Research methods

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**Introduction**

In nursing practice research an essential factor in healthcare provision. It is important to understand questions formulation and identification. This paper, therefore, investigates the types of research questions in different health and nursing practice. It analyzes different case studies to identify the type of research question and it can be applied in nursing practice. It is applied to identify whether the research questions are related to PICOT, the question for practice change project, and background question.

**Scenario one**

The question is “In children under the age of 10 diagnosed with asthma, was Tylenol or ibuprofen used to treat fever in the first three years of life?”This question can be regarded as a background question of the study. According to Livingstone (2019), the background question is mostly concern about the root question and the problems. It focuses on normal human physiology and pathophysiology, which are linked to the medical condition. And most background questions can be well answered by textbooks. The question is regarded as background question because it illustrates the medical condition of children under the age of 10 years, who are diagnosed by asthma, and whether Tylenol and ibuprofen were used to treat fever children suffering from asthma (Livingstone, 2019). This question can be best answered by textbook since the questions touch on the diseases a mode of treatment of symptoms of that particular disease. It is, therefore, important to state that the question is background question.

**Scenario two**

The question is “In patients with type 2 diabetes attending XYZ clinic, how does having both the patient and the significant other complete the PhQ-9 about the patient’s mood compared to having only the patient complete the tool predict a score indicating depression?” The question is a question for practice change project because of its evidence to indicate that PhQ9 affects the mood of type 2 diabetes. The question for practice change project is an evidence-based practice question, which is used to solve a problem in order to delivery healthcare provision. It is being to evaluate a process and the effect of a healthcare problem such as diabetes. In this scenario, the impact of type 2 diabetes attending XYZ is tested whether it can result in depression. The research question, in this case, is answered through the quantitative research method where a test is done and analysis of the impact is done as well to establish its correlations. The question is also used to establish a change in clinical practice, which is being investigated in the second scenario (McAllen, Stephens, Swanson-Biearman, Kerr, & Whiteman, 2018). It also focuses on introducing change and therefore, the question is practice change project because it is trying to establish the change in the way Type 2 diabetes is addressed.

**Scenario three**

The question "In males between the ages of 15 and 35 do testicular self-exams compared to no exams affect early detection of testicular cancers within one year,” is a PICOT question. PICOT means population, intervention, comparison, outcome and time. The population which the question is trying to address is male aged between 15 and 35 years. It also compares whether the self-exams of testicular and the effect of early detection of testicular cancer. It means that investigating the intervention methods of testicular cancer. It went further to compare early detection and self-examination as some of the techniques for preventing testicular cancer. It also discusses the risk associated with testicular cancer among male in society and illustrates some outcome (Riva, Keshena, & Stephen, 2012, p. 34). Therefore, the question is regarded as a PICOT question since it investigates healthcare concern within a given population and derives measures, which should be adopted to address the problem.

# References

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