Qualitative Research

Title & Abstract	Detail (from O'Brien et al)	Comment on Study
Title	Describes the nature/topic of the study. Identifies approach or methods used	Yes: Identified as a qualitative exploratory study in the title
Abstract	Summary of the study as required by target publication	Yes
Introduction		
Problem formulation	Description and significance of the problem/phenomenon studied; review of relevant theory and empirical work; problem statement	Yes: Presented in Introduction
Purpose or research question	Purpose, objectives or questions stated.	Yes: Study objectives stated at end of Introduction
Methods		
Qualitative approach & research paradigm	Specific approach and/or theory and research paradigm indicated	Yes: A pragmatic approach to qualitative analysis was undertaken using the stages outlined by Braun and Clarke
Researcher characteristics and reflexivity	Researchers' characteristics etc considered	Yes: Team composition and characteristics described within Methods.
Context	Setting/site and salient contextual factors; rationale ^b	Yes: Introduction considers the rationale for testing of the model within palliative care
Sampling strategy	Selection of research participants, documents, etc	Yes: Case studies were chosen based on predetermined selection criteria
Ethical issues pertaining to human subjects	Approval by review board, participant consent, etc	Yes: Ethical approval obtained from Ulster University and UCD
Data collection methods	Type of data, process of data collection procedures, etc	Yes: Summarised in Method
Data collection instruments/technologies	Description of any materials, etc	Yes: Summarised in Method
Units of study	Number/ details of participants, document, etc	Yes: Data arising from 5 projects. Noted in Results
Data processing	Details regarding processing of data	Yes: Summarised in Method

Data analysis	Process of theme development, refinement etc.	Yes: Summarised in Method
Techniques to enhance trustworthiness	Checks to ensure credibility of analysis	Yes: The credibility of the themes was tested by ensuring that the themes arising from interviews resonated with the data arising from other data sources.
Results/ Findings		
Synthesis and interpretation	Main findings	Yes: 8 themes presented aligned to the interpretation, operationalisation and impact of EMTReK
Links to empirical data	Evidence presented to support findings	Yes: Direct quotes presented in findings
Discussion		
Integration, implications, transferability, contribution	Includes summary of findings, links to existing research literature, consideration of implications and contribution	Yes: Presented in the Discussion
Limitations	Trustworthiness and limitations of findings	Yes: Strengths and limitations discussed
Other		
Conflicts of interest	Potential sources of influence or perceived influence on study conduct and conclusions; how these were managed	Yes: Statement included
Funding	Sources of funding and other support; role of funders in data collection, interpretation, and reporting	Yes: Statement included

Reference:
O'Brien BC, Harris IB, Beckman TJ, Reed DA, Cook DA. Standards for reporting qualitative research: a synthesis of recommendations. Academic Medicine, Vol. 89, No. 9/ Sept 2014 DOI: 10.1097/ACM.0000000000000388