Informing the development of NICE (National Institute for Health and Care Excellence) quality standards through secondary analysis of qualitative narrative interviews on patients' experiences


Record Status
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Citation

Authors' objectives
(1) To conduct qualitative secondary analysis (of collections of narrative interviews) to identify common, core components of patients' experiences of the NHS. (2) To test these candidate components with (i) further purposive sampling of the interview collections and (ii) a series of focus groups with users. (3) To embed the project alongside the development of NICE clinical guidelines and quality standards. (4) To inform the development of measurement tools on patients' experiences. (5) To develop and share resources and skills for secondary analysis of qualitative health research.

Authors' conclusions
We compared the perspectives about what is most valued in health care between people with different health conditions. They were in agreement, even though their experiences of health-care relationships varied enormously. With regard to the NICE clinical guideline and quality standard development process, the usual source of evidence is published qualitative or quantitative research. Unpublished secondary analysis of qualitative data did not fit the usual criteria for evidence. We suggest that targeted secondary analysis of qualitative data has more potential when the qualitative literature is sparse, unclear or contradictory. Further work might include further testing of the identified core components in other patient groups and health conditions, and collaboration with NICE technical teams to establish whether or not it is possible to identify areas of patient experience research where targeted secondary analyses have potential to add to a qualitative literature synthesis.

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