

Domain 1: Research team and reflexivity

Personal Characteristics

1. Interviewer/facilitator questions in a questionnaire. There were no oral interviews. The participants have given written answers to open-ended
2. Credentials The first researcher has an academic grade of MSc in health and lifestyle, the second and third researchers have an academic grade of PhD
3. Occupation The researchers worked at a University and a Research Develop Center
4. Gender The researchers are female
5. Experience and training The researchers have extensive competences in both quantitative and qualitative research

Relationship with participants

6. Relationship established There was no relationship between the researchers and the participants
7. Participant knowledge of the interviewer The participants received written information about the research
8. Interviewer characteristics The researchers have competences in health and lifestyle as well as in rheumatology

Domain 2: study design

Theoretical framework

9. Methodological orientation and Theory A mixed-methods sequential explanatory design with qualitative content analysis and descriptive statistics

Participant selection

10. Sampling A consecutive sample. All patients diagnosed with RA at the clinic were asked to participate in the study during the study period
11. Method of approach Their rheumatologist asked the participants to attend the research study with questionnaires
12. Sample size The first questionnaire was answered by 43 participants and the second questionnaire with the open-ended questions was answered by 17 participants
13. Non-participation 26 participants did not answer the second questionnaire with the open-ended questions

Setting

14. Setting of data collection The participants answered the questionnaires in their home
15. Presence of non-participants There were no oral interviews. The participants have given written answers to open-ended questions in a questionnaire.
16. Description of sample Demographic and clinical data are reported in Table 1

Data collection

17. Interview guide There were no oral interviews. The participants have given written answers to open-ended questions in a questionnaire.
18. Repeat interviews There were no oral interviews. The participants have given written answers to open-ended questions in a questionnaire.
19. Audio/visual recording There were no oral interviews. The participants have given written answers to open-ended questions in a questionnaire
20. Field notes There were no oral interviews. The participants have given written answers to open-ended questions in a questionnaire
21. Duration There were no oral interviews. The participants have given written answers to open-ended questions in a questionnaire.
22. Data saturation Data saturation was reached after the 13th participant's answer
23. Transcripts returned The participants have given written answers to open-ended questions in a questionnaire

Domain 3: analysis and findings

Data analysis

24. Number of data coders The first author coded the data and the last author acted as a co-assessor
25. Description of the coding tree The authors provide a description of the coding tree
26. Derivation of themes The categories was derived from the data
27. Software No software was used to manage the data
28. Participant checking None of the participants provide feedback on the findings

Reporting

29. Quotations presented The participants' quotations are presented to illustrate the findings and each quotation is identified by a number
30. Data and findings consistent The data and the findings are consistency presented
31. Clarity of major themes The categories are clearly presented in the findings
32. Clarity of minor themes There is a description of diverse cases included in the categories