Journal club: Quality in qualitative health research

Issues around quality in qualitative health research are important, topical and controversial, with many researchers having divergent views on what is appropriate, as reflected in the five journal articles for discussion. Following small group discussion of targeted questions, all participants will get together to debate the pros and cons of different approaches and to share their stories of what has, and has not, worked for them.

**Time:** 9am – 12 midday  
**Date:** Tuesday, 23 February 2010  
**Venue:** Majorie Oldfield Lecture Theatre  
Edward Ford Building, A27  
Fisher Rd (main campus)  
See map at: [http://db.auth.usyd.edu.audirectories/map/building.stm?ref=h15l22](http://db.auth.usyd.edu.audirectories/map/building.stm?ref=h15l22)  
**RSVP:** Kathy Flitcroft, kathy.flitcroft@sydney.edu.au  
(Spaces are limited, so please RSVP by email to confirm a place).  
**Morning tea will be provided.**

**PROGRAM**

9.00 - 9.05 Welcome  
9.05 – 9.20 Introduction and background to the session  
9.20 – 9.40 Overview of five articles for discussion (see over)  
9.40 – 10.20 Small group discussion based around questions to stimulate debate (see over)  
10.20 – 11.00 Reports back from small groups  
11.00 – 12.00 Grab some morning tea and sit back for general discussion of issues raised.
References:


Questions for discussion:

i) How necessary are defined criteria for quality of qualitative research?

ii) Can one set of criteria work for all qualitative research?

iii) Which of the options do you prefer? Why?

iv) Are there any that you violently disagree with?

v) What is thematic analysis exactly?

vi) Is thematic analysis enough? Is it too deductive?

vii) How feasible is the MJA format and word limit?

viii) Do word limits affect the quality of qualitative research?

ix) What journals have you found to be sympathetic to qualitative health research?

The Qualitative Health Research Collaboration (QHeRC) is a multidisciplinary, cross-institutional organisation that provides training and support to academics, students and researchers involved in qualitative research. For more information see [http://www.health.usyd.edu.au/research/qherc.php](http://www.health.usyd.edu.au/research/qherc.php)