

Nursing Research Series

Essentials of Science: Methods, Appraisal and Utilization

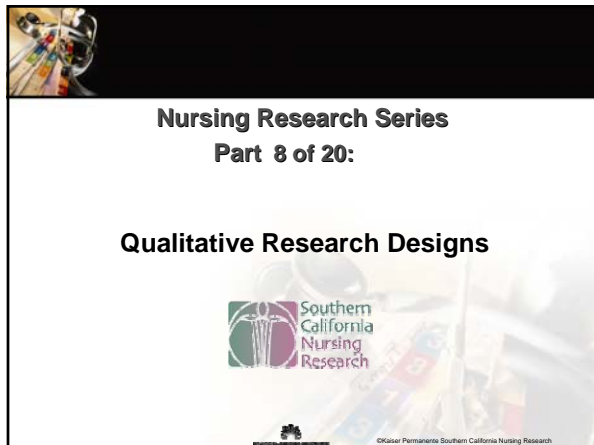


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*Essentials of Science:
Methods, Appraisal and Utilization*




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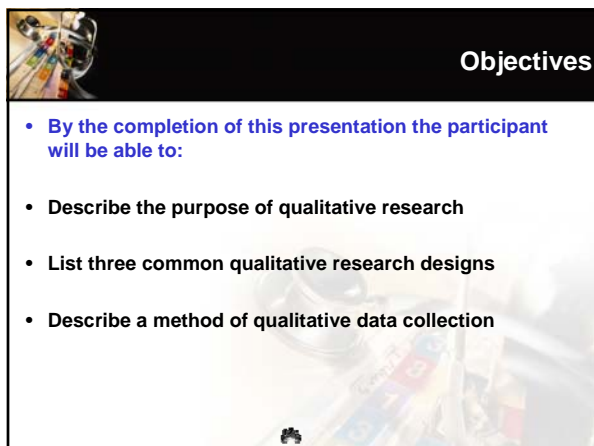


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Part 8 of 20:

Qualitative Research Designs




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Objectives


- **By the completion of this presentation the participant will be able to:**
- Describe the purpose of qualitative research
- List three common qualitative research designs
- Describe a method of qualitative data collection



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Purpose

Why is qualitative research methodology appropriate to answer your research question?

To describe with words:

- a life experience
- a health phenomenon
- a process
- when more information is desired beyond numerical data


Qualitative research can describe and give meaning to phenomena



Goals

- **Goals of qualitative research**
 - Description of the phenomena
 - Theory or model development
 - Understanding of culture
 - Understanding of the individual or specific group

Nursing practice can be guided by understanding and gaining insights of experiences, processes, and concepts related to phenomena




Example Research Questions

- What is the lived experience of rheumatoid arthritis for women over 50?
- What are the structure, processes, and outcomes associated with hourly nurse rounding?
- What is the process of medication administration by nursing in the acute care setting?
- What are the cultural health care practices of college students living in campus dormitories?


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Qualitative Research Designs


- There are three common designs in qualitative research:
 - Phenomenology
 - Grounded Theory
 - Ethnography
- Each method has a philosophical base that influences the interpretation of data



Phenomenology


- Phenomenology is both a philosophy and a research method. Phenomenologists view a person as integrated with the environment; where reality shapes a person and the person shapes reality
- Phenomena are “life events” that exist when a person experiences them
- Phenomenological methodology is the capture of the participant’s “lived experience” through analyzing data to describe and understand the meaning of an event

(Burns & Grove, 2007, p.63)



Phenomenology

- Data are obtained in interviews, focus groups, surveys, and letters recorded or written verbatim
- Interpretation is through a method of pattern and thematic analysis --looking for concepts, codes, and themes that reflect the life experience of the interviewee



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Phenomenology

Design	Phenomenology
Philosophical base	Phenomenology
Data collection	Interviews Written narratives Surveys Focus groups
Data Analysis	Pattern and thematic analysis Descriptive Interpretive Analysis of meaningful segments of text into codes and then further analyze for emerging themes
Domain	Lived experience

What is the lived experience of rheumatoid arthritis for women over 50?

Grounded Theory

- Grounded theory is based in
 - **Sociology**
 - In social life, actions, interactions, and meanings are shared by groups, based on consensus
 - **Symbolic Interaction theory**
 - How reality is defined and how beliefs are related to actions. Meaning is expressed in symbols such as words, religious objects, and clothing


(Burns & Grove, 2007)

Grounded Theory

- Grounded theory method provides a process, the steps, between concepts in a social world. Generally, the results are presented in a conceptual map, a picture format, of how the themes fit and relate to each other
- Data are also collected in interviews, with constant comparison of results with each new interview to derive the concepts, *relationships* between concepts, and the *order* of how concepts are done in the process

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Grounded Theory


Design	Phenomenology	Grounded Theory
Philosophical base	Phenomenology	Sociology and symbolic interaction theory
Data collection	Interviews Written narratives Surveys Focus groups	Sampling to choose new participants, modify interviews, and what data to collect next in theory development
Data Analysis	Pattern and thematic analysis Descriptive Interpretive Analysis of meaningful segments of text into codes and then further analyze for emerging themes	Constant comparative analysis with coding to find a core variable of the basic social process
Domain	Lived experience	The social setting

What is the process of medication administration by nursing in the acute care setting?



