

INTRODUCTION TO QUALITATIVE EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS

Health care has moved into a patient-centred approach and consequently, research questions have demanded qualitative methodologies. With the increasing number of research questions being proposed that demand reviews to include qualitative evidence to report on experiences of patients and other stakeholders in health care. Systematic reviews are invaluable in bringing together evidence to answer healthcare questions and to identify existing evidence gaps. This course uses an interdisciplinary approach to build capacity in the design, conduct, and reporting, of qualitative evidence synthesis. Researchers, clinicians and policy makers in all disciplines will benefit from the skills acquired in this course to understand and explain phenomena related to people experiences, with the best available evidence.

AIMS

This course uses an interdisciplinary approach to provide academic staff, students, researchers, reviewers and editors with the understanding of the epistemological considerations and the fundamental methodological skills required for the design and implementation of a qualitative research synthesis.

OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course participants will:

- Have a broad understanding of qualitative research design.
- Understand what qualitative evidence syntheses are and why we conduct them.
- Understand and differentiate the various types of qualitative evidence synthesis methodologies and their epistemological underpinnings.
- Apply the fundamental background and skills required to design and register a protocol for a qualitative evidence synthesis.
- Develop a well formulated research question appropriate for qualitative evidence synthesis.
- Develop search methods for identifying relevant studies for inclusion in a qualitative evidence synthesis.
- Identify and apply the appropriate sampling strategy in a qualitative evidence synthesis.
- Select and apply the appropriate methodological quality appraisal tools to qualitative evidence.
- Identify and apply the appropriate epistemological lens that to frame the qualitative evidence synthesis.
- Understand and apply basic skills in the data extraction and synthesis for qualitative evidence synthesis.
- Understand and apply GRADE-CERQUAL in qualitative evidence syntheses.
- Understand the principles of conducting, writing, and interpreting qualitative evidence syntheses.

TEACHING APPROACH AND CPD ACCREDITATION

The course will be offered through seminars and peer learning. A proportion of the course is focused on developing a 2-3 page draft qualitative evidence synthesis protocol. Attendees will receive a certificate of attendance as well as a CPD certificate.