

‘Managing qualitative data for health research: a case study.
Health Experiences Research Group, University of Oxford’

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Who we are



Health Experiences
Research Group

DEPARTMENT OF
PRIMARY HEALTH CARE



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[ABOUT](#)

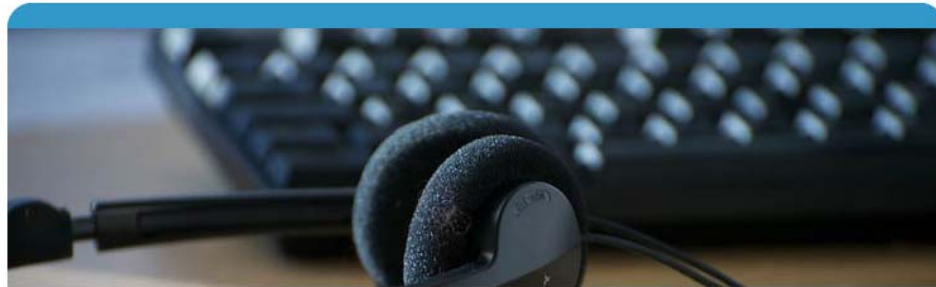
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Welcome to the Health Experiences Research Group

Health Experiences Research Group is a flagship programme of work in the Department of Primary Healthcare at the University of Oxford. We research people's experiences of health and illness; we record one-to-one qualitative interviews with people about what it's like to live with a range of medical conditions including cancer, heart failure & autism, and publish findings on www.healthtalkonline.org and www.youthhealthtalk.org.

LATEST POSTS

Engaging with sleep: male definitions, understandings and...

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Unruly bodies and couple's sleep

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OUR TEAM

Our team members are funded to research a specific health condition. So far we cover 60 different conditions, which are now featured on [healthtalkonline](http://healthtalkonline.org) and [youthhealthtalk](http://youthhealthtalk.org).

[More >>](#)

OUR WORK

We invite people to tell us their story, so that their experiences can help others in similar situations and provide vital feedback which might otherwise be lost.

[More >>](#)

TRAINING COURSES

HERG is a flagship programme of work within international qualitative health research. We offer a number of professional training courses. Click below for more information.

[More >>](#)

What does HERG do?

- Award-winning websites - Healthtalkonline & Youthhealthtalk
- Based on qualitative research studies of health experiences (over 60 covered so far)
- Cancers, mental health, chronic health issues, intensive care, screening, heart disease, bones and joints, autism, medical research, young people and women's health
- Free to patients and the public, families & health professionals

Search...

Search

- See all conditions
- Cancer
- Nerves & brain
- Mental health
- Dying & bereavement
- Chronic health issues
- Intensive care
- Heart disease
- Bones & joints
- Pregnancy & children
- Carers
- Autism
- Medical research
- Later life
- Young people
- Women's health



“True stories are...nutritious and sustaining. They feed the mind with information and the heart with hope and strength..”

Philip Pullman



People's stories: see, hear and read their experiences...

Healthtalkonline is the award-winning website of the DIPEx charity and replaces the website formerly at dipex.org. Healthtalkonline lets you share in more than 2,000 people's experiences of health and illness. You can watch or listen to videos of the interviews, read about people's experiences and find reliable information about conditions, treatment choices and support.



The information on Healthtalkonline is based on qualitative research into patient experiences, led by experts at the University of Oxford. These personal stories of health and illness will enable patients, families and healthcare professionals to benefit from the experiences of others. For more information on a particular condition, please click on one of the links to the left.

How to use this site...

Like 213



youth healthtalk



Search...

 Youth Health Talk
on Facebook

 Like

141 people like Youth Health Talk.

 Natalie
 Viv
 Steve

 Facebook social plugin

Welcome to **Youthhealthtalk!**

This is a website about young people's real life experiences of health and lifestyle. This is not just a website about the medical facts, this is about **real people** and real lives.

Watch, listen and read young people talking about their experiences, and feel free to join in the forums.



Forum

Epilepsy

Teenage Cancer

Sexual Health

Diabetes type 1

Long term health conditions

Health and weight

Depression and low mood

Join
My youth healthtalk

You could win an iPod touch!

Want to be interviewed?

Click here to see who our researchers are looking for



Who is Healthtalkonline aimed at?

- Patients at all stages of their illness journey
- Patients' family and friends
- Teachers
- Health professionals
- Policy makers
- Researchers

Privacy and dignity

See and hear
people's real-life
experiences of
health and illness...



What do I do?

- Research Delivery Project Manager
- Scheduling projects – time management
- Training the researchers - systems, handbook, equipment, troubleshooting
- Data management and archiving
- Progress checks and meetings and copyediting all the delivered material ready for the website
- Updating websites – Information Standard

Project Management

- Currently have 61 projects published on Healthtalkonline & Youthhealthtalk websites
- 20 other projects in various stages which will deliver in the next 2 years
- 10 sites to be updated by the end of 2011

What data do we collect?

- Audio/ video interview (written interviews are still audio recorded for transcription)
- Transcripts of interviews
- Biographical details of the interviewee
- Contact details
- Consent and copyright forms

Data Archive

- 2500 interviews 80% of which are video or audio recordings
- Over 3000 hours of video/audio material
- Over 2500 transcripts, consent forms, copyright forms and biographical details.

How do we manage the data?

- Ethics requirements?
- Data protection requirements?

Ethics

- Our ethics state that all data must be kept in locked filing cabinets in a locked room
- Interviews are identified just by their interview number. Names and address are not stored with the interview transcript or biographical data.

Data Protection

- Electronic files with interviewee names & addresses are in password protected documents on a password protected drive only accessible to the research group
- List of what data is kept and where it is located which is used for auditing purposes or enquires.
- Response with 24 hours.

Systems - how & where to store the data

- Computer filing systems – what should be stored, where and who can change what
- Training the researchers on the systems
- Saving names and interview number separately
- Data storage - tape or digital – 2 copy system – who has access and who does the copying
- Paper work- Interviewee's details, consent forms, copyright forms. How and where to store them

Equipment- don't forget to budget!

- Storage equipment/ Space
- Hard drives or tapes for video storage
- Backup equipment?

Long term access to the data

- Electronic files – University maintained and backed up
- Digital copies of interviews - hardware replaced every 3 years
- Non digital interviews- clips on website backed up and hardware replaced every 3 years
- Programme of digitising old interviews.

Challenges?

- Long term access
- Making management understand the importance of maintaining a useable archive
- Time – manpower
- Cost
- Moving offices