
The Significance of Qualitative Research in Nursing Practice

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Editorial

According to the World Health Organization, qualitative research aims to explore people's needs, values, perceptions and experiences of the world around them, including of health, illness, healthcare services, and more broadly of social systems and their policies and processes. Qualitative evidence is very important for understanding on how, and whether, people perceive health interventions to be effective and acceptable or more fundamentally, whether they work. Qualitative evidence is also essential to understanding the factors effecting the application of health policies and interventions.

In recent years, most of the healthcare institution and organizations have shifted their focus to a patient-centered model in which patients are involved in decision-making and their preferences are honored. Qualitative research has an important role in nursing science and is becoming well recognized. Qualitative studies are also used to gain novel information, meaning, views, more understanding, and insights of the concepts on previous definitions of nursing care theories, natural phenomena, specific groups, individuals, health issues, dilemmas, or experiences.

Qualitative research in nursing science deals with the lived experiences of patients and nurses in different filed in providing of health care and services for achieving favorable patient outcomes.

The high way for getting information regarding patients' and families' perspectives is to ask, listen, and learn from them to increase the delivery of health care services.

Findings of the qualitative studies can guide nurses in assessing, planning, implementation, and evaluation during the process of nursing care for meeting patients' needs.

Clinical Nurse can utilize the findings of the qualitative research as evidence for improving nursing practice. Finally, the patients' needs of psychological, spiritual, emotional and social aspects are not fully satisfied, qualitative interviews and observation methods could increase the rate of agreement and make positive perceptions and attitude environment about the nursing care for patients and family.

“Qualitative research is multimethod in focus, involving an interpretive, naturalistic approach to its subject matter. This means that qualitative researchers study things in their natural settings, attempting to make sense of, or interpret, phenomena in terms of the meanings people bring to them”.

Denzin and Lincoln.