



## The NIHR Research Design Service for the East of England

### Qualitative Research Guidance

#### Key texts

Green J & Thorogood N (2004) *Qualitative methods for health research*. London : Sage Publications

The most accessible qualitative method is the framework approach which is described in:

Ritchie J & Spencer L (1994) Qualitative data analysis for applied policy research. In *Analysing Qualitative Data*, pp. 173–194 [A Bryman and RG Burgess, editors]. London: Routledge.

*There are some qualitative methods that are specifically aimed at particular professions. Interpretive Phenomenological Analysis (IPA) emerged from Psychology and is often well-suited to psychological qualitative research. For details, see:*

Smith, JA (ed) (2003) *Qualitative psychology: a practical guide to research methods*. London: Sage.

*For a good introduction to grounded theory see:*

Strauss, A & Corbin, J (1998) *Basics of qualitative research: techniques and procedures for developing grounded theory*.

*The BMJ has published a number of articles relating to qualitative research, all of which are very accessible and can be accessed on-line. See for example:*

Pope C & Mays N (1995) Qualitative Research: Reaching the parts other methods cannot reach: an introduction to qualitative methods in health and health services research. *BMJ*; 311: 42 – 45,

Meyer J (2000) Qualitative research in health care: Using qualitative methods in health related action research. *BMJ*; 320: 178 - 181

Pope C, Ziebland S & Mays N (2000) Qualitative research in health care: Analysing qualitative data. *BMJ*; 320: 114 - 116;

Reeves S, Kuper A & Hodges BD (2008) Qualitative research methodologies: ethnography. *BMJ*; 337,

Reeves S, Albert M, Kuper A, & Hodges BD (2008) Why use theories in qualitative research? *BMJ*;337:a949,