Workshops

Workshop 1 (Day 0)

Workshop title: "Undertaking a qualitative evidence synthesis: What, Why and How"

Presenters: Natalie Leon, Christopher Colvin, Sara Cooper (South Africa); Ruth Garside (UK)

Target audience: Researchers familiar with primary qualitative research (i.e. intermediate level) but no detailed knowledge of general or QES systematic review methods (i.e. beginner level).

Difficulty level: Basic to intermediate

Length: Full-day

Workshop abstract

Objectives: The learning objective of the session is to introduce and detail QES and build beginner level understanding and skill, using applied examples, in the following areas:

- What is a qualitative evidence synthesis?
- Why undertake a QES?
- What are the steps in conducting a QES?
- How to formulate a good QES question and
- How to assess and describe the level of confidence to place in QES findings (GRADE-CERQual)

Description: Qualitative evidence synthesis (QES), or systematic reviews of primary qualitative research, are becoming more common and the methods for undertaking these reviews are now well developed. Findings from QES are increasingly used in decision making processes, including to inform the development of clinical, health system and social welfare recommendations (e.g. by WHO, NICE) and to inform decisions across a wide range of public health and other areas. This full-day session will introduce and detail QES: what it is, how its findings can be applied, methodological steps in conducting a QES and how to assess and describe the level of confidence to place in QES findings. We will use presentations, small groups, and illustrate material using applied examples.

Workshop 2 (Day 0)

Workshop title: Produção de narrativas pessoais de adoecimento como evidências qualitativas na pesquisa, formação e educação permanente, e cuidado em saúde

Presenters: Octavio Domont de Serpa Junior, Erotildes Maria Leal,Maria Inês Gandolfo Conceição, Antonio de Padua Pithon Cirino, Marcelo Castellanos (Brasil)

Target audience: Estudantes, profissionais e pesquisadores da saúde, educação em saúde e ciências sociais e humanas aplicadas à saúde

Difficulty level: Intermediate

Length: Half day

Workshop abstract

Objectives:

- Fundamentar conceitualmente a proposição de narrativas como evidências qualitativas na pesquisa, formação e cuidado em saúde.
- Discutir o fomento de produção de narrativas em saúde como um instrumento de enfrentamento da injustiça epistêmica e do estigma
- Discutir aspectos éticos relacionados a produção de narrativas em saúde
- Discutir ferramentas metodológicas para a produção e difusão de narrativas em saúde.
- Apresentar narrativas em saúde em plataformas virtuais
- Apresentar práticas narrativas em primeira pessoa e protagonismo de usuários na pesquisa e cuidado em saúde.

Description: O workshop será conduzido por um grupo de pesquisadores, de diferentes centros de pesquisa do Brasil, da área da saúde e das ciências humanais e sociais aplicadas à saúde, que trabalharão com os participantes os principais conceitos relativos à pesquisa e prática narrativa em saúde, procurando justificar como os seus resultados podem e devem ser acolhidos como evidências qualitativas e como instrumentos para o enfrentamento do estigma e da injustiça epistêmica. Serão exploradas algumas das principais ferramentas metodológicas para a produção de narrativas em saúde, com ilustrações de pesquisas em andamento ou concluídas. Serão apresentadas práticas narrativas em curso no campo da saúde, no cuidado, na formação de profissionais e na pesquisa. Serão discutidos o uso de recursos audiovisuais e de plataformas virtuais para a produção e difusão de narrativas em saúde.

Workshop 3 (Day 0)

Workshop title: Qualitative evidence in impact assessments

Please note that this is a closed session for Brazilian Ministry of Health participants only.

Workshop 4 (Day 0)

Título do workshop: Interrogar as estruturas interpretativas usadas no desenho e relato de pesquisas qualitativas e no uso de evidências para políticas e práticas.

Apresentadores: Muna Muhammad Odeh, Katia Cesa, Matheus Falcão, Marta Giane Machado (Brasil)

Público-alvo: pesquisadores, professores, formuladores de políticas, ativistas da sociedade civil.

