# 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? | Page 1, Line 3-5 | Title, Paragraph 1 |
| **Introduction** | a) Is there an explanation of why the research is necessary, placing the study in context of previous work in relevant fields? | Page 5, Line 109-125 | Introduction, Paragraph 2 |
| | b) Is the purpose or aim of the paper explained? | Page 6, Line 130-131 | Introduction, Paragraph 3 |
| **Methods** | a) Is the questionnaire described? | Page 7, Line 158-167 | Methods, Paragraph 4 |
| | b) If an existing tool was used, are its psychometric properties presented? | No existing tool used. | No existing tool used. |
| | c) If an existing tool was used, are references to the original work provided? | No existing tool used. | No existing tool used. |
| | d) If a new tool was used, are the procedures used to develop and pre-test provided? | Page 7, Line 172 | Methods, Paragraph 4 |
| | e) If a new tool was used, have its reliability and validity been reported? | Page 7, Line 173-175 | Methods, Paragraph 4 |
| | f) Is a description of the scoring procedures provided? | Page 7, Line 163-167 | Methods, Paragraph 4 |
| **Sample selection** | a) Is there a description of the survey population and the sample frame used to identify this population? | Page 8, Line 179-188 | Methods, Paragraph 5.6 |
| | b) Do the authors provide a description of how representative the sample is of the underlying population? | Page 8, Line 185-188 | Methods, Paragraph 6 |
| | c) Is a sample size calculation or rationale/justification for the sample size presented? | Page 8, Line 190-196 | Methods, Paragraph 7 |
| **Survey administration** | a) Mode of administration? | Page 8, Line 185-188 | Methods, Paragraph 6 |
| | 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)? | Page 8, Line 187-188 | Methods, Paragraph 6 |
| | c) Do the authors report whether incentives were provided (financial or other)? | Page 8, Line 188 | Methods, Paragraph 6 |
| | d) Is there a description of who approached potential participants (e.g., identification of who signed the covering letter)? | Page 7, Line 151-156 | Methods, Paragraph 3 |
### Analysis

| Question                                                                 | Page | Paragraph |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-----------|
| Is the method of data analysis described?                                | 8    | 196-197   |
| Are the methods for handling item missing data provided?                | 9    | 205-206   |
| Do the authors provide methods for analysis of nonresponse error?       | 8    | 197-199   |
| Is the method for calculating response rate provided?                   | 8    | 196-197   |
| Are definitions provided for complete versus partial completions?       | 8    | 176-177   |
| Do the authors provide methods for analysis of nonresponse error?       | 8    | 197-199   |
| Is the method for calculating response rate provided?                   | 8    | 196-197   |
| Are definitions provided for complete versus partial completions?       | 8    | 176-177   |

### Results

| Question                                                                 | Page | Paragraph |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-----------|
| Is the response rate reported?                                           | 9    | 211-212   |
| Are all respondents accounted for?                                      | 9    | 214-218   |
| Is information given on how nonrespondents differ from respondents?    | 9    | 212-214   |
| Are the results clearly presented?                                      | 9-11 | Tables 1, Tables 2, Tables 3 |
| Do the results address the objective(s)?                                | 9-11 | Tables 1, Tables 2, Tables 3 |

### Discussion

| Question                                                                 | Page | Paragraph |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-----------|
| Are the results summarized with reference to the study objectives?      | 11   | 265-268   |
| Are the strengths of the study stated?                                  | 11   | 261-265   |
| Are the limitations of the study (taking into account potential sources of bias or imprecision) stated? | 14   | 331-341   |
| Is there explicit discussion of the generalizability (external validity) of the results? | 11   | 261-265   |

### Ethical quality indicators

| Question                                                                 | Page | Paragraph |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-----------|
| Study funding reported?                                                 | 15-16| 371-374   |
| Research Ethics Board (REB) review reported?                            | 15   | 361-369   |
| Reporting of subject consent procedures?                                | 15   | 364-366   |

Article information: http://dx.doi.org/10.21037/hp-20-247.

*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.