# Study designs and the PhD

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Your "thesis" should have a logical structure and flow



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What is your mental landscape of study designs?



## Types of integrated study designs

#### **Basic designs**

- Exploratory sequential
- Explanatory sequential
- Convergent

#### Advanced designs

- Multistage
- Intervention
- Case study
- Participatory action research

Fetters MD, Curry LA, Creswell JW. Achieving integration in mixed methods designs—principles and practices. Health services research. 2013 Dec;48(6pt2):2134-56.

### Exploratory sequential



- Develop a classification or typology for testing quantitatively
- To identify variables to study quantitatively in a survey
- To develop a theory or model and then test it later
- To develop and validate an instrument

### Explanatory sequential



- To explain quantitative results in more depth
- To identify appropriate individuals to study in more depth

#### Convergent



- To acquire quantitative numbers with qualitative details
- To validate or explain quantitative findings with qualitative data simultaneously
- Survey with closed and open questions

#### Multistage



Explanatory sequential Exploratory sequential

- Multiple stages (more stages than basic design)
- May include basic designs within the stages

#### Implementation matrix

- An implementation matrix is a table or a figure used to illustrate an overview of your mixed methods project to illustrate to others in a concise way your precise research plan
- Simplifies and explains complexity
- Allows readers, funders and examiners to see the big picture

To evaluate the quality of service delivery in primary care facilities in the private sector in Nairobi, Kenya. Objectives include:

- To evaluate the accessibility of PC services.
- 2. To evaluate the continuity of care in PC services.
- To evaluate the comprehensiveness of care in PC services.
- 4. To evaluate the coordination of care in PC services.
- 5. To evaluate the personcentredness of PC services.

Objectives	Descriptive cross-sectional surveys					
	Study 1	Study 2	Study 3	Study 4	Study 5	
First-contact accessibility		Yes		Yes		
Continuity		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Comprehensiveness	Yes			Yes	Yes	
Coordination			Yes	Yes		
Person-centredness		Yes	Yes			

The overall aim of this study is to identify the risk factors related to the use of, and addiction to nyaope in the Tshwane district. The objectives of the study include the following:

- To explore the perspective of community members on the risk factors underlying the use of, and addiction to nyaope;
- To explore the perspective of family and household members living with nyaope users on the risk factors related to nyaope use and addiction;
- 3. To explore reasons for the use of, and addiction to nyaope among users;
- 4. To determine the association between the identified risk factors and the use and addiction to nyaope.

An exploration of the perspective of family and household members living with nyaope users on the risk factors related to nyaope use and addiction: qualitative study

An exploration of the

perspective of community

members on the risk

factors underlying the use

of, and addiction to

nyaope: qualitative study

Identification of the association between the identified risk factors and the use and addiction to nyaope: quantitative study An exploration of the reasons for the use of, and addiction to nyaope among users: qualitatative study.

The aim of this study was to develop and evaluate an appropriate home-based stroke rehabilitation program for the HCBC platform in the Cape Winelands District of the Western Cape.



ADDIE model

PAR cycle

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Study stage	Steps of the ADDIE model	Procedures		Products		
Stage 1	Analyse	Longitudinal survey (Scheffler & Mash 2019)		Demographic and socioeconomic profile, including living conditions and education Function and independence Caregiver strain Patient and caregiver satisfaction with services Acute and primary care services received		
Stage 2	Analyse	Qualitative descriptive exploratory study (Scheffler & Mash 2020)		Perceived needs of stroke survivors, caregivers and community health workers		
Stage 3	Analyse	Participatory action	Planning	Design and develop training programme and resources (Scheffler & Mash 2023)		
	Design	research using cooperative inquiry				
	Develop	····				
	Implement		Action	Pilot training programme and evaluate outcomes		
	Evaluate		Observation			
			Reflection			

**TABLE 1**: Overview of the multistage study, procedures and results integrated with the steps of the analyse, design, develop, implement, evaluate model.

## Questions/discussion