

Action Research In Health Care

Education and debate

Qualitative research in health care

Using qualitative methods in health related action research

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This is the last in a series of three articles

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The barriers to the uptake of the findings of traditional quantitative biomedical research in clinical practice are increasingly being recognised.¹⁻³ Action research is particularly suited to identifying problems in clinical practice and helping develop potential solutions in order to improve practice.⁴ For this reason, action research is increasingly being used in health related settings. Although not synonymous with qualitative research, action research typically draws on qualitative methods such as interviews and observation.

What is action research?

Action research is not easily defined. It is a style of research rather than a specific method. First used in 1946 by Kurt Lewin, a social scientist concerned with intergroup relations and minority problems in the United States, the term is now identified with research in which the researchers work explicitly with and for people rather than undertake research on them.⁵ Its strength lies in its focus on generating solutions to practical problems and its ability to empower practitioners—getting them to engage with research and subsequent “development” or implementation activities. Practitioners can choose to research their own practice, or an outside researcher can be engaged to help them identify problems, seek and implement practical solutions, and systematically monitor and reflect on the process and outcomes of change.

Most definitions of action research incorporate three important elements: its participatory character; its democratic impulse; and its simultaneous contribution to social science and social change.⁶

Summary points

Action research is increasingly being used in healthcare settings

It is a style of research rather than a specific method

Three elements are important: the participatory character of action research; its democratic impulse; and its simultaneous contribution to social science and social change

Participation in action research

Participation is fundamental to action research: it is an approach which demands that participants perceive the need to change and are willing to play an active part in the research and the change process. All research requires willing subjects, but the level of commitment required in an action research study goes beyond simply agreeing to answer questions or be observed. The clear cut demarcation between “researcher” and “researched” that is found in other types of research may not be so apparent in action research. The research design must be continually negotiated with participants, and researchers need to agree an ethical code of practice with the participants.⁷ This is especially important as participation in the research, and in the process of change, can be threatening.⁸ Conflicts may arise in the course of the research: outside researchers working with practitioners must obtain their trust and agree rules on the control of data and their use and on how potential conflict will be resolved within the project. The way in which such rules are agreed demonstrates a second important feature of action research—namely, its democratic impulse.

Democracy in action research

“Democracy” in action research usually requires participants to be seen as equals. The researcher works as a facilitator of change, consulting with participants not only on the action process but also on how it will be evaluated. One benefit of this is that it can make the research process and outcomes more meaningful to practitioners, by rooting them in the reality of day to day practice.

Throughout the study, findings are fed back to participants for validation and to inform decisions about the next stage of the study. This formative style of research is thus responsive to events as they naturally occur in the field and frequently entails collaborative spirals of planning, acting, observing, reflecting, and replanning. However, care needs to be taken in this process as it can be threatening: democratic practice is



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Review question/objective. This scoping review seeks to locate and describe international literature related to how action research methodology has been Background - Inclusion criteria - Search strategy - Data extraction. Action Research in Healthcare assumes no previous knowledge of the subject and is the ideal resource for anyone about to start or already involved in a project. This book enables students to understand the strengths of action research in health care with application of case study. We aimed to discuss the benefits and difficulties of using action research in primary care using the example of child health surveillance provision in general Abstract - Introduction - Method - Results. An action researcher needs to be able to work across traditional boundaries (for example, between health and social care professionals or between hospital and community care settings) and juggle different, sometimes competing, agendas. Participation in action - Democracy in action research - Different types of action. ABSTRACT This article promotes the idea of using action research for health care exploration and change. The article also describes the outcome of a research study that underpin the philosophy, process and potential benefits of the network, as a means to promote practice development and change in client care. Action research in health care is something of a 'new age' approach, and as such it is only beginning to be recognised and acknowledged for its tremendous. SATHI-CEHAT, Experiences of participatory action research and in health . hospital where other obstetricians, midwives and nurses provide care. Currently. "This book has a number of strengths. First among them is its grounding in the day-to-day problems of practitioners and its use of quotations from practitioner. Also unclear is the knowledge nurses and other health-care professionals use to inform their decisions about patient care. Action research directly addresses. Full-Text Paper (PDF): Action research in health promotion. health. care. managers,. professionals. and. researchers. London: NCCSDO,. 3. Lewin. K. The purpose of the paper is to explore why it was considered useful and how it was possible to conduct a participatory action research (PAR) in a health?care. 2 Nov - 7 min - Uploaded by HealthLeadersCanada Action research healthcare: Focus on patients, improve quality, drive down costs Abstract: We. Summary points Action research is increasingly being used in healthcare settings It is a style of research rather than a specific method Three elements are. This article describes action research as a methodology and gives two examples of its .. Koshy E, Koshy V, Waterman H () Action Research in Healthcare. This paper explores action research within the critical A recommendation of The Future of Health Care in Government was that if health care providers are. This paper suggests that whilst the evidence-based health care movement has started The power of action research is explored within the political context of. Julienne Meyer research qualitative methods in health related action. Qualitative research in health care: Using lemeilleurnettoyantducolon.com [PDF] Letters To A Bullied Girl: Messages Of Healing And Hope [PDF] Handbook Of Successful Ecological Lawn Care

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