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| SUBMISSION COMPLIANCE CHECKLIST: MIXED METHODS STUDIESDOCUMENT VERSION 27 AUGUST 2020Ensure your manuscript complies with author guidelines by completing this SUBMISSION COMPLIANCE CHECKLIST, ensure to report the corresponding page number. Submit the completed form on the journal website during the manuscript submission process (Step 4). |
| COMPLIANCE CRITERIA | COMPULSARY SECTION TO COMPLETE |
| SECTION/TOPIC | # | CHECKLIST ITEM | REPORTED ON PAGE # |
| *TITLE* |  |  |  |
| Title | 1 | The title should indicate the manuscript is a report of a mixed method study and include the major variables and population under study. |       |
| *ABSTRACT* |  |  |  |
| Structured summary | 2 | Summary of key elements of the study using the abstract format, as applicable: background, aim, setting, methods, results, conclusion, and contribution |       |
| *INTRODUCTION* |  |  |  |
| Significance | 3 | Identify the relevance of the problem and provide a rationale for the best approach from multiple perspectives. |       |
| 4 | Outline how mixed methods allows an innovative investigation of the research problem. |       |
| Philosophy or Theory | 5 | Describe the philosophy or theory that guided the study and how it shaped the investigation. |       |
| 6 | Explain how mixed methods fits into the theory or philosophy and addresses the aims of the study. |       |
| Review of the Literature | 7 | Describe, analyze, and synthesize literature from mixed methods perspective. |  |
| *PURPOSE* |  |  |  |
| Rationale | 8 | Provide a rationale for the use of mixed methods rather than a mono-method. |       |
| Objectives | 9 | Identify clear, specific qualitative and quantitative questions (or objectives) or a clear mixed method question (or objective). Note: Provide a question (or objective) to address integration of the data from all parts of the study. |       |
| Information sources | 10 | Describe how the study was weighted (i.e., if priority was given to the qualitative or the quantitative research, or if each was emphasized equality). |       |
| *METHODS* |  |
| Study design | 11 | Describe the full study design for the qualitative and quantitative arms of the study, including where integration occurs. The weight or priority and sequencing of each part of the study should be provided. Use of a figure or matrix may be helpful. |       |
| Study selection | 12 | Describe each arm of the study appropriately for the type of research (qualitative and quantitative). For example, if grounded theory was used, all components should be present; if a randomized, controlled trial was used, all components should be present. |       |
| Data collection process | 13 | Describe the recruitment of a sample for each arm of the study. |       |
| Data collection instruments, technologies | 14 | Provide sample description and size for each arm of the study as well as for the whole study. Attrition also should be addressed for each arm. |       |
| Data processing  | 15 | Ensure collected data address each of the questions outlined in the purpose; sources of data should be relevant.  |       |
| Data analysis | 16 | Describe the appropriate analysis techniques for each type of research. |       |
| Data synthesis and integration | 17 | Describe the integration of qualitative and quantitative data, including timing, techniques, and how discrepancies were handled. |       |
| Data methods | 18 | Outline methods for rigor for quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis (e.g., sampling, sample size, analysis). |       |
| Ethical issues pertaining to human subjects | 19 | How and why research participants, documents, or events were selected; criteria for deciding when no further sampling was necessary (e.g. sampling saturation); rationalea. |       |
| *FINDINGS* |  |
| Synthesis and interpretation | 20 | Clearly report findings for each question (or objective), with no part of the study minimized or ignored. |       |
| Study characteristics | 21 | Clearly identify which findings are qualitative and which are from the quantitative arm of the study. |       |
| Study outline | 22 | Outline integration findings. |       |
| *DISCUSSION* |  |
| Summary of findings | 23 | Interpret the mixed methods findings. |       |
| 24 | Relate findings to the literature, including any other mixed methods studies. |       |
| 25 | Describe any insights gained from mixing or integrating methods. |       |
| Limitations | 26 | Describe any limitation of one method associated with the presence of the other method. |       |
| 27 | Address any discrepancies or divergence between the findings in different arms of the study. |  |
| Recommendations for Future Research | 28 | Describe any recommendations for future research, including any for mixed methods research |  |
| Conclusions | 29 | Provide a general interpretation of the results in the context of other evidence, and implications for future research. |       |
| *ACKNOWLEDGEMENT* |  |  |  |
| Acknowledgements | 30 | The acknowledgement section follows the conclusions section and addresses formal, required statements of gratitude and required disclosures. It includes listing those who contributed to the work but did not meet authorship criteria, with the corresponding description of the contribution. |       |
| Competing interests | 31 | This section should list specific competing interests associated with any of the authors, potential sources of influence or perceived influence on the study conduct and conclusions; how these were managed. |       |
| Author contributions | 32 | All authors must meet the criteria for authorship as outlined in the [authorship](https://aosis.co.za/policies#authorship) policy and [author contribution](https://aosis.co.za/policies#author_contributions_affiliations) statement policies. |       |
| Funding | 33 | Sources of funding and other support; role of funders in data collection, interpretation, and reporting. |       |
| Data availability statement | 34 | Guide readers where the data associated with a paper is available, and under what conditions the data can be accessed. |       |
| Disclaimer | 35 | A statement that the views expressed in the submitted article are his or her own and not an official position of the institution or funder. |       |
| a The rationale should briefly discuss the justification for choosing that theory, approach, method, or technique rather than other options available, the assumptions and limitations implicit in those choices, and how those choices influence study conclusions and transferability. As appropriate, the rationale for several items might be discussed together. |