

RESEARCH STUDY

*Instructions for reviewers: Please place a number in each box.
 5=Exceptional; 4=Good; 3=Adequate; 2=Fair; 1=Poor/Absent; N/A=Not Applicable.*

Section Name	Score
<p>Introduction / Problem Statement</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is a discernible problem that led to the study. 2. The problem is accurately and comprehensively depicted. 3. The problem is significant beyond the rationale that “no one has studied this before.” 4. The claim that “no one has studied this before” is well-supported and the study will help fill that gap. 	_____
<p>Review of Literature</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Key studies and other relevant literatures address the research problem. 2. The review clarifies whether it reflects what researchers knew and believed going into the field of study—before any data were collected—(deductive strategy) or came to know and believe while in or leaving the field of study after data analysis began or was completed (inductive strategy). 3. The review shows a critical attitude toward the accumulated knowledge about the research problem and toward the methods used to study it, as opposed to summarizing studies in a <i>he said/she said</i> format. 4. The review uses logic that points toward the project purpose, and does not contradict it (e.g., as when researchers use a gap logic to expose the lack of studies in an area and then report several studies). 	_____
<p>Purpose</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There are clearly stated research purposes and/or questions. 2. Research purposes or questions are linked to the research problem and the review of literature. 3. Research purposes and questions are amenable to the design of the study. 4. The scope of the project seems reasonable to accomplish in a 1-year timeframe. 	_____
<p>Theoretical-Conceptual Framework / Frame of Reference</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is an explicitly stated theoretical- conceptual framework or frame of reference. 2. The frame of reference fits the target phenomenon and is not forced onto it. 	_____
<p>Design / Method</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is a stated method that fits the research purpose. 2. The method is accurately rendered. 3. The method is appropriately incorporated into the study design. 4. Researchers state the potential impact of method choices on findings. 	_____

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<p>Sample</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The sampling plan fits the research purpose and method. 2. The sampling plan is purposeful, and the type(s) of purposeful sampling is/are specified. 3. The sampling plan described is accurately rendered. 4. Site(s) of recruitment fit the research purpose and sampling strategy, and documentation of access is provided. 5. Recruiting the sample can be done in a 1-year timeframe. 	_____
<p>Sample Size & Configuration</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sample size and configuration fit the research purpose and sampling strategy. 2. Sample size and configuration can support the purpose of the study (e.g. statistical power, adequate description, informational redundancy, theoretical saturation, intensive and comprehensive study of particulars). 3. Sites of recruitment fit the planned or evolving sampling needs of the study. 	_____
<p>Data Collection / Generation Techniques & Sources</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sources of data and techniques of data collection or generation fit the pre-determined or evolving needs of the study, e.g. appropriate/reliable/valid instruments are chosen that fit the variables or data- gathering strategies are congruent with the orientation of the study. 2. The content, sequence, and timing of data collection or generation techniques fit the purpose and orientations of the study (e.g., as when the purpose of a study is to ascertain structural barriers to health care utilization, but the only sources of data are women's perceptions of their health care providers). 3. Specific data collection or generation techniques are tailored to the proposed study, as opposed to the presentation of textbook or rote descriptions of data collection or generation. 4. Techniques for data collection or generation techniques are correctly used. 5. Sites are conducive to data collection or generation. 6. The time period for data collection or generation is explicitly stated and appropriate for a 1-year timeframe. 7. The timing of data collection or is explicitly stated and justified according to the target events. 8. The sequencing of data collection or generation techniques is justified. 	_____
<p>Data Management & Analysis</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Data management & analysis techniques fit the research purposes and data. 2. Adequate resources are available to support data analysis (e.g., transcription of interviews; data entry). 	_____

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3. Specific data management & analysis techniques are tailored to the proposed study, as opposed to rote descriptions of data management. 4. Analysis of data is appropriate for the type of data or question and fits the data.	
Validity 1. Researchers have included techniques to reduce bias or show an awareness of their potential influence on the study and its participants. 2. The limitations of the study are unique to this study and are addressed with solutions to reduce their effect or represent their effect on the findings. 3. Techniques for validation fit the purpose, method, sample, and data. 4. Techniques are tailored to the project, as opposed to rote descriptions of validation techniques with no application shown to the study reported.	_____
Human Subjects 1. Benefits and risks distinctive to the study are addressed procedurally in an appropriate manner, as opposed to textbook or rote descriptions of human subjects procedures with no discussion of their particular relevance to the proposed study. 2. Recruitment and consent techniques are tailored to fit the sensitivity of the subject matter and/or vulnerability of participants. 3. Data collection and management techniques are tailored to fit the sensitivity of the subject matter and/or vulnerability of participants.	_____
References 1. Cited correctly and fully 2. Current (or appropriate to the developments in the area) and sufficiently exhaustive.	_____

Adapted with permission from Sandelowski, M., & Barroso, J. (2007). Handbook for synthesizing qualitative research. NY: Springer.

REVIEWER SUMMARY

Recommendation:

- Approval

- Conditional Approval with following revisions:

- Disapproval

Signature of Reviewer

SUMMARY STATEMENT

Please provide a Summary Statement below, bulleting the strengths and weaknesses of the proposal. This information will be sent to the applicant following review.