Nível de dificuldade: Intermediário

Duração: Meio dia

Workshop abstract

Objetivos:

De que após o workshop, os participantes poderão:

- Ter uma visão mais clara de como a 'visão de mundo' molda o desenho e a análise da pesquisa e o uso de evidências, concentrando-se em particular na pesquisa, política e prática em torno dos ODS;
- Adquirir novas habilidades e ferramentas na leitura de pesquisas e políticas (em particular em torno dos ODS) contextualizadas em termos da visão de mundo emoldurada, identificadas pelo uso da análise de discurso na leitura de pesquisas e textos de políticas;
- Ganhar novas habilidades e ferramentas para reformular a pesquisa e a política pública; explorando formas alternativas de estruturar evidências.

Descrição:

NOMEANDO O DISCURSO: Em torno das mesas, serão distribuídos textos curtos da Agenda 2030 relacionados a ODS específicos. MAPEANDO O CAMPO DISCURSIVO: Discussão em plenário, uma lista dos diferentes discursos envolvidos na pesquisa e na formulação de políticas em torno dos ODS. DELINEANDO OS DISCURSOS: Voltar às mesas (diferentes participantes nas mesas tabelas) para definir mais claramente os diferentes discursos identificados: localização: política, econômica, social, institucional e geográfica; as crenças e valores fundamentais subjacentes ao discurso; relações de poder e afinidades dos sujeitos desse discurso. A POLÍTICA DO DISCURSO: Voltar à discussão em plenário sobre o uso da análise do discurso para ler o campo político ou relacionar o argumento do texto à política do campo. MINHA PRESENÇA NO DOMÍNIO DA MINHA ANÁLISE: Voltando às mesas (composições de integrantes diferentes), como pessoalmente moldado por alguns dos diferentes discursos que identificamos e como aprofundar a reflexividade sobre as próprias práticas discursivas e locais seguidos pela Plenária. ENGAJAMENTO DISCURSIVO: Em torno de mesas para debater juntos identificando e nomeando diferentes estratégias discursivas trabalhadas de forma colaborativa e eficaz no âmbito de um campo de disputa discursiva, na pesquisa, política e na implementação. FINALIZAÇÃO (WRAP UP): Plenária final para discutir os relatórios das mesas sobre o envolvimento discursivo e convidar os participantes a avaliar o workshop.

Workshop 5 (Day 0)

Workshop title: "Software does not analyse qualitative data - Researchers do": Qualitative Research in multisite settings without using any software

Presenters: Aruna Bhatacharya Chakravarty (India)

Target audience: Research organizations in LMICs, Independent researchers setting out to do qualitative research, Research teams with small budget

Difficulty level: Intermediate

Length: Half-day

Workshop abstract

Objectives: Use of software in researches are commonplace and so is the case in qualitative research. Qualitative research analysis depends hugely on the context and the meanings that are laden within the data. I have observed an overdependence on software (like Atlas Ti and Nvivo) among researchers for qualitative data analysis without investing on the meaning that data is carrying. Often such patterns demotivate researchers/groups who cannot invest on software (especially in LMICs). This workshop plans to demonstrate and motivate that quality analysis is never dependent on software but on the skills of the researchers – how researchers have understood the data and meanings within them.

Description: During the workshop, qualitative data analysis will be discussed using qualitative data collected from researchers carried out by either by the participants or by the organizers. Steps for analysis and objectives for analysis will be discussed. It will be demonstrated how meaning units from data are derived sans software. Also, alternate methods of doing analysis without software will be discussed - especially when there are multi-site teams involving digital communication (email/Skype). The main focus is to demonstrate qualitative data analysis is not dependent on ones skill on software like Atlas or Nvivo.

Workshop 6 (Main programme)

Workshop title: Contextual and institutional factors affecting evidence use in public agencies: understanding challenges & opportunities for improved evidence demand

Presenters: Kirchuffs Atengble (Ghana)

Target audience: Evidence users, evidence or knowledge brokers, research commissioners and researchers from across disciplines and practices

Difficulty level: Intermediate

Length: 2 hours

Workshop abstract

Objectives:

- Strengthen understanding of the main factors affecting the use of evidence in public agencies through using a Framework and its Matrix to stimulate discussion among all stakeholders of qualitative evidence;
- Explore opportunities (entry points) for improved evidence use and organisational change, and implications for all stakeholders of qualitative evidence;
- Co-develop ideas to improve evidence-informed policymaking in public institutions by promoting a more collaborative work among stakeholders of qualitative evidence.

