by Victoria Lind -

1. **What type of qualitative approach did the researcher use?**

The research utilized a phenomenological approach. The phenomenological approach involves developing the meaning of human experience through exhaustive discussions with people who live a particular experience (Lobiondo, 2006, p 121). For example, the researchers constructed the meaning of the difficulties experienced by heart failure patients based on the perceptions of 17 heart failure patients.

**2. What type of sampling method did the researcher use? Is it appropriate for the study?**

The sampling method used in the research involved subjecting the participants to an interview. Patients who had been diagnosed with heart failure three months before the research were included. However, those who experienced an acute crisis or failed to speak Norwegian were excluded from the final sample (Nordfonn et al., 1784). Although only 17 participants made up the final sample, the sampling method utilized was appropriate because it ensured that only participants with heart failure participated in the research.

**3. Was the data collection focused on human experiences?**

Yes, data collection focused on human experiences. First, the researchers sought to understand the emotional experiences of the 17 participants. The emotional experiences of the 17 participants were grouped into four categories; a new life situation, monitoring body signals, difficult transitions, and feelings of guilt. The researchers argue that the four categories represent the significant trials experienced by people who have been diagnosed with heart failure (Nordfonn et al., 1787).

**4. Was issues of protection of human subjects addressed?**

The researchers extensively addressed issues of the protection of human subjects. Written and verbal consent was obtained from all the participants, and the researchers guaranteed their anonymity. Data collected from the interviews and audio recordings were only available to one of the researchers. Notably, the researchers sought ethical permission from the Norwegian Regional Committee for Medical and Health Research Ethics before interviewing the participants (Nordfonn et al., 1785).

**5. Did the researcher describe data saturation?**

While conducting research, data saturation occurs when the data being shared with the researcher becomes repetitive (Lobiondo, 2006, p121). The researchers did not describe data saturation, but they classified responses that seem repetitive into two broad themes; emotional challenges and troublesome self-care. The classification of repetitive data into groups ensures that the impacts of specific responses are not overstated or understated. In addition, data collection was done using semi-structured interviews, and the same interviewer did all the interviews ensuring authenticity by making prolonged engagements. Further to that, the interviewer was an experienced nurse who could relate to previous experiences—this ensured data saturation in the research.

6**. What procedure for collecting data did the researcher use?**

The researchers used a simple but efficient procedure to collect data. Data was primarily collected using semi-structured audiotaped interviews that lasted for 30 to 90 minutes. The interview questions were specific and broad and were modified during the interview to clarify some aspects of the data (Nordfonn et al., 1785). The open-ended nature of the interview questions is reflected in the broad responses that the researchers gathered. The researcher first defined the population from which samples were to be collected through a systematic procedure.

**7. What strategies did the researcher use to analyze the data?**

 Systematic text condensation (STC) was the primary strategy that the researchers used to analyze data. STC consists of four phases and is essential in identifying themes, organizing themes in a hierarchical thematic structure, and synthesizing the identified themes. The audiotapes were transcribed and translated before being stored in the computer software program NVivo 11. The researchers indicate that they used NVivo 11 because it allowed them to utilize a more systematic analytical approach during the analysis stage (Nordfonn et al., 1786). The four phases of the STC strategy are: obtaining an overview and preliminary themes, generating themes and subthemes, organizing participants' quotations in a hierarchical structure, and synthesizing the main themes.

**8. Does the researcher address credibility (can you appreciate the truth of the patient's experience), auditability (can you follow the researcher's thinking, does the research document the research process) and fittingness are the results meaningful, is analysis strategy compatible with the purpose of the study) of the data?**

It is universally acknowledged that managing heart failure is a daunting task. The research captures this aspect by presenting genuine perceptions of heart failure patients. However, it is not easy to follow the research process, especially data collection, because the participants were not labeled or marked. Nevertheless, the research findings are meaningful, especially to medical providers who care for heart failure patients. Furthermore, the research procedure is in general agreement with the expectations and predefined research design, which makes it compatible with the study's objective.

