

**FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF NURSING SCIENCE**



PROGRAMME : M CUR
SUBJECT : RESEARCH METHODOLOGY
MODULE 1: INTRODUCTION TO NURSING RESEARCH
MODULE 2: THE RESEARCH PROCESS: INITIAL STEPS
CODE : MRMV118
DATE : SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION DECEMBER 2014
DURATION : 3 HOURS
WEIGHT : 50:50
TOTAL MARKS : 100 MARKS

EXAMINER : DR C DOWNING
MODERATOR : PROF J MARITZ (UNISA)
NUMBER OF PAGES : THIS PAPER CONSISTS OF SIX (6) PAGES

INSTRUCTIONS : PLEASE RETURN YOUR QUESTION PAPER
REQUIREMENTS : NONE

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS.
IN YOUR OWN INTEREST, WRITE LEGIBLY.

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QUESTION 1

Read the following statement below and answer the relevant question.

The renewed emphasis on spiritual care as an inherent facet of holistic nursing care presents nurses with a significant challenge to understand what this care entails. This understanding is necessary in the light of the confusion about the meaning of the concepts 'spirituality' and 'spiritual nursing care' and the practical implications specifically of the latter concept in clinical nursing practice. Mc Ewen (2005:161) contends that if nurse educators and researchers do not attempt to make the existence and importance of spiritual nursing care explicit in the domain of holistic nursing care, the nurse practitioner who is directly involved in the delivery of patient care, will not do so either.

It is a noted fact that technological and scientific advances in medicine have increased the quality and effectiveness of health care. However, the focus on science and technology has increasingly overshadowed the concerns for spiritual and humanitarian needs, and this increases the risk of depersonalising ill individuals. With the numerous advances in scientific and medical technology, nursing has become more complex and sometimes even mechanistic. As a result, the relevance of spiritual nursing care tends to be compromised and lost (Sawatzky & Pesut 2005:21).

Although theoretical and empirical literature addressing spiritual care as it relates to nursing practice is increasing and emerges as an important body of knowledge, spiritual nursing care is still not well understood, nor applied meaningfully in practice. It seemed necessary, therefore, to obtain a contextualised view of spiritual nursing care by drawing upon the views of those persons who render such care in the clinical context. The findings on what spiritual nursing care is and is not by differentiating between emotional, psychological care versus spiritual nursing care would enhance understanding holistic patient care. In order to ensure quality patient care, the findings could also serve as a framework for incorporating spiritual nursing care into the curriculum as well as into in-service education programmes not only for nurses, but for other health professionals as well.

The findings could also have a far-reaching impact on policy-makers and important accreditation bodies such as the SANC, World Health Organization (WHO) and the Department of Health and Education in the training and education of clinical protocols that evidence provision of spiritual nursing care to improve the quality of patient care.

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The central theoretical question that guided this study was:

'Tell me, what do you understand by spiritual nursing care and how do you provide such care for your patients?'

- 1.1 Formulate two (2) research aims relevant to the study. (4)
- 1.2 Formulate three (3) research objectives for the study. (6)
- 1.3 This study uses a qualitative, phenomenological and contextual design. Define the chosen research design and motivate why the identified research design would be most appropriate. (9)
- 1.4 Identify and describe the sampling method you would implement. (6)

***[25]**

QUESTION 2

Assessment of HIV infection and AIDS in the transport industry has been done extensively amongst truck drivers, but not in the minibus industry. To our knowledge not much is known about the prevalence of HIV infection in this group, as well as their HIV prevention and promotion strategies.

The issue of HIV infection and AIDS has not been explored in the minibus taxi industry in KwaZulu-Natal and, by extension, South Africa. Since the nature of work of minibus taxi drivers is different from that of truck drivers, one can infer that interventions required to address HIV infection and AIDS in the occupational category would need to be tailor-made to fit their situation (Ncama, Mchunu, Naidoo, Majeke, Pillay, Myeza & Ndebele, 2013).

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- 2.1 Debate the ethical issues that need to be considered in conducting this study under the following headings:
- 2.1.1 Right to self-determination (5)
- 2.1.2 Right to protection from harm and discomfort (7)
- 2.1.3 Right to autonomy and confidentiality. (8)
- 2.2 Define the levels of evidence-based practice and provide examples of application to practice:
- 2.2.1 Prediction (3)
- 3.2.2 Explanation (2)

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QUESTION 3

- 3.1 Describe your understanding of how a descriptive comparative design is different from a descriptive correlational design. Use an example to motivate your answer. (7)
- 3.2 Describe your understanding of the relationship between sample statistics and population parameters. Use an example to motivate your answer. (6)
- 3.3 Describe your understanding of the following three requirements for ensuring trustworthiness of qualitative data:
- 3.3.1 Transferability (3)

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3.3.2 Dependability (4)

3.3.3 Credibility (5)

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QUESTION 4

Read the following statement below and answer the relevant question.

Title of article: AN INTEGRATIVE REVIEW OF SOUTH AFRICAN CANCER NURSING RESEARCH PUBLISHED FROM 2002-2012

Aims of the study

South African cancer nursing research output and its characteristics have not been evaluated formally. The importance of such an evaluation resides in the identification of trends, uncovering of gaps and the provision of research directions. In addition, many cancer nurses use such findings as a guide for developing future research endeavours (Molassiotis et al. 2006:432). Integrative review is the broadest category of review and can include both qualitative and quantitative work (LoBiondo-Wood & Haber 2010b:212). An integrative review allowed the researchers to examine the literature using a particular lens defined by the objectives of the study to examine critically and evaluate the previous research, provide a clear account of the body of work on the subject and to arrive at specific conclusions (Molassiotis et al. 2006:431). The aim of this integrative review was to quantify the publication output related to South African cancer nursing research conducted between 2002 and 2012 and to identify key trends relevant to cancer nurse researchers.

The objectives of the study were to:

- Describe the publication output of cancer nursing research in terms of the journals of publication, authors, focus, participants and methods used
- Explore whether the published work was funded
- Assess the quality of the studies published.

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4.1 Evidence based guidelines have become the standards for providing care to patients worldwide.

4.1.1 Discuss the steps that you would implement as a researcher when conducting the above systematic review.

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