

CANADIAN JOURNAL OF NURSING LEADERSHIP

Guide for Reviewers

QUALITATIVE RESEARCH PROPOSALS

Please use the following guidelines to review the research report.

1. Are the objectives/purposes of the study clearly stated? If a research question is proposed, is it clear and significant? Is qualitative methodology appropriate?
2. Is the literature concise, thoughtful and balanced? Does it include a critical evaluation of previous work rather than just a narrative of findings? Are previous contributions of qualitative work relevant to the topic included? Are gaps in knowledge clearly identified?
3. If a conceptual framework is included, are the concepts selected reasonable given the previous work cited?
4. Is the research method clearly identified and justified given the objectives? Are the strengths and weaknesses/advantages and disadvantages of using the design discussed? Is the tradition or philosophical foundation, e.g., grounded theory, ethnography, clearly identified and coherently followed in all facets?
5. Are the data gathering methods described in detail?
6. Are both the sampling strategy and the sample size discussed, e.g., saturation of data, use of various sources of information? Were they appropriate to the aims of the study?
7. Were steps taken to strengthen or test the rigour of the analysis?
8. Is the process for developing the categories/themes/conceptual schema, described in sufficient detail to follow it and is there a process for verifying the fit between the data and the categories?
9. Are sufficient samples of data presented to support the categories/themes /conceptual schema?
10. Does the theoretical schema move beyond the descriptive level to a deeper exploration of events?

11. Were the context and setting described in sufficient detail to enable readers to establish links with their own context?

Recommendations

1. Publish as is or with minor editing _____
2. Publish after revisions based on reviewers comments _____
3. Revise and resubmit for further review _____
4. Do not publish _____

Comments for the editor only

Comments (to be sent to authors)