PURPOSE, OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES OF THE RESEARCH PROJECT COMPONENT OF PROGRAMMES

Dr Karen Beeton (Standards Committee) and Dr Mindy Cairns (Member Organisation Delegate, UK)
Dimension 9

Demonstration of a critical understanding and application of the process of research

Critical understanding of
- different research designs
- ethical issues relating to research on human participants
- critical appraisal
- how to generate a research question
- how to select and apply appropriate data analysis procedures

Effective execution of a research project and dissemination of its conclusions
Dimension 9

Demonstration of a critical understanding and application of the process of research

A research project is defined as a process of systematic enquiry that provides new knowledge aimed at understanding the basis and mechanism of NMS dysfunction, or improving the assessment and / or management of NMS dysfunction.

The process of systematic enquiry is designed to address a research question.

The process may use a range of methodological perspectives and methods including literature review, qualitative, and quantitative approaches to address the research question.
Purpose of the research project

To experience the logistics and reality of undertaking a research project

Develop a critical understanding of all aspects of the research process in order to be a more effective researcher and consumer of research

To create and enhance new knowledge and understanding of NMS theory and practice

Others?
Opportunities of the research project

To disseminate findings in order to enhance the knowledge and understanding of the wider community as well as provide a platform for further research.

To build and enhance the confidence of the researcher in discussing their research and to enhance their skills of critical debate, critical thinking and critical appraisal.

To provide a foundation and pathway for further research including doctoral study and funded research activities.

Others?
Some potential challenges

How much is enough?

Is audit acceptable? Dimension stresses ‘new’ knowledge

How to get the unwilling student through the research process?
- research project simply a means to an end in gaining membership

Weak student – how much support to give?
Challenges of the research project and potential solutions

In small groups:

1. Discuss the challenges you have faced implementing the research project in your MO

2. Consider any solutions to these challenges

3. 5 mins and then feedback

Please feel free to email any of your challenges or solutions to questions@macpweb.org
Any further suggestions or comments on the research project that you would like the Standards Committee to consider?

Please feel free to email questions@macpweb.org