

Ethical issues – the differences between qualitative and quantitative processes

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Outline

Ethical considerations

Ethics approval

Example in mixed methods

Resources

Ethical considerations

Research design

- Does this research need to be done?
- What are the best methods?
- How can consumers maintain control?
- Methods and conduct in collection, analysis, application
- Would I agree to information about me to be used this way?

Indigenous research and evaluation

Values and ethics in Indigenous research

- Reciprocity
- Respect
- Equality
- Responsibility
- Survival and protection
- Spirit and integrity

Disability research

Principles for National Disability Research

- Inclusive and rights based
- Responsive and diverse
- Practicable and outcomes orientated
- Collaborative and cross disciplinary
- Accessible and communicated
- Efficient and targeted

Ethics approval

Any research or evaluation with human subjects

- Quantitative and qualitative
- Secondary data

Not necessary for

- literature review
- program management, unless the program is a research project

Ethics approval considerations

Any research with human subjects

- Participants and recruitment – vulnerability
- Privacy and confidentiality – protection
- Collection and dissemination of results – control
- Risks and benefits – harm, reporting
- Participant information and consent – voluntary, accessible
- Conflict of interest – declared
- Field based research – permission

Integrated Rehabilitation and Recovery Care Program Victoria (IRRCP)

Mixed methods

- Program data (characteristics, clinical outcomes) – consent at entry to program
- Financial and administrative data (service use, cost) – aggregate
- Case files – indirect through workers only
- Interviews – recruit and support through trusted person, voluntary, payment, place, support, disclosure protocol, accessible
- Observation
- Feedback – interviews and summary
- Governance – consumer reps on management group and consumer researcher

Considerations

- Ethical design
- Ethics approval
- Ethical practice and reflection

Resources

- Values and Ethics in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research
www.nhmrc.gov.au/_files_nhmrc/publications/attachments/e52.pdf
- National Disability Research and Development Agenda
www.dprwg.gov.au/sites/default/files/attachments/item_1_national_rd_agenda_web.pdf
- Disability and mental health research projects
www.sprc.unsw.edu.au/research-areas-and-strengths/

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