



Achieving the research component of IFOMPT Standards

- ensuring research informed OMPT excellence

IFOMPT Standards Committee

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Background

- AAOMPT's OMPT programs fulfill the IFOMPT Educational Standards that include Dimension 9:
 - Demonstration of a critical understanding and application of the process of research
- OMPT students need to demonstrate achievement of this dimension through effectively executing a research project relevant to OMPT practice, selecting appropriate data analysis procedures and disseminating the conclusions of the study
- This can be challenging across a range of diverse OMPT programs



Aims of the session

- To explore a range of strategies for programs to achieve the research project component of standards, including:
 - systematic and narrative reviews
 - qualitative and quantitative approaches to case studies
 - pilot and feasibility studies
 - exploratory studies using interviews or focus groups
- Barriers and facilitators and practical solutions will be explored
- Participants' personal objectives will be addressed directly: https://padlet.com/perkjaer/kt8itbp4s5va



IFOMPT requirement of a research project

- Dimension 9 of the IFOMPT Standards Document:
 - Demonstration of a critical understanding and application of the process of research





- Recognise the need for the development of further evidence in OMPT practice and the role of research in advancing the body of knowledge in OMPT
- Critically evaluate common quantitative and qualitative research designs and methods
- Generate an appropriate research question based on a critical evaluation of current research evidence relevant to OMPT practice and NMS dysfunction
- Systematically address all ethical considerations associated with research involving human subjects
- Effectively execute a research project* relevant to OMPT practice and NMS dysfunction, selecting appropriate data analysis procedures and disseminating the conclusions of the study



Research project*

- 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



Examples of learning strategies that can be used to address learning outcomes

- ✓ Lectures
- ✓ E-learning
- ✓ Development of research proposal
- ✓ Execution of research project

Examples of assessment strategies that can be used to assess learning outcomes



- ✓ Research proposal
- ✓ Research article/oral presentation/poster presentation of research project findings



Achievement of the IFOMPT requirements can be challenging

- Particularly across a diverse range of educational programs
- More challenging outside of the education sector i.e. community based programs
- Common barriers include staff resource for supervision and ethics
- Common facilitators include the benefit from student research findings and their dissemination



A range of research methodologies are valuable to effectively enable an OMPT student's experience of a research project





Systematic and narrative reviews: Leanne Bisset

Systematic Reviews

? Ask a clinical guided question

Search for the best evidence





Synthesize the evidence













Critically appraise the evidence











Qualitative and quantitative approaches to case studies: Per Kjaer

Qualitative and quantitative approaches to case studies







Effects of an intervention

Case study

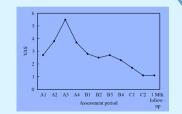


Insights in a phenomenon

Multiple Case study

A case study `--aims to understand what is distinctive of a case defined as 'specific, a complex functioning thing'

Patient reports Clinical tests Compare AB, ABA, ABAB, ABC



Quantitative methods

Patient reports Clinical tests

Before - after



Mixed methods

Interviews Observations

Thematic

Qualitative methods

Derived themes and quotes to support





Pilot and feasibility studies: Ali Rushton

- Need not be randomized
- Adequate sample size to estimate critical parameters e.g. recruitment rate
- Typically use assessment points planned trial

Feasibility studies

Done before a main study to answer the guestion "Can this study be done?"

- Do not evaluate the outcome of interest
- Need not have a primary outcome

To estimate **important** parameters that are needed to design the main study e.g. SD of primary outcome measure

Eldridge et al. Pilot and Feasibility Studies (2016) 2:64

Pilot and Feasibility Studies

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CONSORT 2010 statement: extension to randomised pilot and feasibility trials

Sandra M. Eldridge^{1*}, Claire L. Chan¹, Michael J. Campbell², Christine M. Bond³, Sally Hopewell⁴, Lehana Thabane⁵, Gillian A. Lancaster⁶ and on behalf of the PAFS consensus group

Criteria for success need to be clear (Thabane et al, 2010)

> **Pilot** studies

processes of the main study

For example, to ensure that recruitment, randomisation, treatment, and follow-up assessments all run smoothly

 Any testing of an intervention needs to be reported cautiously i.e. descriptively

Focused on the Internal or external pilot

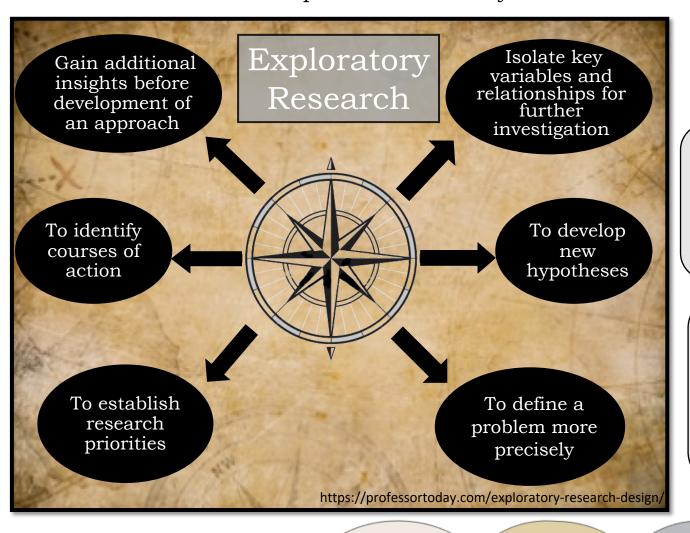
 Resembles the main study in many respects, including randomisation and assessment of the primary outcome





Exploratory studies using interviews or focus groups: Lenerdene Levesque

AIM: To prepare the groundwork for descriptive research questions; generate explanatory research in uncharted territories; shed light upon topics that have not yet been described in detail.(Sims J, Wright C 2000)



Approaches to Conducting Exploratory Studies

Scoping, Narrative or Systematic Reviews To lead to new hypotheses or research priorities Focus Groups
Nominal Group Technique
(Van de Ven, Delbecq 1972)

Interviews
Structured / unstructured

Clinician Surveys or End-user Surveys To capture experiences, perspectives, beliefs and attitudes

longitudinal
observational
To explore several different
potential correlations
without defining any a
priori hypothesis

Cross sectional/

Data Analysis (Cote L, Turgeon J 2005)

Transcribing interview material

Reading material several times Selecting units of meaning

Identifying general themes

Categorizing classifying data





Debate of experiences of the barriers and facilitators to achievement of the research project requirement of OMPT programs



Useful resource

- IFOMPT recommendations regarding the research project component of OMPT programs (IFOMPT Standards Committee, 2017)
- http://www.ifompt.org/site/ifompt/IFOMPT_research_project_guidance_MOs.pdf



Conclusions

- Need to find the right approach for individual programs
- Standards Committee available as a resource
- Work to overcome barriers
- To realise benefits

• i.e. results and dissemination!



