Choosing treatment for localised prostate cancer: a patient-conducted-interview study

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Participants have a role in the processes of the research:
- Learn interview techniques
- Devise an interview schedule
- Conduct an interview
- or are interviewed

Bringing together researchers and participants should build alliances:
- Participants better understand the complexities of research
- Participants more likely to engage with the study findings

The production of a data ‘set’ allows for:
- Analysis and re-/secondary analysis
- A formal set of conclusions and recommendations for use in practice
- Conducting the interviews over a single day allows for:
  - A repeatable method
  - Resources focused on data collection rather than managing long processes of participation
  - Greater generalisability
  - Focus on under-represented groups

Communicative rationality
- Propositional truth
- Normative value

Inter-subjective rationality
- Multiple contested truths
- Hegemonic value

Action rationality
- Essential truth
- Positive value

Communal autonomy
- Patriotism
- National self-determination
- Sense of common ideals

Plural autonomy
- Group identities, interests, and beliefs
- Differences between groups

Individual autonomy
- Individual independence
- Freedom to choose or to opt out

Methods focus on processes to ensure that individuals are ‘involved’ through discussion, learning and decision making (although institutions rarely commit to such decisions)
- Citizen juries
- Planning cells
- Consensus conferences
- Citizen panels
- Deliberative polling

Methods usually adjunct to studies (particularly for dissemination), which recognise and bring together interest groups. Additionally, these methods may be used as a campaigning process to produce influence through the production of agreed statements or the alliance of interest groups.
- Advisory groups
- Expert symposia
- Researcher-participant groups

Methods focus on equality of involvement (representativeness)
- Large scale (internet, telephone and mail) surveys
- Interview-administered surveys