



Generating Evidence from Day-To-Day Activities: Methodological Issues Part-I

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ABSTRACT:

Two of the fundamental tenets of evidence-based design are the use of reliable evidence in decision making and generating evidence where it is lacking. These may represent a tall order to many, especially when the term evidence is equated with experimental studies. However, as I have noted in other articles, experimental study design is only one of the numerous available designs adopted in research studies-and a very robust one. More importantly, nonresearch activities that incorporate certain necessary attributes of scientific research can produce quality evidence. Quality evidence from sources other than traditional scientific research has already been promoted in evidence-based practice (Stetler et al., 1998). Such activities constitute the focus of this article. We approach this topic in three steps. This part of the article has two sections – the first section clarifies a few terms, which is necessary for a better comprehension of the subsequent discussions. The following section addresses six activities that present opportunities for the generation of quality evidence. The last section is addressed in Part 2 of the article. This is not a research methods chapter; ideally, individuals interested in the topic should consult textbooks on the subject.

Keywords: methodology, evidence-based design

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