**Appendix Table 1. Complete Bibliography of Literature Included in Analysis**

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**Appendix Table 2. Distribution of transparency Index and component indicators across papers (n=200)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Component indicators  *Whether or not:* | (N) | % of studies |
| sample source was reported | (199) | 99.5 |
| type of sample was reported | (196) | 98.0 |
| recruitment procedures were reported | (193) | 96.5 |
| response rates or sample dispositions were reported | (167) | 83.5 |
| a conflict of interest was reported | (160) | 80.0 |
| conduct of an ethical review was reported | (152) | 76.0 |
| potential measurement error was discussed | (125) | 62.5 |
| study response rates were discussed | (112) | 56.0 |
| use of reminder messages to non-respondents was reported | (111) | 55.5 |
| potential nonresponse error was discussed | (109) | 54.5 |
| a Pilot test (or expert review) was reported | (83) | 41.5 |
| an informed consent was obtained | (51) | 25.5 |
| potential coverage error was discussed | (49) | 24.5 |
| use of respondent incentives was reported | (41) | 20.5 |
| potential processing error was discussed | (1) | 0.5 |
|  |  |  |
| Transparency Index | | |
| Mean | 8.8 | |
| (Standard deviation) | (2.1) | |
| Median | 9.0 | |
| Mode | 10.0 | |
| (Potential Range) | (0-15) | |
| (Actual Range) | (2-13) | |

**Appendix Table 3. Distribution of transparency Index and component indicators across papers by authorship types**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Academic Author included (n=170) | | Medical Author included (n=146) | | Other Author included (n=23) | |
| Component indicators  *Whether or not:* | (N) | % of studies | (N) | % of studies | (N) | % of studies |
| sample source was reported | (170) | 100.0 | (145) | 99.3 | (23) | 100.0 |
| type of sample was reported | (167) | 98.2 | (143) | 97.9 | (22) | 95.7 |
| recruitment procedures were reported | (165) | 97.1 | (140) | 95.9 | (22) | 95.7 |
| response rates or sample dispositions were reported | (145) | 85.3 | (121) | 82.9 | (16) | 69.6 |
| a conflict of interest was reported | (136) | 80.0 | (117) | 80.1 | (23) | 100.0 |
| conduct of an ethical review was reported | (138) | 81.2 | (108) | 74.0 | (15) | 65.2 |
| potential measurement error was discussed | (103) | 60.6 | (90) | 61.6 | (16) | 69.6 |
| study response rates were discussed | (94) | 55.3 | (82) | 56.2 | (10) | 43.5 |
| use of reminder messages to non-respondents was reported | (95) | 55.9 | (87) | 59.6 | (8) | 34.8 |
| potential nonresponse error was discussed | (91) | 53.5 | (82) | 56.2 | (12) | 52.2 |
| a Pilot test (or expert review) was reported | (70) | 41.2 | (57) | 39.0 | (10) | 43.5 |
| an informed consent was obtained | (48) | 28.2 | (38) | 26.0 | (5) | 21.7 |
| potential coverage error was discussed | (45) | 26.5 | (35) | 24.0 | (7) | 30.4 |
| use of respondent incentives was reported | (34) | 20.0 | (20) | 19.9 | (8) | 34.8 |
| potential processing error was discussed | (1) | 0.6 | (1) | 0.7 | (1) | 4.3 |
| Transparency Index |  | |  | |  | |
| Mean | 8.8 | | 8.7 | | 8.6 | |
| (Standard deviation) | (2.0) | | (2.1) | | (2.1) | |
| Median | 9.0 | | 9.0 | | 9.0 | |
| Mode | 10.0 | | 10.0 | | 10.0 | |
| (Potential Range) | (0-15) | | (0-15) | | (0-15) | |
| (Actual Range) | (5-13) | | (2-13) | | (5-12) | |

**Appendix Table 4. Distribution of transparency Index and component indicators across papers by region**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Asia  (n=9) | | Europe  (n=55) | | North & South America  (n=99) | | Oceana  (n=21) | | Multiple continents (n=16) | |
| Component indicators  Whether or not: | (N) | % of studies | (N) | % of studies | (N) | % of studies | (N) | % of studies | (N) | % of studies | | |
| sample source was reported | (9) | 100.0 | (54) | 98.2 | (99) | 100.0 | (21) | 100.0 | (16) | 100.0 | |
| type of sample was reported | (9) | 100.0 | (53) | 96.4 | (97) | 98.0 | (21) | 100.0 | (16) | 100.0 | |
| recruitment procedures were reported | (9) | 100.0 | (53) | 96.4 | (94) | 94.9 | (21) | 100.0 | (16) | 100.0 | |
| response rates or sample dispositions were reported | (9) | 100.0 | (44) | 80.0 | (83) | 83.8 | (19) | 90.5 | (12) | 75.0 | |
| a conflict of interest was reported | (9) | 100.0 | (48) | 87.3 | (74) | 74.7 | (14) | 66.7 | (15) | 93.8 | |
| conduct of an ethical review was reported | (6) | 66.7 | (36) | 65.5 | (81) | 81.8 | (17) | 81.0 | (12) | 75.0 | |
| potential measurement error was discussed | (4) | 44.4 | (34) | 61.8 | (62) | 62.6 | (15) | 71.4 | (10) | 62.5 | |
| study response rates were discussed | (4) | 44.4 | (32) | 58.2 | (57) | 57.6 | (12) | 57.1 | (7) | 43.8 | |
| use of reminder messages to non-respondents was reported | (3) | 33.3 | (33) | 60.0 | (62) | 62.6 | (8) | 38.1 | (5) | 31.3 | |
| potential nonresponse error was discussed | (4) | 44.4 | (32) | 58.2 | (55) | 55.6 | (10) | 47.6 | (8) | 50.0 | |
| a Pilot test (or expert review) was reported | (2) | 22.2 | (23) | 41.8 | (44) | 44.4 | (10) | 47.6 | (4) | 25.0 | |
| an informed consent was obtained | (3) | 33.3 | (16) | 29.1 | (22) | 22.2 | (7) | 33.3 | (3) | 18.8 | |
| potential coverage error was discussed | (2) | 22.2 | (11) | 20.0 | (28) | 28.3 | (5) | 23.8 | (3) | 18.8 | |
| use of respondent incentives was reported | (2) | 22.2 | (7) | 12.7 | (24) | 24.2 | (5) | 23.8 | (3) | 18.8 | |
| potential processing error was discussed | (0) | 0.0 | (0) | 0.0 | (0) | 0.0 | (0) | 0.0 | (1) | 6.3 | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |
| Transparency Index | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |
| Mean | 8.3 | | 8.7 | | 8.9 | | 8.8 | | 8.2 | |
| (Standard deviation) | (1.9) | | (2.0) | | (2.1) | | (2.3) | | (1.9) | |
| Median | 8.0 | | 9.0 | | 9.0 | | 9.0 | | 9.0 | |
| Mode | 7.0 | | 11.0 | | 10.0 | | 6.0 & 9.0 | | 10.0 | |
| (Potential Range) | (0-15) | | (0-15) | | (0-15) | | (0-15) | | (0-15) | |
| (Actual Range) | (5-11) | | (2-12) | | (3-13) | | (5-12) | | (5-10) | |