the study stated? | Page9-19/Line238-281 | Discussion/Para1-4. |
| | c) Are the limitations of the study (taking into account potential sources of bias or imprecision) stated? | Page9-19/Line238-281 | Discussion/Para1-4. |
| | d) Is there explicit discussion of the generalizability (external validity) of the results? | Page9-19/Line238-281 | Discussion/Para1-4. |
| Ethical quality | indicators | · | |
| | a) Study funding reported? | NA | NA |
| | b) Research Ethics Board (REB) review reported? | Page4-8/Line93-96. | Methods/Para3. |
| | c) Reporting of subject consent procedures? | Page4-8/Line99-106. | Methods/Para4. |
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*As the checklist was provided upon initial submission, the page number/line number reported may be changed due to copyediting and may not be referable in the published version. In this case, the section/paragraph may be used as an alternative reference.