Description: There will be three major components of this workshop: an introductory part for the Context Matters framework, a second part to help participants identify factors affecting the use of evidence in their specific contexts, and a third part that introduces the Matrix developed to guide application of this framework. In the first part, participants will be introduced to the Context Matters framework, which will help them understand the different factors that influence use of evidence (concentrating on qualitative evidence) in policymaking. This portion will adopt a blend of Powerpoint presentations and clustered group discussions to elicit understanding from participants. It will be followed by a second component, which will seek to help participants identify opportunities to use evidence in policymaking, a section that will benefit all stakeholders within the class. Facilitation will involve group-based tasks that explore potential initiatives to take advantage of opportunities identified from the previous session. The final part of the workshop will be a demonstration of a Matrix developed to guide application of the framework. Being an evaluative tool that has been piloted in four organisations in Ghana and Kenya, participants will observe practical implications of the different factors identified by the framework as potential promoters or inhibitors of evidence use.

Workshop 7 (Main programme)

Título do workshop: Advocacy para a Agenda 2030 de Desenvolvimento Sustentável

Apresentadores: Marcello Baird, Daniela Guedes, Mônica Andreis, Laura Cury, Mônica Andreis (Brazil)

Público-alvo: Civil society, Academia

Nível de dificuldade: Basic

Duração: Part 1: 2 hours. Part 2: 1.5 hours

Workshop abstract

Objetivos:

Advocacy tem sido uma das estratégias estruturantes do ACT Promoção da Saúde ao longo de sua trajetória e também é importante dentro da estrutura do GT SC A2030, do qual a ACT é membro. Essa experiência gerou impactos positivos, como contribuições para a criação da Comissão Nacional e da Frente Parlamentar para ODS. O workshop "Advocacy para a Agenda 2030 para o Desenvolvimento Sustentável" visa capacitar alunas/os para ações de advocacy, a fim de promover a implementação da Agenda 2030 no Brasil.

Descrição:

- Introdução: Elementos essenciais de advocacy
- Comunicação e redes para advocacy
- Participação da sociedade civil e políticas públicas
- Advocacy nos três poderes (Legislativo, Executivo e Judiciário), com foco na Agenda 2030
- Desenvolvimento de um plano de advocacy
- Considerações finais

Workshop 8 (Main programme)

Workshop title: An introduction to qualitative evidence synthesis: What, Why and How

Presenters: Natalie Leon, Christopher Colvin, Hlengiwe Moloi, Sara Cooper (South Africa); Ruth Garside (UK)

Target audience: Researchers familiar with primary qualitative research (i.e. intermediate level) but no detailed knowledge of general of QES systematic review methods (i.e. beginner level).

Difficulty level: Basic

Length: 2 hours

Workshop abstract

Objectives: The learning objective of the session is to introduce QES and answer the questions:

- What is a qualitative systematic review?
- Why undertake a QES?
- What are the steps in conducting a QES?
- How to formulate a good QES question and
- How to assess and describe the level of confidence to place in QES findings (GRADE-CERQual)

Description: Qualitative evidence synthesis (QES), or systematic reviews of primary qualitative research, are becoming more common and the methods for undertaking these reviews are now well developed. Findings from QES are increasingly used in decision making processes, including to inform the development of clinical, health system and social welfare recommendations (e.g. by WHO, NICE) and to inform decisions across a wide range of public health and other areas.

This two-hour session will provide a brief overview of what QES is, how its findings can be applied and the methodological steps in conducting a QES and how to assess and describe the level of confidence to place in QES findings. We will use presentations and provide case examples to illustrate learnings, with time for questions and discussion.

