

Supplementary File 1

Study: A Phenomenological Study of Lived Experiences of Parents Caring for Children with Down Syndrome in Iju, Lagos State, Nigeria.

COREQ (32-ITEM) CHECKLIST

Domain 1: Research Team and Reflexivity

Personal Characteristics	
Interviewer/facilitator	The Interviews were conducted by ACCC (RN, PhD), a Senior Lecturer and Nurse researcher trained in qualitative methods, with support from ADP, a trained research assistant and supervisee.
Credentials	The researcher is trained in qualitative research methods at the postgraduate level.
Occupation	Nurse lecturer and researcher.
Gender	The interviewer is a male, and the research assistant/supervisee is a female.
Experience and training	The researcher had prior training in qualitative interviewing and phenomenological analysis.
Relationship with Participants	
Relationship established	No prior relationship existed between the researcher and participants before the study.
Participant's knowledge of the interviewer	Participants were informed of the researcher's academic role and the purpose of the study.
Interviewer characteristics	Reflexive bracketing was practised, and field notes were maintained to minimise bias.

Domain 2: Study Design

Theoretical Framework	
Methodological orientation	A phenomenological approach guided the study design and analysis.
Participant Selection	
Sampling	Purposive sampling. Recruitment was facilitated through the Down Syndrome Foundation Nigeria; interested participants contacted the researcher directly.
Method of approach	Eight participants (seven parents and one sibling).
Sample size	No eligible participant who consented withdrew from the study.
Non-participation	
Setting	
Setting of data collection	Face-to-face interviews were conducted in a quiet and convenient location within the Down Syndrome Foundation Nigeria premises.
Presence of non-participants	Only the participant, researcher, and research assistant were present during interviews. Participants were parents and one sibling of children diagnosed with Down syndrome affiliated with the Down Syndrome Foundation of Nigeria. Demographic characteristics are presented in Table 1.
Data Collection	
Interview guide	A semi-structured interview guide was developed and expert-reviewed.
Repeat interviews	Repeat interviews were not conducted.
Audio/visual recording	Interviews were audio-recorded with consent.
Field notes	Field notes were taken during and immediately after interviews.
Duration	Interviews lasted approximately 47 minutes.
Data saturation	Saturation was reached when no new themes emerged after the seventh interview and was confirmed with the eighth.
Transcripts returned	Participants were offered the opportunity to clarify their responses during member checking.

Domain 3: Analysis and Findings

Data Analysis

Number of data coders	Four researchers were involved in coding and reviewing transcripts.
Description of the coding tree	Codes were inductively developed and grouped into sub-themes and themes through iterative comparison.
Derivation of themes	Themes were derived inductively from the data.
Software	Manual thematic analysis was conducted.
Participant checking	Member checking was conducted to enhance credibility.
Reporting	
Quotations presented	Verbatim quotations are presented and identified by participant codes.
Data and findings consistent	Findings are grounded in participants' narratives and supported by representative quotes.
Clarity of major themes	Major themes are clearly presented in the Results section.
Clarity of minor themes	Sub-themes and variations in experiences are described where relevant.
