

COREQ guidelines table

Domain 1: Research team and reflexivity			Comment
Personal Characteristics			
1.	Interviewer/facilitator	Which author/s conducted the interview?	LB
2.	Credentials	What were the researcher's credentials? <i>E.g. PhD, MD</i>	BA PhD
3.	Occupation	What was their occupation at the time of the study?	Research Fellow
4.	Gender	Was the researcher male or female?	Female
5.	Experience and training	What experience or training did the researcher have?	>15 years experience of conducting and leading qualitative research.
Relationship with participants			
6.	Relationship established	Was a relationship established prior to study commencement?	No – participants were recruited following contact with a clinician
7.	Participant knowledge of the interviewer	What did the participants know about the researcher? <i>e.g. personal goals, reasons for doing the research</i>	Participants were made aware of reasons for doing the research – to better understand their experiences of health and symptoms. And develop a symptom questionnaire
8.	Interviewer characteristics	What characteristics were reported about the interviewer/facilitator? <i>e.g. Bias, assumptions, reasons and interests in the research</i>	Research interests were reported

COREQ guidelines table

		<i>topic</i>	
Domain 2: study design			
Theoretical framework			
9.	Methodological orientation and Theory	What methodological orientation was stated to underpin the study? <i>e.g.</i> <i>grounded theory, discourse analysis, ethnography, phenomenology, content analysis</i>	Discourse analysis, thematic analysis and Constant comparative method
Participant selection			
10.	Sampling	How were participants selected? <i>e.g. purposive, convenience, consecutive, snowball</i>	Two sampling methods were used, consecutive sampling of eligible patients attending surgeons and opportunistic sampling of patients by clinician letter.
11.	Method of approach	How were participants approached? <i>e.g. face-to-face, telephone, mail, email</i>	Consecutively sampled participants were approached face to face. Participants contacted by letter who expressed interest in the study were then approached by phone.
12.	Sample size	How many participants were in the study?	20
13.	Non-participation	How many people refused to participate or dropped out? Reasons?	3
Setting			

COREQ guidelines table

14.	Setting of data collection	Where was the data collected? e.g. <i>home, clinic, workplace</i>	Participants own homes (18). Hospital setting (2).
15.	Presence of non-participants	Was anyone else present besides the participants and researchers?	In 3 cases a partner (2) or carer (1) was present. If a partner was present this is indicated in the excerpts presented.
16.	Description of sample	What are the important characteristics of the sample? e.g. <i>demographic data, date</i>	Route to diagnosis (symptomatic, incidental), age, comorbidities.
Data collection			
17.	Interview guide	Were questions, prompts, guides provided by the authors? Was it pilot tested?	The Interview guide was pilot tested.
18.	Repeat interviews	Were repeat interviews carried out? If yes, how many?	No
19.	Audio/visual recording	Did the research use audio or visual recording to collect the data?	Audio-recording
20.	Field notes	Were field notes made during and/or after the interview or focus group?	Field notes were made after the interview.
21.	Duration	What was the duration of the interviews or focus group?	1 - 1.5 hours.
22.	Data saturation	Was data saturation discussed?	Yes
23.	Transcripts returned	Were transcripts returned to participants for comment and/or correction?	No. Participants were awaiting lung resection and clinicians did not want participants to be contacted in the months following this procedure.
Domain 3: analysis and			

COREQ guidelines table

findings			
Data analysis			
24.	Number of data coders	How many data coders coded the data?	2. LB and GL
25.	Description of the coding tree	Did authors provide a description of the coding tree?	No but a description of main themes was provided
26.	Derivation of themes	Were themes identified in advance or derived from the data?	Identified from the data
27.	Software	What software, if applicable, was used to manage the data?	MS Word. Discourse analysis was used, so coded data was kept in context within the interview transcript.
28.	Participant checking	Did participants provide feedback on the findings?	No – for the reasons given above regarding the return of transcripts
Reporting			
29.	Quotations presented	Were participant quotations presented to illustrate the themes / findings? Was each quotation identified? e.g. <i>participant number</i>	Yes
30.	Data and findings consistent	Was there consistency between the data presented and the findings?	Yes
31.	Clarity of major themes	Were major themes clearly presented in the findings?	Yes
32.	Clarity of minor themes	Is there a description of diverse cases or discussion of minor themes?	Yes – exceptions are discussed