

# Qualitative research appraisal tool

## A summary of

Jeanfreau, S.G. & Jack, L. (2010). Appraising qualitative research in health education: Guidelines for public health educators. *Health Promotion Practice*, 11(5), 612-617. doi: 10.1177/1524839910363537



National Collaborating Centre  
for Methods and Tools  
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**Categories:**  
Tool, Appraise

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October 3, 2012

**Date updated:**  
September 12, 2017

## Tool

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### Relevance For Public Health

This critical appraisal tool would be useful for any public health practitioner interested in using an instrument to assess qualitative research.

### Description

This [tool](#) provides an overview of qualitative research approaches, study components and guidelines for assessing the methodological strength of qualitative research studies. Definitions of different qualitative research designs are provided, as well as common sampling techniques and data collection methods.

Qualitative research studies are particularly helpful when looking at context, experiences or meanings related to an issue; quantitative research is useful to address intervention or therapy questions. Both kinds of research evidence may be necessary for a complete understanding of how and why an issue occurs (qualitative research questions) and what can be done to address the issue (quantitative research). For more information on qualitative and quantitative research, see NCCMT's [Quantitative Research Design Module](#).

For appraisal tools for qualitative research and other types of studies, see also NCCMT's [A Compendium of Critical Appraisal Tools for Public Health Practice](#) and the [Critical Appraisal Skills Programme \(CASP\) Tools](#).

### Implementing the Tool

#### Who is Involved?

Anyone interested in using a tool to assess qualitative research would find this critical appraisal tool useful.

#### Steps for Using Tool

The tool consists of the following:

- Six questions to assess the strength of different kinds of qualitative research studies
- A description of different types of qualitative research, sampling techniques and data collection methods

### Evaluation and Measurement Characteristics

#### Evaluation

Information not available

#### Validity

Not applicable

#### Reliability

Not applicable

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## Methodological Rating



Not applicable

## Tool Development

### Developers

Scharalda G. Jeanfreau  
Leonard Jack Jr

### Method of Development

The qualitative research appraisal tool was developed from a literature review.

### Release Date

2010

### Contact Person

Scharalda G. Jeanfreau  
Family Nurse Practitioner Program  
Louisiana State University  
1900 Gravier St  
New Orleans, USA 70112  
Email: sjeanf@lsuhsc.edu

## Resources

<b>Title of Primary Resource</b>	Appraising qualitative research in health education: Guidelines for public health educators
<b>File Attachment</b>	None
<b>Web-link</b>	<a href="http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20817630">http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20817630</a>
<b>Reference</b>	Jeanfreau, S.G. & Jack, L. (2010). Appraising qualitative research in health education: Guidelines for public health educators. <i>Health Promotion Practice</i> , 11(5), 612-617. doi: 10.1177/1524839910363537
<b>Type of Material</b>	Journal article
<b>Format</b>	Periodical
<b>Cost to Access</b>	None.
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Conditions for Use</b>	Copyright © 2010 Society for Public Health Education

<b>Title of Supplementary Resource</b>	A Compendium of Critical Appraisal Tools for Public Health Practice
<b>File Attachment</b>	None
<b>Web-link</b>	<a href="http://www.nccmt.ca/publications/41/view-eng.html">http://www.nccmt.ca/publications/41/view-eng.html</a>
<b>Reference</b>	Ciliska, D., Thomas, H., & Buffet, C. (2012). <i>A Compendium of Critical Appraisal Tools for Public Health Practice</i> . Hamilton, ON: National Collaborating Centre for Methods and Tools.
<b>Type of Material</b>	Report
<b>Format</b>	On-line Access
<b>Cost to Access</b>	None.
<b>Language</b>	English, French
<b>Conditions for Use</b>	Not specified

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<b>Title of Supplementary Resource</b>	Quantitative Research Designs 101: Addressing Practice-Based Issues in Public Health
<b>File Attachment</b>	None
<b>Web-link</b>	<a href="http://www.nccmt.ca/modules/index-eng.html">http://www.nccmt.ca/modules/index-eng.html</a>
<b>Reference</b>	National Collaborating Centre for Methods and Tools. (2012). <i>Quantitative Research Designs 101: Addressing Practice-Based Issues in Public Health</i> . [online module]. Retrieved from <a href="http://www.nccmt.ca/modules/index-eng.html">http://www.nccmt.ca/modules/index-eng.html</a>
<b>Type of Material</b>	Online module
<b>Format</b>	On-line Access
<b>Cost to Access</b>	None.
<b>Language</b>	English, French
<b>Conditions for Use</b>	Not specified

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