## 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?      | 52/3                               | Abstract/2                   |
| **Introduction**                  | a) Is there an explanation of why the research is necessary, placing the study in context of previous work in relevant fields? | 79-155/5-7                         | 1-5/Introduction             |
|                                   | b) Is the purpose or aim of the paper explained?                     | 144-155/7                          | 5/Introduction               |
| **Methods**                       | Research tool a) Is the questionnaire described?                     | 196-249/8-10                       | 4-8/Methods                  |
|                                   | b) If an existing tool was used, are its psychometric properties presented? | 200-228/9-10                       | 5-7/Methods                  |
|                                   | c) If an existing tool was used, are references to the original work provided? | 200-228/9-10                       | 5-7/Methods                  |
|                                   | d) If a new tool was used, are the procedures used to develop and pre-test provided? | not applicable                     | no new tools used            |
|                                   | e) If a new tool was used, have its reliability and validity been reported? | not applicable                     | no new tools used            |
|                                   | f) Is a description of the scoring procedures provided?              | 200-228/9-10                       | 5-7/Methods                  |
| Sample selection                  | a) Is there a description of the survey population and the sample frame used to identify this population? | 159-190/7-8                       | 1-2/Methods                  |
|                                   | b) Do the authors provide a description of how representative the sample is of the underlying population? | 159-190/7-8                       | 1-2/Methods                  |
|                                   | c) Is a sample size calculation or rationale/justification for the sample size presented? | 159-190/7-8                       | 1-2/Methods                  |
| Survey administration            | a) Mode of administration?                                           | 196-199/8-9                        | 4/Methods                    |
|                                   | 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)? | 159-190/7-8                       | 1-2/Methods                  |
|                                   | c) Do the authors report whether incentives were provided (financial or other)? | 159-190/7-8                       | 1-2/Methods                  |
|                                   | d) Is there a description of who approached potential participants (e.g., identification of who signed the covering letter)? | 159-190/7-8                       | 1-2/Methods                  |
| Analysis | a) Is the method of data analysis described? | 252-276/10-11 | 9/Methods |
|----------|--------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------|
|          | b) Do the authors provide methods for analysis of nonresponse error? | Not applicable | Unavailable data on |
|          | c) Is the method for calculating response rate provided? | 252-276/10-11 | 9/Methods |
|          | d) Are definitions provided for complete versus partial completions? | Not applicable | Unavailable data on |
|          | e) Are the methods for handling item missing data provided? | Not applicable | No missing data |
| Results  | a) Is the response rate reported? | Not applicable | Unavailable data on |
|          | b) Are all respondents accounted for? | 279-284/11 | 1/Results |
|          | c) Is information given on how nonrespondents differ from respondents? | Not applicable | Unavailable data on |
|          | d) Are the results clearly presented? | 279-355/11-14 | 1-6/Results |
|          | e) Do the results address the objective(s)? | 279-355/11-14 | 1-6/Results |
| Discussion | a) Are the results summarized with reference to the study objectives? | 376-387/14-15 | 2/Discussion |
|          | b) Are the strengths of the study stated? | 361-375/14 | 1/Discussion |
|          | c) Are the limitations of the study (taking into account potential sources of bias or imprecision) stated? | 464-472/17-18 | 8/Discussion |
|          | d) Is there explicit discussion of the generalizability (external validity) of the results? | 464-472/17-18 | 8/Discussion |
| Ethical quality indicators | a) Study funding reported? | 518-522/19 | |
|          | b) Research Ethics Board (REB) review reported? | 528-534/20 | |
|          | c) Reporting of subject consent procedures? | 166-181/7-8 | 1-2/Methods |

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*As the checklist was provided upon initial submission, the page number/line number reported may be changed due to copy editing and may not be referable in the published version. In this case, the section/paragraph may be used as an alternative reference.