TQF Components & Elements	Key TQF Qualitative Research Design Considerations	Key TQF Considerations for the QCA Method	
Credibility Data collection: Completeness and accuracy of the data		**Similar to all Methods**	**Unique to QCA**
Scope	Sampling Coverage Sample size Cooperation	Defining the target population [Primary QCA] Determining how elements of the population will be sampled & techniques to maximize inclusion of sample members Potential for non-coverage bias	Identifying the unit of analysis
Data gathering	Defining relevant constructs Selection of mode Guide development Researcher effects Participant effects	Research objectives and constructs of interest are clearly defined Coding form acts as a reflexive journal to record coders' thoughts Researcher (coder) inconsistency and bias are potential threats to data integrity	Follows distinct steps associated with Phase 1 of the process Codebook development Focus is on creating the data to be analyzed by coding the content Focus is on mitigating the researcher effects associated with coding accuracy [Secondary QCA] Not concerned with researcher and participant effects associated with gathering IDI, focus group, observation data

			Reliance on consensus building to resolve coding conflicts QCA 5-step coder training curriculum
Analyzability Analysis: Completeness and accuracy of the analysis & interpretations			
Processing	Transcriptions Coding Developing categories and themes Data visualization	Data visualization is particularly useful in finding "a unifying 'red thread'" (GRANEHEIM, LINDGREN & LUNDMAN, 2017, p.32) or themes	Follows distinct steps associated with Phase 2 of the process Focus is on developing categories and themes There are four stages to the category development process As a reflexive step, the researcher should “time out” and return to the data at a later time
Verification	Peer debriefing Triangulation Deviant cases Reflexivity	Verification is an essential analytical step in all qualitative methods All forms of triangulation that consider the manifest and latent meaning of the content are important Deviant cases, looking at	Peer debriefings and independent peer reviews are especially important Use of the coding form as a reflexive instrument

		outliers that support or refute initial findings, is an important yet often overlooked verification tool	
Transparency Reporting: Completeness and disclosure in the final document			
	Thick description details such as research objectives and primary research questions, justification for method, sampling and coverage details.	Thick description that includes research objectives and primary research questions, justification for the chosen method, sampling and coverage of the target population	Details specific to the: • Determination of the unit of analysis • Any decisions made in phases 1 and 2 that may have altered the research objectives or design focus • Selection, training, and monitoring of coders • Development of codes, the codebook, and coding form • Coders' reflections on the coding form • Approaches and techniques associated with identifying categories and themes, including the

			use of CAQDAS QCA-appropriate approaches and techniques used in the verification process and how verification may have altered the preliminary findings
Usefulness Ability to do something of value with the outcomes			
	Relies on the other three components Ability to do something of value based on valid interpretations and recommendations Allowing the user to • Support or reject hypotheses • Transfer to comparable contexts		Researcher's attention to the unique aspects of QCA Credibility issues, e.g., content sampling, unit of analysis Analyzability issues, e.g., coding form, category development process Transparency issues, i.e., the conceptualization and implementation of the QCA method and interpretation of the data