**9. What is your cosmic question?**

How does the phenomenological method assist in the presentation and clarity of data in qualitative research?

**by Bria Anderson**

**1. What type of qualitative approach did the researcher use?** The qualitative approach used was conventional qualitative data analysis approaches were used in this investigative research study. There are different examples of qualitative research "one-on-one" interviews but this is one of the most common research methods. This method helps to gather concrete information (Qualitative Research: Definition, Types, Methods and Examples 2021). These interviews were conducted by recording and verbatim, and also used with a transcription service. There was a codebook that was also used, that has to do with attitudes, subjective norms, perceptions of control and other information. The code went deeper as to AA and 2 AB participants transcriptions were used to deepen the code. This was performed by a professional well versed in qualitative research coding (Fabiyi, C., Peacock, N., Hebert-Beirne, J. et al.,2016).

2. **What type of sampling method did the researcher use?** Is it appropriate for the study? The sampling method used was semi-structured interviews taken in their homes and public places. The sampling consisted of 20 women, half of African American decent and half of African-born decent. This study was based out of Ohio, and they provided information on their infant feeding habits. This study investigated social norms, breastfeeding discouragement, initiating breastfeeding and how long. There are criteria that the women must meet, 18 years and older, a baby no older than the age of at the time of the interview, being of Caribbean/Afro, African-born, or African American decent, English speaking, and a associates degree or middle income status (Fabiyi, C., Peacock, N., Hebert-Beirne, J. et al.,2016).

3. **Was the data collection focused on human experiences?** The data collected was based on human experiences, how they feed and care for their children based on their ethnicity and backgrounds. It was based on the choice of bottle feeding or breast feeding and how the babies fared based on their choice. The researcher and interviewer became familiar with certain events the family attended and was used to build trust with the subject (Fabiyi, C., Peacock, N., Hebert-Beirne, J. et al.,2016). This also facilitated a rapport and a way to express their stories and tell how they feel.

4. **Was issues of protection of human subjects addressed?** Yes, the protection was discussed. Prior to every interview there was a form signed to express the agreement of their information. The participants were also awarded a 20$ gift card at the completion of the study. The interview lasted about 40 mins- 1 and a half hours. It was audio recorded, and also the verbal and social cues were noted, this was included in a transcript to aid in the data collection (Fabiyi, C., Peacock, N., Hebert-Beirne, J. et al.,2016).

5. **Did the researcher describe data saturation**? Data saturation is used for estimating and assessed the sample sizes. This wasn't included in the study.

6. **What procedure for collecting data did the researcher use?** The researcher used the interview method of data collection. The researcher used semi-structured interviews with a sample of subjects. And it was conducted at places familiar and relaxed to the subject i.e. their home and other public spaces. It included core questions (5), and one intro question, and that addressed their experiences and their views. The interview was adapted from questions used in prior research (Fabiyi, C., Peacock, N., Hebert-Beirne, J. et al.,2016).

7. **What strategies did the researcher use to analyze the data?** The researcher had a code, and also recorded the conversations with consent and had them transcribed. There was also another qualitative researcher brought on with extensive background on codes for this type of research.

**8. Does the researcher address credibility (can you appreciate the truth of the patient's experience), auditability (can you follow the researcher's thinking, does the research document the research process) and fittingness are the results meaningful, is analysis strategy compatible with the purpose of the study) of the data?**

Credibility - the researcher are great at being credible. They recorded conversations, and transcribed them to keep credibility.

Auditability- I am able to follow the abstract and all of the steps and their purpose for this study. I am able to see the feelings of the moms and the influences and reasonings for the choice. They touched on lifestyle and background in this study.

Fittingness- It is meaningful it gives insight to working mothers, and how time management and financial attributes as well as cultural contribute to their decisions.

**9. What is your cosmic question? (This is a question you ask your peers to respond to based on the chapter discussed in class this week i.e. Qualitative studies).**

What are other ways researchers are able to collect and analyze data using this approach?