

iCAHE JC Critical Appraisal Summary

Journal Club Details

Journal Club	Modbury Hospital
JC Facilitator	Nikki Pelliccia
JC Discipline	Occupational Therapy

Clinical Scenario

'What are the most effective occupational therapy cognitive assessments to use in an acute hospital setting for safe discharge planning?'

Review Question/PICO/PECO

- P patients in an acute hospital setting
- E occupational therapy cognitive assessments
- C n/a
- O safe discharge planning

Article/Paper

Crennan M and MacRae A (2010) "Occupational therapy discharge assessment of elderly patients from acute care hospitals" *Physical and Occupational Therapy in Geriatrics*, 28(1):33-43.

Please note: due to copyright regulations CAHE is unable to supply a copy of the critically appraised paper/article. If you are an employee of the South Australian government you can obtain a copy of articles from the [DOHSA librarian](#).

Article Methodology: Mixed Methods

Journal Club Meeting on: 19 June 2013



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Ques No.	Yes	Can't Tell	No	Comments
1	✓			<p>Is there a clear qualitative and/or quantitative research question (or research objective)?</p> <p>The objectives of the study were explicitly reported in the section 'Review of the literature.' (p.34)</p> <p>The objectives of the study were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To identify effective assessment tools used in the assessment of elderly patient discharge in acute care 2. To determine if and how occupational therapists follow client-centred practice in discharge assessment 3. To identify how occupational therapists use clinical reasoning skills to determine a discharge plan
2	✓			<p>Do the collected data allow answering (meeting) the research question (objective)</p> <p>Further quality appraisal may not be feasible when the answer is 'No' or 'Can't tell' to one or both questions.</p>
QUALITATIVE				
3	✓			<p>Do the data sources, e.g., participants, allow answering (meeting) the research question (objective)?</p> <p>The participants were occupational therapists who work different units of an acute care hospital.</p>
4		✓		<p>Does the process for analysing qualitative data allow answering (meeting) the research question (objective)?</p> <p>The interview data were integrated with data from the survey questionnaire. They were then coded and organised according to main themes and sub-themes.</p> <p>The information about the analytic process was very limited (there was no information on how the codes, themes and subthemes were identified).</p>
5	✓			<p>Is appropriate consideration given to how findings relate to the context, e.g., the setting, in which the data were collected?</p> <p>The data were collected from occupational therapists working in different areas (cardiac, neurological, orthopaedic, medical units) of a tertiary care acute care hospital.</p>

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6				<p><i>Is appropriate consideration given to how findings relate to researchers' influence, e.g., through their interactions with participants?</i></p> <p>There was no information about the authors (and their relationship to participants) that will allow readers to determine whether or not the findings have been influenced by their personal biases or relationships with participants. (Example: We don't know whether the participants in the study were subordinates or colleagues of the authors; whether the participants were known to the authors)</p>
QUANTITATIVE				
7			✓	<p><i>Does the sampling strategy allow answering the research question?</i></p> <p>Convenience sampling was used to select participants for the study. In this type of sampling, people are sampled because they are 'convenient' (easy to access) sources of data to the researchers. While the cost and time required to undertake this study is less compared to other sampling techniques, the sample is unlikely to be representative of the population being studied.</p>
8			✓	<p><i>Is the sample representative of the population understudy?</i></p> <p>Same as above</p>
9		✓		<p><i>Are measurements appropriate (clear origin, or validity known, or standard instrument)?</i></p> <p>There was no information about the questionnaire---its development and whether it was validated or not.</p>
10			✓	<p><i>Is there an acceptable response rate (60% or above)?</i></p> <p>There were only 10 participants in the study, and all of them were recruited from the same hospital.</p>
MIXED METHODS				
11			✓	<p><i>Does the mixed methods research design allow answering (meeting) the research question (objective)?</i></p> <p><i>Does the integration of qualitative and quantitative data (or results) allow answering (meeting) the research question (objective)?*</i></p> <p>The use of mixed methods design and the integration of results from each approach would have addressed the research questions in more detail and depth than if a single method was used. However, because of the limited information provided in the methods section, it is not clear whether strategies have been put in place to ensure rigour of both methods.</p>

12		✓	<p><i>Is appropriate consideration given to the limitations associated with this integration, e.g., the divergence of qualitative and quantitative data (or results) in a triangulation design?</i></p> <p>It is not clear whether the results of the quantitative part were all congruent with the findings from the qualitative study, or whether there were divergent findings from each design.</p>
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