

Appendix 7. Quality assessment for mixed-methods study

Author/Year	Criteria	
Azad et al., 2013	Quantitative	
	Clear research question/objective	Y
	Clear study population	N
	Participation rate at least 50%	NR
	Recruited from similar population, time period, same inclusion/exclusion criteria	NR
	Sample size justification/power description/variance/effect estimate provided	N
	Comparison group to assess directionality	N
	Outcome measured within one year of exposure	N
	Different levels of exposure measured	N
	Clear exposure measures	N
	Exposure assessed more than once over time	N
	Clear outcome measures	N
	Confounders measured and adjusted	N
	Qualitative	
	Clear aim	Y
	Appropriate methodology	Y
	Appropriate research design	Y
	Appropriate recruitment strategy	N
	Appropriate data collection	N
	Consideration of researcher-participant relationship	N
	Consideration of ethical issues	N
	Rigorous data analysis	N
	Clear statement of findings	Y
	Discussion on value of research	Y
	Mixed methods	
	Is there adequate rationale for using a mixed methods design to address the research question?	N
	Are the different components of the study effectively integrated to answer the research question?	Y
	Are the outputs of the integration of qualitative and quantitative components adequately interpreted?	N
	Are divergences and inconsistencies between quantitative and qualitative results adequately addressed?	Y
Overall score (0-10.0)*	3.1	

*Score calculated by dividing the sum of criteria met by the total number of criteria, where 0-3.3 was of low quality, 3.3-6.6 medium, and 6.6-10.0 of high quality.