

Critical Appraisal Worksheet: Qualitative Research Studies

<p>Citation: Dawson, D. (DeDe)., (2018). Effective Practices and Strategies for Open Access Outreach: A Qualitative Study. <i>Journal of Librarianship and Scholarly Communication</i>. 6(1), p . eP2216 .</p>	
SCREENING	
Why was the study done (what was the research question)?	The research question this study sets out to answer is: What are the most effective practices and strategies for OA outreach? (p.3)
Was the study design appropriate?	Yes (interviews, coding)
VALIDITY	
Did the paper describe an important problem addressed via a clearly-formulated question?	Yes, clearly stated question and an important issue in regards to Open Access.
Were the setting and the subjects selected appropriately? How were they selected?	<p>Sampling (p.7)</p> <p>Purposive sampling - limited to participants from large, research-intensive institutions who were most likely to have had substantial experience with OA outreach and support</p> <p>Identified appropriate individuals at each institution by referral from the representatives noted above and through library website directory listings.</p> <p>- not familiar with the UK academic environment, so not able to tell if the institutions chosen are appropriate</p> <p>-She sees a parallel between the policies and systems in place between Canada and U.K. which was her justification for choosing the U.K.</p>
Has the researcher's perspective been taken into account? What was the researcher's perspective?	Doesn't seem to be mentioned in the article. She talked about the work she has done with OA in the CE Presentation given to SHLA and MAHIP recently.
Are the methods used for collecting data described in enough detail? What were the methods?	<p>Data collection (p.8)</p> <p>Semistructured interviews with one to three individuals at each selected institution n=14</p>
Were appropriate methods used to analyze the data? What were the methods?	<p>Data analysis (p.8)</p> <p>Coded using NVivo</p> <p>Inductive method of analysis</p> <p>-She did all of the coding herself. Could she have had any preconceptions about what she thought she was going to find and could this effect the coding? May be a good idea to have someone else do the coding.</p> <p>-She is already familiar with OA so perhaps potential for bias to say not sure about what the findings would be?</p>

	-Interestingly a lot of the themes she pulled out ended up being about outreach and marketing.
Has the relationship between researchers and participants been adequately considered?	Doesn't seem to state any relationship with the participants. Based on her sample and methods we can assume there wasn't one.
CLINICAL IMPORTANCE	
Are the results credible, and if so, are they important?	<p>Yes both credible and important. Some of our academic librarians in Saskatchewan have experienced lots of resistance from faculty in publishing in OA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -There was good advice in the article to know your audience and keep your message simple. -Good to have an "OA expert" that you can direct people and questions to. -There is sort of a power struggle at universities, librarians can often be dismissed, and faculty will feel it's good enough to send students to us to talk about systematic reviews.
Were the conclusions justified by the results? What conclusions were drawn?	
Are the findings of the study transferable to other settings?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Important to also market our everyday services because sometimes we're not heard or we're dismissed. -Cultivate champions -Keep messages simple and jargon-free -Important to forge personal relationships and have face-to-face conversations -Focus on reaching early career researchers and teaching them and new staff/students. -The library can provide support to people doing OA, not necessarily library support but relational support. -In a clinical setting, many of our students could potentially become our staff so it's important to get them now. The case is different in an academic setting because you see so many students and most of them won't become staff at that particular institution. -Get your message out there because it works! -It was mentioned in the article to know who your anti-champions are as well to be prepared for what you're up against. Don't need to win them over but just address their concerns. -"Outreach by Stealth" was also mentioned. Taking topics like copyright that are usually not very interesting, and integrate them into other sessions you give about the library.

	<p>Submitting vs Using OA resources: Have a clear message of what you're pushing for. This is a point that was maybe missing from the article.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Using OA resources involves critical appraisal.Sometimes we skip this with major journals like the Lancet or New England Journal of Medicine.-Teach about the use of OA.
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Adapted from: Heneghan, Carl and Badenoch, Douglas. Evidence-based Medicine Toolkit, 2nd edition.