Further reading

This reading list contains two types of reference. The first refers to papers or books that describe the ‘how to’ of research methods; that is, materials that focus on the design of research work. The second type of reference is illustrative, offering examples of particular research methods in use. You may decide that few of the topics covered are relevant to your own planned research study, but keep in mind that although other researchers have focused on different subjects, they may have lessons to share regarding the methods employed. If you wish to assess whether a particular data-gathering or data-analysis method fits appropriately with your chosen research approach, you should consult your Tutor and revisit the Further Reading List associated with the Research Methodology module.

Collecting and analysing qualitative data


This book includes chapters on interviewing, observational techniques, the interpretation of documents, methods of data-management and analysis, and the use of computers in qualitative research.


This book includes chapters on ethnography and participant observation, phenomenology and ethnomethodology, and grounded theory.


**Experimental methods**


Focus group interviews

Focus group interviews can be used to contribute to case study and ethnographic research but represent a problem when linked with phenomenology, which assumes an investigation of individually lived experience. Please consult your Tutor before reading any of the following materials.


**Interviewing**
The following papers discuss different types of interview relationships in research and some of the practicalities of using interviews to gather data.


Measurement scales and research statistics
There are numerous statistical techniques for analysing quantitative data. It is very important that you consult our statistician, Dr Fahera Musaji, during the design stage of quantitative data research. Please contact Jane Bryant, the Programme Administrator (e-mail: jane.bryant@rcn.org.uk), for a referral. Reading indiscriminately about statistical methods and tools may lead to your work becoming disjointed or inappropriately argued.


**Observation**


Questionnaires


A PDF of this document is available through the publications section of the NHS Health Technology Assessment website: www.hta.nhsweb.nhs.uk

This reference is not currently available from the RCN UK Library.


**Research governance and associated access/ethical issues**


**Some general guidance on planning research and writing a research proposal**


Writing for publication

We anticipate that you may wish to consider writing up aspects of your research data gathering or analysis as methodological papers for publication, in which case the following references may prove helpful.


Useful websites

*Intute (formerly known as NMAP)*

[www.intute.ac.uk/healthandlifesciences/nursing/](http://www.intute.ac.uk/healthandlifesciences/nursing/)

This website is a portal, with links to a number of websites covering relevant healthcare topics. A search for ‘nursing research’ provides a range of sources including research journals, departments and charities. It provides links to discussion networks that fit with your chosen search term, enabling you to communicate with other nurses who are interested in your chosen topic.

*RCN Research and Development Co-ordinating Centre*

[www.man.ac.uk/rcn/publish/index.htm](http://www.man.ac.uk/rcn/publish/index.htm)

This website provides a comprehensive array of research journal addresses, details of contacts and requirements for publication that are relevant as you contemplate writing up your research design or research findings for publication (see the link entitled, ‘Tips and advice on getting published’). It is worth scanning through some of the sites listed here which provide an indication of the variety of ways in which ‘research’ is understood in different publications.

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