

The suitability of Narrative Inquiry in health research

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The suitability of Narrative Inquiry in health research

- Narrative inquiry is an emerging methodology in nursing
- Differences in collecting and presenting data hinders the understanding and NI is judged as an undependable 'novel'
- Used, and accepted, in sociology and education research
(Riessman, 1993; Polkinghorne, 1995; Clandinin & Connelly, 2000)
- Given the increasing popularity of narrative inquiry and the ubiquity of narratives as such, it is not surprising that there exists a multitude of definitions of the concept.



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The suitability of Narrative Inquiry in health research

Narrative inquiry

- uses field texts, such as stories, journals, field notes, letters, conversations, interviews, photos as the foundation of analysis to research
- explore the way people create meaning in their lives as narratives
- Explore how narrative changes with time, social settings and location



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- We, as human beings, describe our experiences and realities narratively.
- We explore and comprehend events by telling and listening to stories, we dream narratively - people live narrative lives. (Clandinin, 2013)
- Thus, the illness trajectory can be seen as a narrative.
- A classic narrative has beginning (normal life) - an event (an illness, acute or chronic) and an end (a 'new' normal life).



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- Patients storytelling support their understating of their illness
- Narrative inquiry include the researcher as a participant with a mutual relationship between the researcher and patient.
- This builds trust and nurtures a deeper mutual understanding, revealing details not accessible in an interview.



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- Prof. Donald E Polkinghorne School of psychology (Narrative Knowing and the Human Sciences, 1988)
- Prof. Catherine Kohler Riessman Department of sociology (Narrative Analysis, 1993)
- Prof. Barbara Czarniawska School of business (Narratives in Social Science Research, 2004)
- Prof. Michael Connelly and Prof. Jean Clandinin (Narrative Inquiry: Experience and Story in Qualitative Research, 2000)
- Prof. Jean Clandinin (Engaging in Narrative Inquiry, 2013)
- Prof. Margaret Sandelowski School of nursing



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- Clandinin and Connelly make a good case for narrative as epistemological stance, research methodology, and scholarly discourse—all uniquely capable of "getting at" the content of human lives.
- Narrative captures and investigates experiences as human beings live them in time, in space, in person, and in relationship.
- three-dimensional inquiry space; the temporal, the spatial, and the personal-social.



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- Patients storytelling support their understating of their illness and narrative inquiry include the researcher as a participant with a mutual relationship between the researcher and patient. This builds trust and nurtures a deeper mutual understanding, revealing details not accessible in an interview.

(Clandinin, 2013)



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- The presentation of collected data narratively as collaboration between researcher and patient create a narrative that are informal to read but hold a true and deep understanding of the patients' experience.

(Clandinin, 2013)

- Narrative inquiry with its relational data collection and informal presentation may well encourage nursing colleagues to become more engaged in research participation.



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- Is it time to think of the reader of research?
- For whom are we researching?
- Narrative Inquiry presents research in a form that is understandable for individuals that are not used to academic writing



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Questions
and
Curiosities?

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