Workshop 9 (Main programme)

Workshop title: Using story-telling in armed conflicts to influence humanitarian policies

Presenters: Rita Dayoub (Syria)

Target audience: Health humanitarian organisations, ministries of health, donors, human rights organisation and activists, politicians

Difficulty level: Intermediate

Length: 1.5 hours

Workshop abstract

Objectives:

- To present the story-telling initiative: Health Workers at the Frontline and its findings
- To discuss the use of story-telling platforms as a source of qualitative data from inaccessible areas such as war zones
- To discuss the added-value of story-telling in supporting and to protecting health humanitarian response in armed conflicts and during political unrests, this is particularly relevant to SDGs 1-2-3-16-17.
- To explore new ideas and the potential of story-telling initiatives in the participants' lines of work or interest

Description: This workshop will explore the power of story-telling in conflict settings and political unrests using the Health Workers at the Frontline initiative (https://www.chathamhouse.org/file/undercurrents-epis) as an example of the potential impact of audio recorded testimonies on global health issues. The opening (30 min): The facilitators will present the Health Workers at the Frontline Initiative. Participants will also listen to three different stories from different conflict zones which will demonstrate how the platform works with examples on the content. The facilitators will then present the potential different uses of the audio stories and will open the space for Q&A. Break-out session 1 (30 min): The participants will be asked to work in smaller groups to discuss and to summarize the benefits and challenges of collecting audio stories from conflict zones. They will also discuss their use in influencing public opinion and international policies. Each group will present its findings to the other participants for discussion. Break-out session 2 (30 min): The participants will build on the previous break-out group work to discuss ideas where a story-telling component can have an added value either for advocacy or for collecting qualitative data or for both. Each group will present its idea to the other participants for discussion.

Workshop 10 (Main programme)

Workshop title: Analysis for free: using commonly and freely available software for qualitative analysis

Presenters: Ravi M. Ram, Peninah Khisa (Kenya); Linda Shuro (South Africa), John Mahama (Ghana)

Target audience: Researchers, evaluators and evidence/knowledge users, particularly from low/middle income countries

Difficulty level: Intermediate

Length: 1.5 hours

Workshop abstract

Objectives: The workshop objective is to train participants in use of Excel (or Google Sheets, Mac Numbers) in conducting systematic exploration and in-depth analysis of qualitative data. The expected learning outcomes are that participants (1) can use Excel to conduct qualitative analysis and (2) gain experience in strengthening their own qualitative analysis capabilities.

Description: Qualitative evaluation and research are based on established analytic methods, to support a robust evidence base particularly for monitoring the SDGs. Many researchers and professionals understand qualitative methodology, but some do not apply the full analytic scope. Due to a variety of factors, primarily the lack of affordable, accessible tools for analysis, some practitioners simply identify key quotes – 'cherry-picking' of data – which may undermine analytic rigor and undermine quality of evidence. The full value of qualitative evidence is lost, including the depth of meaning and range of perspectives surrounding phenomena, when analytic techniques are not applied to the richness of qualitative data. The workshop presents novel methods to overcome this challenge, by providing a step-by-step example of using Microsoft Excel or Google Sheets to support a stronger level of qualitative analysis and support for evidence. The workshop will guide participants through data coding, quality assurance, analysis and summarization for producing well-grounded qualitative evidence from the most common data sources: key informant interviews, focus group discussions and document reviews. Because Excel is widely available and Sheets is free and online software, researchers and evaluators can use these tools to conduct sophisticated qualitative analysis.

Workshop title: The GRADE-CERQual approach for assessing how much confidence to place in findings from qualitative evidence syntheses

Presenters: Meghan Bohren, Australia

Target audience: People working with systematic reviews of qualitative evidence (qualitative evidence syntheses)

Difficulty level: Intermediate

Length: 2 hours

Workshop abstract

Objectives: The objective of this workshop is to introduce the GRADE-CERQual approach to assess Confidence in Evidence from Reviews of Qualitative research.

Description: Systematic reviews of qualitative studies (qualitative evidence syntheses) are increasingly used to bring together findings from qualitative studies. A number of qualitative evidence syntheses are now published or underway in the Cochrane Library. In order to use synthesised findings to inform decisions we need methods to assess how much confidence to place in these findings. The workshop will be facilitated by members of the GRADE-CERQual coordinating team. The workshop is intended for review authors who are using/planning to use GRADE-CERQual. Attendees should have some familiarity with qualitative research and evidence synthesis methods. This is not intended to be a basic training session.