Ethnography

- Anthropology is the philosophical base
- Provides a means to understand people, ways of living, believing, within an environment or group
- Examine the cultural issues of interest
- Data collected by observation, use of language, field study, and spending time within the environment and culture
- Analysis is of the domain, or broad terms, leading to themes and analyzing the data for similarities and differences in the cultural themes
(Polit & Beck, 2004)




Ethnography

Design	Phenomenology	Grounded Theory	Ethnography
Philosophical base	Phenomenology	Sociology and symbolic interaction theory	Anthropology
Data collection	Interviews Written narratives Surveys Focus groups	Sampling to choose new participants, modify interviews, and what data to collect next in theory development	Field study Newspapers diaries
Data Analysis	Pattern and thematic analysis Descriptive Interpretive Analysis of meaningful segments of text into codes and then further analyze for emerging themes	Constant comparative analysis with coding to find a core variable of the basic social process	Language as the mechanism to related cultural meaning Domain, taxonomic, and componential analysis to generate themes
Domain	Lived experience	The social setting	Culture and cultural patterns

What are the cultural health care practices of college students living in campus dormitories?

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Participants

- The language used in qualitative research is “participants” versus “sample” due to the participation of the interviewee in sharing and leading to the success of the study
- Purposive sampling
 - known people who are living the phenomena, culture of interest, or part of the process you wish to study
- Number of participants is smaller than quantitative studies. 10 may not be unusual; may even have a N = 1



Enrollment of participants stops when there is no new learning related to the phenomena of interest






Data Collection

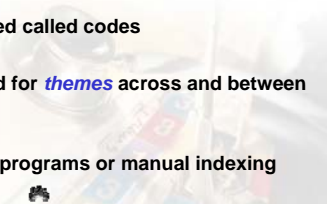
- **Data Collection**
 - Observations, field notes
 - Interviews that are either videos and/or audio taped to capture all the words, gestures, and surroundings
 - Newspapers, diaries, print material





Data Analysis

- **Data Analysis**
 - Interviews transcribed word for word
 - Text examined for meaningful segments
 - Categories identified called codes
 - Codes are analyzed for *themes* across and between codes
 - Can use computer programs or manual indexing



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Example Themes

What are the structure, processes, and outcomes associated with hourly nurse rounding?

Themes

- Use of rounding behaviors, describes through an acronym, to anticipate patient need
- Someone being in the patient's room with the goal of every hour
- Library of tools to use and share
- Collaborative phone call
- Incorporating both patient and staff feedback
- Building staff will/staff buy-in



Qualitative Results

- **Strength and rigor are assessed in qualitative results by:**
- **Credibility**
 - Also known as trustworthiness
 - Confidence in the truth of the data and interpretation
 - Credibility of the researcher
- **Confirmability**
 - Objectivity or neutrality of the data. Can include independent checks
- **Dependability**
 - Stability of data over time. Comparing data results with multiple investigators
- **Transferability**
 - Extent which the findings can be transferred to other groups


(Polit & Beck, 2004)

Summary

- Qualitative designs describe with words:
 - a life experience
 - a health phenomenon
 - a process
 - when more information is desired beyond numerical data
- There are three main qualitative designs
- There are specific ways to choose participants, collect data, and analyze data for qualitative studies


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Summary


- If you are using qualitative methods to answer your research question:
 - Consider the need to invest in developing the expertise associated with qualitative methodology
 - Find a co-investigator or resource either through your organization or academic community






Reach for the Stars

Be part of the discovery of new knowledge through research!



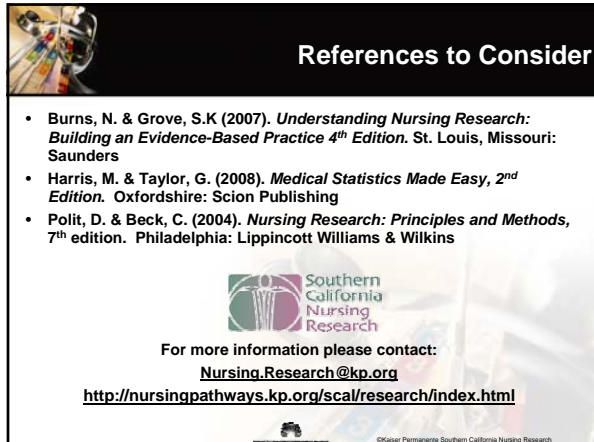


Qualitative References

- Further reading and resources on Qualitative Research:
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 - Omery, A., Page, G. & Kasper, C. (1995). *In Search of Nursing Science*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications
 - Powers, B. & Knapp, T. (2006). *Dictionary of Nursing Theory and Research*, 3rd edition. New York: Springer
 - Streubert-Speziale, H. & Carpenter, D. (2007). *Qualitative Research in Nursing*, 4th edition. Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins
 - Taylor, S. & Bogdan, R. (1998). *Introduction to Qualitative Research Methods*, 3rd edition. New York: Wiley & Sons


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- Polit, D. & Beck, C. (2004). *Nursing Research: Principles and Methods, 7th edition*. Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins

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