

APPRAISAL OF A SURVEY / DESCRIPTIVE STUDY

Study Aim & relevance	
1. (a) What was the study aim and target population to be generalized to? (b) What was the study population?	
2. (a) What was/were the primary outcome/response variable measured? (b) What was/were the summary statistics estimated?	
3. Was the study population and measurements relevant to the aim?	
Is the study design valid?	
4. (a) What was the estimated sample size? (b) How was the sample size estimated? (What was the best estimate of the outcome, the SD, what was the required precision of estimation & level of confidence?) (c) What sample size was achieved & how does it impact the planned precision of the estimate?	
5. (a) How was the study sample chosen? Was a probability-based or some other method of sampling used? (b) Was a sampling frame used to select the study population? (c) If yes, how was it obtained and did it adequately cover the target population - discuss any under or over-representation	
6. (a) What instrument/s & methods were used to collect the data? (b) For questionnaire instruments - was it validated?	
7. How vulnerable are any self-reported responses to: (a) misunderstanding? (b) inability to recall? (c) dishonest responses?	
8. What other subject characteristics were measured and what subgroup analyses were planned?	
9. How might any flaws in the study design affect the results?	

What are the results?

1. What were the estimates & confidence intervals? (Means, proportions, ratios, totals etc)

2. What qualitative data were collected and how was it analyzed?

3. (a) What was the non-response rate?
(b) Were the characteristics of the non-responders analysed?

4. How might any issues in the study execution or analysis have affected the results?