1. Presentation:
   - The GRADE-CERQual approach
   - Making an overall assessment of confidence
   - Introduction to Summary of Qualitative Findings table
2. Group discussion and/or practical exercises for the CERQual components:
   - Assessing the methodological limitations of the individual studies contributing to a review finding
   - Assessing the coherence of each review finding
   - Assessing the relevance of studies contributing to a review finding
   - Assessing the adequacy of data supporting each review finding
3. Feedback

Workshop title: Reaffirming Indigenous Knowledge in the SDGs

Presenters: Stephanie Montesanti, Chyloe Healy, William Wadsworth (Canada)

Target audience: Evidence users, such as decision makers and technical officers in government departments, national and international agencies, community-based organisations and NGOs

Difficulty level: Basic

Length: 2 hours

Workshop abstract

Objectives: (1) To collectively explore the place dedicated to Indigenous knowledge in achieving the UN SDGs; (2) To build understanding of the importance of Indigenous languages when translating Indigenous knowledge in the conceptualizing health and equity-related indicators; (3) To discuss the application of a framework for integrating Indigenous knowledge in western scientific approaches to the development and implementation of solutions at international, national and sub-national levels

Description: Indictors developed to address the UN SDGs do not reflect measures that matter to Indigenous peoples, in particular their sense of control over either their health or their life circumstances more generally, other than as a measure of an individual's mental health or social and emotional well-being. Indigenous people across the globe have epistemologically and contextually-specific health knowledge that have been historically suppressed and ignored in government policies and strategies. Indigenous knowledge systems, developed over countless generations, are based on individual and collectively learned experiences and explanations of the world, verified by oral traditions and embedded in the language of Indigenous peoples. In the Siksikaitsitapi (Blackfoot Confederacy) knowledge system, for example, people with transferred rites are caring for knowledge that is from a sacred source. Solutions to the challenges identified in UN SDGs – e.g., poverty, growing rates of non-communicable disease, inequalities— are found in the Siksikaitsitapi knowledge systems or knowledge systems of other Indigenous cultures; and provide valuable qualitative evidence to inform indicators and targets for SDGs action plans. In interactive breakout conversations participants will explore frameworks that facilitate connections between Indigenous and Western ways of knowing in achieving the SDGs.

Workshop 13 (Main programme)

Workshop title: Using qualitative evidence to inform implementation considerations and equity considerations for interventions and programmes

Presenters: Soo Downe (UK); Simon Lewin, Claire Glenton (Norway)

Target audience: People using qualitative evidence to inform recommendations and other decisions, and to inform implementation processes

Difficulty level: Intermediate

Length: 1.5 hours

Workshop abstract

Objectives:

- To discuss how evidence from qualitative research, including syntheses of qualitative research, can help inform the development of implementation considerations and equity considerations for interventions and programmes
- To discuss how implementation and equity considerations informed by qualitative evidence can be used in decision processes such as guidelines, and to reflect on some of the strengths and limitations of this approach
- To outline areas in which further methodological development is needed

Description: Drawing on experience and examples from a number of WHO guidelines, we will discuss how we identify findings from qualitative evidence syntheses (systematic reviews of qualitative studies) that can inform implementation and equity considerations for interventions and programmes. We will also outline how we summarise these for use in decision making processes. Participants will have an opportunity to work with some data from a qualitative evidence synthesis to identify implementation and equity considerations, and to explore how to present these to decision makers.

Workshop 14 (Main programme)

Workshop title: Using qualitative evidence to inform and build on citizen panels, stakeholder dialogues and other engagement mechanisms

Presenters: John Lavis, Canada

Target audience: Policymakers, stakeholders and researchers who seek to inform policymaking with research evidence, citizen values and evidence- and values-informed stakeholder insights

Difficulty level: Basic

Length: 1.5 hours

Workshop abstract

Objectives:

