Essential Skills for Evidence-based Practice Appraising Qualitative Research

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Abstract

Research from qualitative traditions is often ignored as a resource for evidence-based practice. Findings from qualitative research, however, are of particular benefit to generalist nurses. Human responses to health concerns are at the core of nursing practice, and these responses are often identified through qualitative inquiry. Qualitative findings tend to be accessible and suitable for personal, rather than institutional, application to practice. This article reviews the differences between quantitative and qualitative research and suggests a model for critiquing and applying qualitative research in practice. Instructions for a brief appraisal process are provided in both English and Thai.

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