

Using national CORC norms to inform service evaluations and clinical audits

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Collaborating to improve quality through outcomes

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“Cultures of enterprise” (thoughts from John Raven)

“... one person notes defects in a product or service. Another knows how to publicise that defect. Another how to set up a network that can invent ways of doing something about it. Another how to attract funding for the necessary development work... and so forth. Such diverse, and largely invisible, abilities amount to a major component in occupational competence.”

True or false?

- Clinical audits and service evaluations don't require ethics approval
- If you use a statistical test, then it's research
- If you use psychological theory, then it's research

A useful document

NHS
National Patient Safety Agency
National Research Ethics Service

Defining Research

NRES guidance to help you decide
if your project requires review by
a Research Ethics Committee



<http://www.nres.nhs.uk/applications/is-your-project-research/>

What *evaluations and audits* have in common

- Involve an intervention in use only
- Don't affect allocation to intervention
- No randomisation
- Usually analyses of existing data
- May include interviews or questionnaires
- Not trying to “derive generalizable new knowledge”
- Research Ethics Committee (REC) review not required

Differences

Service Evaluation	Clinical Audit
Define or judge current care	Produce information to inform delivery of best care
“What standard does this service achieve?”	“Does this service reach a predetermined standard?”
Measures current service without reference to a standard	Measures against a standard

What about service development or quality improvement?

Footnote: “may fall into [service evaluation]”

If you're unsure...

“... seek advice from **your R&D office** in the first instance.”

“If after seeking R&D advice you require further advice from NRES, please email an A4 summary (one side only) outlining your proposal to the **Chair of a REC** or **our Queries Line.**”

What if you're not in an NHS context?

bacp

British Association for
Counselling & Psychotherapy

Ethical guidelines for researching counselling and psychotherapy

Tim Bond

"Research is taken to include systematic monitoring and evaluation of services, as well as small and large-scale academically-based studies of issues related to counselling and psychotherapy."

How can CORC Central help?

- Advise on appropriate statistical analyses
- Provide analysis of CORC data
- Adapt/supplement annual CORC reports to answer specific questions

Example all-CORC analysis requests

- Percentages for CHI-ESQ item responses
- T1 and T2 SDQ subscale scores for Asperger's, ADHD, ASD, Anxiety, OCD and Moderate LD cases, aged 16 or above
- T2 return rates for SDQ, CGAS, Goals, and CHI-ESQ
- T1 and T2 SDQ scores
- Percentage of young people in each of the SDQ diagnostic bands at T1
- T1 to T2 change on the SDQ self-report total difficulties
- How many appointments do people attend with emotion problems compared to eating disorders

Small group discussion...

- What aspect of your service would you like to understand better?
- How would a comparison with national data help with this?