Exercises

# Chapter 8: Synthesising and analysing qualitative studies

## Exercise 8-1: Navigating around a Qualitative Evidence Synthesis (QES)

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| Find an example of a qualitative evidence synthesis/qualitative systematic review. Use either the reading guide by Tong et al. (2016) or the SBU. *Tool to assess methodological limitations of qualitative evidence synthesis* (<https://www.sbu.se/contentassets/14570b8112c5464cbb2c256c11674025/methodological_limitations_qualitative_evidence_synthesis.pdf>) to critically read the example you have found. Bearing in mind that, the journey is more important than your destination, answer:  1. Are the methods of your chosen example of a QES well reported?  2. Is this a good example of a published QES?  3. What single improvement would you make to the methods of this particular QES? |

Exercise 8-2: Choosing your method of synthesis

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| Examine the different methods of synthesis outlined in this chapter. Sort them into those of current potentials for your review, those unlikely to prove useful at present, and those where you need further detail. Produce a draft learning plan for further reading/research on qualitative data synthesis.  1. Framework synthesis  1a. Best Fit Framework synthesis  2. Meta-ethnography  3. Narrative synthesis (Also see Chapter 7)  4. Thematic synthesis |

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| Current potential | Further detail required | Not relevant at present |
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| To find out more on data synthesis I am going to read/research:  By \_\_/\_\_/202\_ |

## Exercise 8-3: Helpful display of themes and concepts

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| Briefly reflect on a research study from a journal article that you have recently read, not necessarily a systematic review. How does the presentation of themes and concepts help you when reading the study? Does anything make the themes or concepts difficult to understand and interpret? If so, what? How would you improve them? |