Playing Well with Others

The Rise of Transdisciplinary Qualitative Research
Agenda

• Introduction
• Transdisciplinary Approach
• Examples at James A Haley Veterans Hospital
  – Farm Project
  – TBI Ethnography
  – PTSD Quality of Life
• The Future of Transdisciplinary Research
• Conclusion
Introduction

• Qualitative methods as part of transdisciplinary (TD) research
• Mixed methods and heavy qualitative
• Transdisciplinary research in the VA
• Examples from James A. Haley Veterans Hospital
• Future trends
The Transdisciplinary Approach

- Approach or framework integrating perspectives
- Challenging to achieve, but valuable
- A step beyond interdisciplinary research
- Qualitative perspectives important

Courtesy of http://www.nature.com/nchembio/journal/v4/n9/images/nchembio0908-511-F1.jpg
Transdisciplinary Research at CINDRR

• Center of Innovation for Disability and Rehabilitation Research (CINDRR)
• Integrated transdisciplinary teams from public health and social sciences
• Mixed methods
  – Qualitative Focus
  – Qualitative as part of a mostly quantitative approach
• Holistic Approach
Farm Project

- Program evaluation of a community agricultural initiative for Veterans and community members
- TD Team
  - Anthropologists
  - Psychologist
  - Rehab Scientist
  - Biostatistician
- Mixed methodology

Courtesy of Margeaux Chavez
TBI Ethnography

- Mixed methods transdisciplinary ethnography of community reintegration for TBI sufferers
- Team mix of clinical subject matter experts and generalist social scientists
- Collaborative integrated approach
- Possible future programs to assist meaningful community reintegration after TBI
PTSD Quality of Life

• Informatics study to tailor a new short form for assessing quality of life in PTSD

• Team
  – Informatics Experts and Biostatisticians
  – Anthropologists, EdS, Psychologists

• Sequential Mixed Methods

• Short form to address PTSD issues with greater sensitivity and specificity
The Future of Transdisciplinary Research: Complementarity

- Complementarity of different disciplines
- Knowledge bases and perspectives
- Qualitative and Quantitative
- Triangulation and mixed methodologies

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The Future of Transdisciplinary Research: Comm Tech

• Advances in communication technology and collaboration

• Multi-sited as well as transdisciplinary

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Conclusion

• Integral to future transdisciplinary research
• Comprehensiveness and Granularity

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Acknowledgments

• VA
• VHA
• CINDRR
• Gail Powel-Cope, Ph.D.
• Karen Besterman-Dahan, Ph.D.
• Steve Luther, Ph.D.
• Other Team Members
References


