

Appendix 1:

Reporting Standards and COREQ Checklist

To ensure transparency, methodological rigor, and clarity, this study adheres to the **Consolidated Criteria for Reporting Qualitative Research (COREQ)**—a 32-item checklist specifically developed for reporting qualitative studies involving interviews and focus groups. The COREQ checklist encompasses essential components such as research team reflexivity, study design, data collection, and data analysis.

The completed COREQ checklist has been included as **Supplementary File 1**, offering detailed information about the research process, including participant selection, interview procedures, transcription methods, coding strategies, and techniques used to enhance the study’s credibility (e.g., triangulation, peer debriefing, and participant diversity).

Adhering to this reporting standard enhances the transparency, trustworthiness, and reproducibility of the qualitative findings, in alignment with the **editorial and ethical guidelines of the Journal of Mass Gathering Medical Journal**

COREQ Checklist (Consolidated Criteria for Reporting Qualitative Research)

Domain	Item	Description	Study Response (Based on Your Article)
1. Research Team and Reflexivity			
Personal Characteristics	1	Interviewer/facilitator	Interviews were conducted by the lead researcher with training in qualitative methods.
	2	Credentials	The interviewer held a doctoral degree in public health.
	3	Occupation	At the time of the study, the interviewer was a university researcher in social health and AI policy.
	4	Gender	The interviewer was female.
	5	Experience and training	The interviewer had extensive experience conducting interviews and analyzing qualitative data in interdisciplinary research.
Relationship with Participants	6	Relationship established	A professional relationship was established prior to the interview via email or academic referral.

Domain	Item	Description	Study Response (Based on Your Article)
	7	Participant knowledge of the interviewer	Participants were informed about the researcher's background and purpose of the study.
	8	Interviewer characteristics	Reflexivity was maintained by documenting preconceptions and using an interview protocol to ensure neutrality.
2. Study Design			
Theoretical Framework	9	Methodological orientation and theory	The study employed a thematic analysis approach based on Braun and Clarke's framework.
Participant Selection	10	Sampling	Purposeful sampling was used to recruit participants across different professions (AI experts, health professionals, etc.).
	11	Method of approach	Participants were contacted via email and professional networks.
	12	Sample size	A total of 28 participants were included. Data saturation was reached.
	13	Non-participation	No participants declined to participate.
Setting	14	Setting of data collection	Interviews were conducted online via secure video conferencing platforms.
	15	Presence of non-participants	Only the participant and the interviewer were present.
	16	Description of sample	Participants included professionals aged 21–60, with backgrounds in health, technology, activism, and policy.
Data Collection	17	Interview guide	A semi-structured interview guide was developed and pilot-tested.
	18	Repeat interviews	No repeat interviews were conducted.
	19	Audio/visual recording	Interviews were audio-recorded with participants' consent.
	20	Field notes	Field notes were taken during and immediately after interviews.
	21	Duration	Interviews lasted between 45–60 minutes.
	22	Data saturation	Data saturation was reached after 28 interviews.
	23	Transcripts returned	Participants did not review transcripts, but quotes were anonymized and verified during coding.

Domain	Item	Description	Study Response (Based on Your Article)
3. Analysis and Findings			
Data Analysis	24	Number of data coders	Two researchers independently coded the data.
	25	Description of the coding tree	A hierarchical coding framework was developed (themes and subthemes), included in the manuscript as Table 2.
	26	Derivation of themes	Themes were derived inductively from the data.
	27	Software	NVivo software was used to assist with data management and coding.
	28	Participant checking	Participants did not validate the findings but quotations were used for credibility.
Reporting	29	Quotations presented	Participant quotations are included and linked to demographic info (e.g., role, age range).
	30	Data and findings consistent	Findings are well supported by the data and thoroughly discussed.
	31	Clarity of major themes	Major themes are clearly presented and structured.
	32	Clarity of minor themes	Subthemes and nuanced insights are discussed in detail under each theme.