- To appreciate simple policy, political and systems analysis frameworks, how qualitative evidence fits into them (and where to find it), and how the frameworks and evidence can be used to prepare rapid syntheses, citizen briefs and evidence briefs
- To describe how citizen panels can be informed by qualitative evidence-containing citizen briefs and how citizens' values can be elicited through a deliberative process
- To describe how stakeholder dialogues can be informed by qualitative evidence- and citizen values-containing evidence briefs and how stakeholder's insights emerging from a deliberative process can be thematically analysed and shared

Description: Drawing on the insights from Partners in Evidence-driven Rapid Learning in Social Systems (PERLSS), a 14-country collaborative, John Lavis will introduce frameworks and approaches that can be used to support efforts to inform policymaking with research evidence, citizen values and evidence- and values-informed stakeholder insights. He will also describe what PERLSS is teaching us about how to build institutional capacity for such work, identify and join up country 'ecosystems' for evidence and policymaking, and learn from one another in a community of practice.

Workshop title: Using 3D Qualitative Geospatial Data: The Key to Precise Decision Making for SDGs in Non-Fragile and Fragile Communities.

Presenters: Patrick Mbah Okwen, Stefan Rädiker, Loveline Niba, Mirabel Nain, Euphrasia Atuh Ebai (Cameroon)

Target audience: Development agencies, researchers, evidence synthesizers, consumers in basic services (health, education, environment)

Difficulty level: Intermediate

Length: 2 hours

Workshop abstract

Objectives:

- Introduce participants to the concept of three-dimensional qualitative data (3D Q-data) (qualitative data with oriented in Time, Voice and Space) with examples of crosscutting projects done in Cameroon
- Engage participants on the use of 3D qualitative data for decision making for SDG related basic services in low and middle-income countries
- To work we participants to develop a guidance document for 3D qualitative data-informed decision making for basic services related SDGs
- To follow up participants post conference and provide remote support for implementation of 3D qualitative data projects

Description: The workshop presents a crosscutting approach to using qualitative evidence to inform decision making in basic services which are key to achieving the SDGs. In fact, the SDGs are about basic services (health, education, environment, energy, WaSH). Qualitative data is becoming popular for research and informing decision making in basic services in low middle-income countries (LMIC). Basic services are key to improving livelihoods and attaining SDGs. Using qualitative evidence within the evidence ecosystem can be improved with the use of geospatial qualitative data, voice and time. This approach has been used at eBASE Africa using computer assistance to inform decision making. The workshop consists of 8 modules each running 12-20 minutes with 25 minutes discussions. Modules will be interactive with didactic approaches, role plays, brainstorming and buzz groups. Participants will be sent materials prior to workshop and requested to share experiences or project that can be incorporated into the modules.

Workshop 16 (Main programme)

Workshop title: Involving policy makers in framing policy/research in questions, evidence creation process, evidence dissemination and consumption in Ethiopia

Presenters: Sudhakar Morankar (Ethiopia)

Target audience: Researchers, Policy and decision makers, Grant makers, Funders, NGOs/CSOs

Difficulty level: Advanced

Length: 2 hours

Workshop abstract

Objectives: This workshop provides a method of involvement of policy and decision maker in research question framing for policy making to use of research results. This prepares participants to effectively integrate either policy makers, decision makers or program implementers in their research or knowledge translation of evidence to make use for policy making or guidelines preparations. After completing the workshop participants will:

- Identify opportunities to involve policy or decision makers in framing research questions,
- Learn process of involving these stakeholders,
- Involve them in dissemination and use of the evidence.

Description: Using, qualitative and/or quantitative, evidence for policy making, guideline preparations, decision makers, program implementers or community is increasingly becoming important. Well prepared evidence involving relevant stakeholders' in all stages of production, dissemination and utilization is consumed readily and well. This workshop is well designed as workshop facilitator implemented this method with Federal Ministry of Health (FMOH), Ethiopia and sharing actual experiences. This project was supported by Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Analysis (AHPSR/WHO). This workshop is designed for researchers, knowledge/evidence brokers, policy, decision makers, grant makers, CSO/NGOs. In this workshop we prepare participants how to involve policy and decision makers in framing the research/policy questions, in all stages of research or evidence production, in dissemination process and conduct evaluation how the evidence is used. Workshop will be conducted with interactive process, group work and prepare a mock work plan to involve policy/decision makers to take home.