

Methodological workstreams

Workstream Title	Problem How big a problem is this and who for?	Strategy What are we planning to do to address it?	Stage Where are we up to in our plans?	Impact What are we hoping to realistically achieve?
Developing Meta-Ethnography Reporting GuidElines and standards for research (eMERGE)	<p>Users of evidence syntheses require high quality reports that make clear the key methodological, analytic synthesis and interpretive processes and findings. However, over 60% of meta-ethnographies, the leading method of qualitative evidence synthesis in health-related research, are poorly reported.</p>	<p>This aim of this study is to develop standards and guidance for conducting and reporting meta-ethnographies.</p>	<p>To date, the project team has published a review of methods of synthesising qualitative research studies for health technology assessment (HTA)and a guide to synthesising qualitative research for HTA and systematic reviews. We are seeking funding to develop meta-ethnography guidance for researchers and evidence users.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create guidance • Have guidance widely disseminated and used by researchers • Increase the quality of meta-ethnographies for informing decision-making and improving outcomes for patients • Help end users to evaluate the quality of meta-ethnographies • Increase the utility of meta-ethnographies for health-related policy and practice
Design and delivery of complex interventions	<p>Qualitative research methods applied to the design, delivery and understanding of complex intervention trials are in their infancy. This is particularly salient to lifestyle behaviour change interventions where communication methods dominate.</p>	<p>Develop methods that facilitate the involvement and contributions of service users, providers and other stakeholders into trial design and delivery. Draw on action research, co-design and co-production approaches. Integrate this with theory.</p>	<p>We have developed intervention vignettes as a new tool to help engage service users and providers of care in intervention design. We have also developed a novel method of applying these in systematic reviews. We are a co-applicant on a 5 year MRC Trial Methodology Hub grant at the University of Bristol starting in 2014.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of new qualitative and mixed method tools for use in all stages of trial design and conduct. • Develop a dissemination and training plan for these tools to ensure high quality application. • Improvements in the knowledge, quality and utility of qualitative methods in RCTs.