# 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 2/ Line 32-36                 | Abstract/ Para. 2            |
| **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 65-75                | Introduction/ Para. 2        |
|                        | b) Is the purpose or aim of the paper explained?                     | Page 3-4/ Line 76-78               | Introduction/ Para. 3        |
| **Methods**            | Research tool                                                        |                                    |                              |
|                        | a) Is the questionnaire described?                                    | Page 5/ Line 84-85, 89-91          | Method/ Para. 1/             |
|                        | b) If an existing tool was used, are its psychometric properties presented? | N/A.                              | N/A.                         |
|                        | c) If an existing tool was used, are references to the original work provided? | N/A.                              | N/A.                         |
|                        | d) If a new tool was used, are the procedures used to develop and pre-test provided? | Page 5/ Line 83-93                | Method/ Para. 1              |
|                        | e) If a new tool was used, have its reliability and validity been reported? | N/A.                              | N/A.                         |
|                        | f) Is a description of the scoring procedures provided?              | N/A.                              | N/A.                         |
|                        | Sample selection                                                     |                                    |                              |
|                        | a) Is there a description of the survey population and the sample frame used to identify this population? | Page 5/ Line 83-84, 88-89          | Method/ Para. 1              |
|                        | b) Do the authors provide a description of how representative the sample is of the underlying population? | Page 12/ Line 245-248             | Discussion/ Para. 4          |
|                        | c) Is a sample size calculation or rationale/justification for the sample size presented? | Page 5/ Line 91-93                | Method/ Para. 1              |
|                        | Survey administration                                                |                                    |                              |
|                        | a) Mode of administration?                                           | Page 5/ Line 83-93                | Method/ 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)? | Page 5/ Line 83-93                | Method/ Para. 1              |
|                        | c) Do the authors report whether incentives were provided (financial or other)? | N/A. There was no                  | N/A. There was no            |
|                        | d) Is there a description of who approached potential participants (e.g., identification of who signed the covering letter)? | Page 5/ Line 83-93                | Method/ Para. 1              |
### Analysis

| Question                                                                 | Reference/ Paragraph |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| a) Is the method of data analysis described?                             | N/A. We used only    |
| b) Do the authors provide methods for analysis of nonresponse error?    | N/A.                 |
| c) Is the method for calculating response rate provided?                 | Page 5/ Line 91-93   |
| d) Are definitions provided for complete versus partial completions?    | N/A. We received survey |
| e) Are the methods for handling item missing data provided?             | N/A. We received survey |

### Results

| Question                                                                 | Reference/ Paragraph |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| a) Is the response rate reported?                                        | Page 6-8/ Line 102-103, Results/ Para. 1, Para. 5 |
| b) Are all respondents accounted for?                                   | Page 6/ Line 102-115, Results/ Para. 1 |
| c) Is information given on how nonrespondents differ from respondents?  | Page 12/ Line 245-248, Discussion/ Para. 4 |
| d) Are the results clearly presented?                                   | Page 6-8/ Line 101-161, Results/ Para. 1-5 |
| e) Do the results address the objective(s)?                            | Page 6-8/ Line 101-161, Results/ Para. 1-5 |

### Discussion

| Question                                                                 | Reference/ Paragraph |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| a) Are the results summarized with reference to the study objectives?   | Page 12/ Line 240-256, Discussion/ Para. 5 |
| b) Are the strengths of the study stated?                               | Page 12/ Line 240-250, Discussion/ Para. 5 |
| c) Are the limitations of the study (taking into account potential sources of bias or imprecision) stated? | Page 12/ Line 240-248, Discussion/ Para. 4 |
| d) Is there explicit discussion of the generalizability (external validity) of the results? | Page 9, 12/ Line 182-183, Discussion/ Para. 1, 3 |

### Ethical quality indicators

| Question                                                                 | Reference/ Paragraph |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| a) Study funding reported?                                               | Page 14/ Line 270-272, Funding/ Para. 1 |
| b) Research Ethics Board (REB) review reported?                         | Page 15/ Line 278-284, Ethical/ Para. 1 |
| c) Reporting of subject consent procedures?                             | Page 15/ Line 283-284, Ethical/ Para. 1 |

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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.