



## Foundations of Research or Why Bother?

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January 16, 2010



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## Purposes of Nursing Research

- Quantitative
  - Theory generating and testing
  - Applied/basic research
  - Corroborate or challenge previous findings
  - Provide new information
  - Add to accumulated evidence
  - Generate new insights
  - Fill a gap
- Qualitative
  - Theory related
  - Provide information about peoples' lived experiences
  - Provide new information
  - Generate new insights
  - Fill a gap



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## The Debate Over Quantitative vs. Qualitative Research



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**The Quantitative Research**

**Question**

- An interrogative sentence that poses a researchable problem regarding the advancement of knowledge.



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**Hypotheses**

- Is a declarative, rather than an interrogative, sentence.
- Is usually directional
- Often emerges from some sort of theory



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**Qualitative Research**

- What do you see is missing?
- What have you observed?
- Are there patterns?



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### What is the First Step?

- Think about—
  - What interests you?
  - What do you want to learn?
  - Are there changes you feel nursing should address?



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### Next!

- Be positive- you can do this!!
- Start small
  - Research builds on itself
- Involve your colleagues to brain storm and gain support



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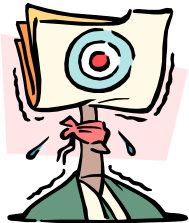
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### Next!!

- Plan the steps
  - Firm up your idea
  - Discuss the method
  - Get the IRB approval
  - Research- literature review
  - Gather the data
  - Analyze
  - Write
  - Report



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### Tips!!!

- The best quantitative research hires a statistician!!
- The best quantitative researcher transcribes their own interview tapes!!



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
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### Informed Consent

- An explanation of procedures and purposes identifying any that are experimental
- Description of reasonable benefits, discomforts, or risks
- Disclosure of alternatives
- Answer questions
- Free to withdraw at anytime without consequences



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### Vulnerable Groups

- Children
- Mentally or emotionally disabled
- Physically disabled
- Institutionalized
- Pregnant women
- Other---fetus, recombinant DNA
- ❖ May use only when risk/benefit is very favorable



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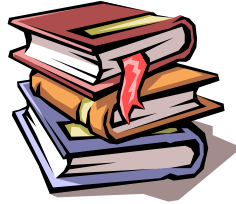
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## Lastly!!

- Disseminate your data
- Write
- Write more
- Publish



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