## 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 1                     | TITLE PAGE                   |
| **Introduction**          | a) Is there an explanation of why the research is necessary, placing the study in context of previous work in relevant fields? | Page 3, line 63                    | INTRO, para 3                |
|                           | b) Is the purpose or aim of the paper explained?                      | Page 3, Line 64, 65                | INTRO, para 3                |
| **Methods**               | a) Is the questionnaire described?                                    | Page 4, Line 79 onwards            | METHODS, para 2              |
|                           | b) If an existing tool was used, are its psychometric properties presented? | Page 4, Line 80                    | METHODS, para 2              |
|                           | c) If an existing tool was used, are references to the original work provided? | Page 4, line 82                    | METHODS, para 2              |
|                           | d) If a new tool was used, are the procedures used to develop and pre-test provided? | N/A                                | as above                     |
|                           | e) If a new tool was used, have its reliability and validity been reported? | N/A                                | as above                     |
|                           | f) Is a description of the scoring procedures provided?               | Pages 4 + 5, 86-97                 | METHODS, para 3              |
| **Sample selection**      | a) Is there a description of the survey population and the sample frame used to identify this population? | Page 4, 70-76                      | METHODS, para 1              |
|                           | b) Do the authors provide a description of how representative the sample is of the underlying population? | Pages 4 + 11, 70-76, 86-97         | METHODS, para 1              |
|                           | c) Is a sample size calculation or rationale/justification for the sample size presented? | No                                 | Pall eligible cases          |
| **Survey administration** | a) Mode of administration?                                           | Page 4, line 72                    | METHODS, para 1              |
|                           | 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)? | Direct contact                     | all contact face to face. no reminders etc |
|                           | c) Do the authors report whether incentives were provided (financial or other)? | Page 4, line 76                    | METHODS, para 1              |
|                           | d) Is there a description of who approached potential participants (e.g., identification of who signed the covering letter)? | Page 4, line 72                    | METHODS, para 1              |
| Analysis                                                                 | Page, line | METHODS, para |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| a) Is the method of data analysis described?                            | 5, 104-110 | 5             |
| b) Do the authors provide methods for analysis of nonresponse error?   | NA         | not required  |
| c) Is the method for calculating response rate provided?                | 6, 119     | RESULTS, para 1|
| d) Are definitions provided for complete versus partial completions?   | N/A        | no partial completions |
| e) Are the methods for handling item missing data provided?             | N/A        | no missing data |

| Results                                                                | Page, line | RESULTS, para |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| a) Is the response rate reported?                                      | 6, 119     | 1             |
| b) Are all respondents accounted for?                                  | 6, 119     | 1             |
| c) Is information given on how nonrespondents differ from respondents?| NO         | no data on non-respondent |
| d) Are the results clearly presented?                                  | 6-8, 116-164 | RESULTS, all paras |
| e) Do the results address the objective(s)?                           | 6-8, 124-164 | RESULTS, para 2-7 |

| Discussion                                                             | Page, line | DISCUSSION, para |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------------|
| a) Are the results summarized with reference to the study objectives?  | 9, 167-172 | 1                |
| b) Are the strengths of the study stated?                              | 11 & 12, 234-245 | 13               |
| c) Are the limitations of the study (taking into account potential sources of bias or imprecision) stated? | 11, 234-245 | 13               |
| d) Is there explicit discussion of the generalizability (external validity) of the results? | 11/12, 239-241 | 13               |

| Ethical quality indicators                                             | Page, line | ACKNOWLEDGMENT |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|----------------|
| a) Study funding reported?                                             | 13, 256    |                |
| b) Research Ethics Board (REB) review reported?                       | 7, 113; 13, 271 | METHODS, para 6|
| c) Reporting of subject consent procedures?                           | 5, 114     | METHODS, para 6|

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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.