

Appendix 3 - Quality assessment criteria & percentage of max. possible score achieved

| <i>Criteria</i> | <i>All</i> (%) | <i>Quantitative</i> (%) | <i>Qualitative</i> (%) | <i>Mixed</i> (%) |
|--|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Explicit theoretical framework | 8.3 ¹ | 9 ² | 6.1 ³ | 16.7 ⁴ |
| Statement of aims/objectives in main report | 70.9 ¹ | 69 ² | 66.7 ³ | 50 ⁴ |
| Clear description of research setting | 79.2 ¹ | 76.2 ² | 75.6 ³ | 66.7 ⁴ |
| Evidence of sample size considered in terms of analysis | 5.6 ¹ | 4 ² | 6.1 ³ | 0 ⁴ |
| Representative sample of target group of a reasonable size | 70.8 ¹ | 76.2 ² | 57.6 ³ | 100 ⁴ |
| Description of procedure for data collection | 77.8 ¹ | 61.9 ² | 90.9 ³ | 66.7 ⁴ |
| Rationale for choice of data collection tool(s) | 50.0 ¹ | 35.7 ² | 63.6 ³ | 16.7 ⁴ |
| Detailed recruitment data | 63.9 ¹ | 50 ² | 75.6 ³ | 66.7 ⁴ |
| Statistical assessment of reliability and validity of measurement tool(s) (Quantitative) | 38.5 ¹ | 35.7 ² | - | 33.3 ⁴ |
| Fit between research question and method of data collection (Quantitative) | 64.1 ¹ | 59.5 ² | - | 33.3 ⁴ |
| Fit between research question and format and content of data collection tool e.g. interview schedule (Qualitative) | 61.1 ¹ | - | 69.7 ³ | 33.3 ⁴ |
| Fit between research question and method of analysis (Quantitative) | 76.9 ¹ | 69 ² | - | 66.7 ⁴ |
| Good justification for analytic method selected | 31.9 ¹ | 28.6 ² | 33.3 ³ | 0 ⁴ |
| Assessment of reliability of | 38.5 ¹ | - | 45.5 ³ | 0 ⁴ |

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|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| analytic process (Qualitative) | | | | |
| Evidence of user involvement in design | 13.9 ¹ | 16.7 ² | 6.1 ³ | 0 ⁴ |
| Strengths and limitations critically discussed | 55.6 ¹ | 54.8 ² | 51.5 ³ | 16.7 ⁴ |
| Total score | 490/987 | 272/462 | 238/429 | 34/96 |
| % of max. possible score | 49.6 ⁵ | 58.9 ⁵ | 55.5 ⁵ | 35.4 ⁵ |

¹ Percentage of all 24 quality assessed papers

² Percentage of all 13 quantitative and mixed methods papers only

³ Percentage of all 13 qualitative and mixed methods papers only

⁴ Percentage of the 2 mixed methods papers only

⁵ Percentage of maximum quality assessment score (no. of relevant quality criteria x no. of papers)