# THE FUTURE OF OUALITATIVE RESEARCH IN HEALTHCARE

The Role and Management of Digital Methods

EDITED BY Paul M.W. Hackett, Christopher M. Hayre, Dave J. Muller, Marcia Scherer and Ava Gordley-Smith

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viii	Contenta			
	Virtual Interviewing in the Age of Covid-19: Considerations for Qualitative Research <i>Charles Edmand Degenefic</i>	107		
9	Minimizing the Impact Technology Has on Interviewer- Interviewee Rapport: An Existential-Phenomenological Analysis Patrick M. Whitehaad and Gary Senreal	125		
10	Participatory and Invasive Online Worlds: Exploring the Research	h		
	Method of Qualitative Digital Ethnography Adele Phillips and Shane Blackman	141	141	
#1	Using Online Survey Tools to Improve Access to International Experts: The 'E-Delphi' Georgina Clutterbuck	161		
12	Refining Interview Protocols for Online Interviews on the Employment of Persons with Down Syndrome: Insights from a Pilot Test Md Missmar Rahman, Abg Sofhan, Sharifa Ezat, Restasham Safit, Ober Yoke Yong, Rualia Saiman, and Ting Churng Hock	uls		
33	Technology-Aided Programs to Support Leisure, Communication, and Daily Activities in People with Intellectual and Multiple Disabilities Gialie E. Lanssont, Niebbay N. Singh, Mark F. O'Reilly, Jeff Signfon, and Gloria Alberti	118		
14	Virtual Qualitative Data Collection: A South African Autoethnographic Perspective Shanard Leucis, Charlene Documing, and Christopher M. Hayne	238		
	Afreerwoord Paul M. W. Hackett, Christopher M. Hayte, Ava Gardley-Smith, Marcia Scherer and Dave J. Muller	271		
Ind	lei	258		

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xii:

#### CHAPTER 12

### Refining Interview Protocols for Online Interviews on the Employment of Persons with Down Syndrome Insights from a Pilot Test

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#### Introduction

Currently, it is estimated that 15% of the world population, or about one billion people, are people with disabilities (PWD) (The World Bank, 1011). Employment is crucial to PWDs. It provides the prospect of forging meaningful social relationships, consolidating and elevating social status, establishingpolitical standing, and ultimately earning an income to have a better lifestyle for themselves (Jameson, 2000). In addition to providing an income for better life circumstances, employment enhances the quality of life of PWDs by providing a meaningful sense of identity, independence, contribution, and belonging and establishing new relationships and interests (Emerson et al., 1011). Consequently, PWDs are often keen to participate in community growth and become financially independent (Waterhouse et al., 2010). However, in Malaysia, PWDs have notably higher unemployment rates compared to people with no disability (Ang. 2017). Various studies have demonstrated barriers to employment for PWDs in general (Ang, 2017) Frawr et al., 2011; Houtenville & Kalangyrou, 2022; Schur et al., 2017; Shier et al., 2009; Sundat et al., 2018; Ta & Leng. 1013). Nevertheless, there is a lack of studies that examine barriers specific to people with Down syndrome (PDS). The existing data often include PDS as part of the larger group of PWDs or people with intellectual disabilities (ID). Therefore, to address this gap, the barriers and opportunities of employment for PDS should be explored from multiple perspectives.

#### Video-Conference Interviewing as a New Norm

Within the realm of qualitative research, the most common data collection method is interviewing (Braun & Clarke, 2013). Utilising a qualitative investigation perspective, several different forms of interview designs were

#### 210 RAHMAN, SAFUAN, EZAT, SAFII, YONG, SAIMON, AND HOCK

Hence, this process is organic, reflective, and reiterative, and should always be done in such a manner.

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