Activities

# Chapter 6: Mixed methodologies: An overview

## Activity 6.1

For more detailed background reading about the debate surrounding paradigms, methodologies and mixed methods studies see:

Mesel, T. (2012). The necessary distinction between methodology and philosophical assumptions in healthcare research. *Scandinavian Journal of Caring Sciences,* 27(3): 750–756.

## Activity 6.2

Links to Mixed Methods journals:

<http://mmr.sagepub.com/>

## Activity 6.3

Tomasi, J. Warren, C. Kolodzey, L. Pinkey, S. Guerguerian, A.-M. Kirsch, R. Hubbert, J. Sperling, C. Sutton, P. Lauseen, P. and Trbovich, P. (2018) Convergent parallel mixed-methods study to understand information exchange in paediatric critical care and inform the development of safety-enhancing interventions: a protocol study, *BMJ Open*, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2018-023691>

## Activity 6.4

Roberge-Dao, J. Yardley, B. Menon, A. Halle, M.-C. Maman, J. Ahmed, S. and Thomas, A. (2019) A mixed-methods approach to understanding partnership experiences and outcomes of projects from an integrated knowledge translation funding model in rehabilitation, *BMC Health Services Research*, 19:230 <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12913-019-4061>

## Activity 6.5

Burden, S. Topping, A.E. and O’Halloran, C. (2018) Mentor judgements and decision‐making in the assessment of student nurse competence in practice: A mixed‐methods study, *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, [74(5](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/13652648/2018/74/5)):1078–1089

## Activity 6.6

Read one or both of the following papers:

Erens, B. Mitchell, K.R. Gibson, L. Datta, J. Lewis, R. Field, N. and Wellings, K. (2019) Health status, sexual activity and satisfaction among older people in Britain: A mixed methods study. *PLoS ONE* 14(3): e0213835. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal. pone.0213835

Gambier-Ross, K. McLernon, D.J and Morgan, H.M.(2018) A mixed methods exploratory study of women’s relationships with and uses of fertility tracking apps. *Digital Health Volume* 4:1–15. <https://doi.org/10.1177%2F2055207618785077>

Which model of mixed methods research was used? Was the use of this method of research justifiable? What did the qualitative and quantitative elements add to the study and the development of new knowledge?

## Activity 6.7

Read the following paper:

Rapport, F. and Braithwaite, J. (2018) Are we on the cusp of a fourth research paradigm? Predicting the future for a new approach to methods-use in medical and health services research, *BMC Medical Research Methodology,* <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12874-018-0597-4>

Whilst this paper is written in the context of medicine, much of it is applicable to health care generally. The paper also revisits the dissonance we have discussed in earlier chapters between medicine and other health care disciplines about the most appropriate paradigm for health care research.

Having read the paper, what is your view about the most appropriate paradigm for health care research? And what are your thoughts regarding the authors’ suggestion regarding a fourth research paradigm?