

## Appendix 49: Quality Assessment Instrument — Cross-Sectional Studies

Reviewer Name:

| STUDY CHARACTERISTICS                                                                                                              |                                                                                                        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Ref ID                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                        |
| First author                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                        |
| Publication year                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                        |
| 1. Was ethics approval obtained?                                                                                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear<br>Comments: |
| RESEARCH QUESTION AND STUDY DESIGN                                                                                                 |                                                                                                        |
| 2. Are the research questions and/or objectives clearly stated?                                                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear<br>Comments: |
| 3. Are the research questions suitable for a cross-sectional design?                                                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear<br>Comments: |
| PARTICIPANTS AND SAMPLING                                                                                                          |                                                                                                        |
| 4. Is the sampling strategy clearly described?                                                                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear<br>Comments: |
| 5. Is the sampling strategy congruent with the research questions and/or objectives?                                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear<br>Comments: |
| 6. Is the sample of participants representative of the target sample, or the population to which the findings will be generalized? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear<br>Comments: |
| 7. Could the way the sample was obtained introduce selection bias?                                                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear<br>Comments: |

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|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>8. Was a sufficient sample size calculation provided?</p>                             | <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear</p> <p>Comments:</p> |
| <p><b>DATA COLLECTION</b></p>                                                            |                                                                                                                   |
| <p>9. Was a pilot test of data collection methods conducted?</p>                         | <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear</p> <p>Comments:</p> |
| <p>10. Was the study questionnaire valid?</p>                                            | <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear</p> <p>Comments:</p> |
| <p>11. Was the study questionnaire reliable?</p>                                         | <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear</p> <p>Comments:</p> |
| <p><b>DATA ANALYSIS</b></p>                                                              |                                                                                                                   |
| <p>12. Were the data analysis strategies appropriate for the type of data collected?</p> | <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear</p> <p>Comments:</p> |
| <p>13. Were all analyses planned a priori?</p>                                           | <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear</p> <p>Comments:</p> |
| <p><b>RESULTS</b></p>                                                                    |                                                                                                                   |
| <p>14. Was a satisfactory response rate achieved?</p>                                    | <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear</p> <p>Comments:</p> |
| <p>15. Were all significant and non-significant quantitative results been reported?</p>  | <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear</p> <p>Comments:</p> |

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| <p>16. Were all qualitative results, resulting from open-ended questions, summarized and reported?</p> | <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear</p> <p>Comments:</p> |
| <p><b>DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS</b></p>                                                               |                                                                                                                   |
| <p>17. Have the researchers drawn an appropriate link between the data and their conclusions?</p>      | <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear</p> <p>Comments:</p> |
| <p>18. Have all potential biases been identified and discussed?</p>                                    | <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear</p> <p>Comments:</p> |