

## HEALTH RESEARCH METHODS

<b>Module Code:</b>	GP113
<b>Credit weighting:</b>	10 ECTS
<b>Contact hours:</b>	6 (plus allow 3hrs per week x 6 weeks distance learning)
<b>Dates:</b>	Workshops: 06/01/11 9am-12noon; 18/02/11 10am-1pm. Online distance learning: 07/01/11 – 17/02/11
<b>Module leaders:</b>	Dr. Mary Byrne, General Practice, NUI Galway Ms. Pauline Clerkin, General Practice, NUI Galway

### **Module description**

The purpose of this module is to introduce learners to research methods as a set of multiple systematic strategies derived from both the quantitative and qualitative paradigms. Participants will learn how to construct feasible research questions and how to select appropriate research designs.

### **Learning outcomes**

At the end of this module the student will be expected to be able to:

1. explain the meaning of key vocabulary terms used in health services research.
2. construct a meaningful research question and choose a suitable research design.
3. describe qualitative and quantitative approaches to sampling, data collection and analysis and justify the use of different approaches.
4. draft a comprehensive research proposal.

### **Content**

#### Quantitative Section

- Explain the basic principles of experimental and observational research.
- Understand the structure and uses of different quantitative research designs and sampling strategies.
- Design a research questionnaire.

#### Qualitative Section

- Describe different qualitative sampling strategies.
- Understand the process involved in qualitative data collection.
- Perform qualitative data analysis on standard transcript data using MS Word.

#### Workshops

- Research questions.
- Positivist and interpretivist research strategies and associated methodologies.
- Designing a research proposal.

### **Reading List**

Set readings for this module will be provided as handouts.

### **Teaching and learning strategies**

Distance learning and workshops.

### **Assessment strategy**

10% attendance at workshops

45% continuous assessment (E-tivities and online participation)

45% assignment on completion of module (1,500 words).

*Please note that completion of the 'Health Research Methods' module (or equivalent) is mandatory for progression to the Masters in Primary Care.*