



# EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS IRELAND

## Introduction to Qualitative Evidence Synthesis from Conception to Completion

### Background

Health care policy and practice decisions should be based on a synthesis of the global body of evidence rather than relying on individual studies. Evidence Synthesis Ireland promotes evidence based healthcare policy and practice by supporting high quality, relevant systematic reviews including the synthesis of qualitative evidence.

### Aim

This workshop provides authors, with an interest in learning more about the QES process, with a comprehensive overview of the approaches to and the methods for qualitative evidence synthesis. It offers an insight to the development of a protocol, introducing participants to, search methods, selecting studies, assessing the quality of studies, data extraction and approaches to synthesis.

### Learning outcomes

In this course participants will be enabled to:

- Understand the basic principles of a qualitative evidence synthesis
- Identify the purpose and scope of a QES
- Understand search methods and apply these methods to a search strategy
- Discuss the criteria for selecting studies
- Assess the quality of studies
- Discuss the principles involved in extracting and synthesising findings from a QES
- Identify the process of application of GRADE-CERQual to QES findings

### Date:

**17th January 2023**

### Time:

**09:00 – 16:00**

### Location:

**University of Limerick**

### Skill Level:

**Introductory**

### Facilitators:

**Dr Linda Biesty**

Senior Lecturer in Midwifery  
School of Nursing and Midwifery  
University of Galway

**Dr Pauline Meskell**

Senior Lecturer in Midwifery  
School of Nursing and Midwifery  
University of Limerick

### Places:

**25 places available for  
individuals who are  
resident on the island of  
Ireland**

### Fee:

**General €100**

**Student €50**

email: [esi@universityofgalway.ie](mailto:esi@universityofgalway.ie) @EvidSynIRL #evidencesynthesis



# EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS I R E L A N D

## Introduction to Qualitative Evidence Synthesis from Conception to Completion

### Target Audience:

This is an introductory workshop targeted for healthcare professionals, academics, researchers, decision makers who are interested in learning about the methodology and processes involved in planning and conducting a QES.

### Teaching Strategies:

The workshop will consist of a mixture of short presentations, led by members of the ESI teaching faculty covering each of the stages of developing a QES, small group activities based around worked examples and exercises and plenary discussions, providing participants with the opportunity to discuss and develop their understanding of the QES process. Participants' will also be provided with a short reading list in advance of the workshop.

email: [esi@universityofgalway.ie](mailto:esi@universityofgalway.ie)  @EvidSynIRL #evidencesynthesis



# EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS I R E L A N D

## Introduction to Qualitative Evidence Synthesis from Conception to Completion

### Course timetable

17th January 2023	
08:30	Registration and coffee
09:00	Welcome, introduction of presenters and outline of presentations
09:15	Introducing Qualitative Evidence Syntheses (QES): An overview of QES including key QES types and methods
09:45	Focusing Your Review Question (Plenary Session and Exercise)
10:30	Break
10:45	Searching for Qualitative Evidence (Guided Search Example)
11:15	Screening and Inclusion processes, Selecting Studies and Extracting Data (Exercise)
12:30	Lunch
13:15	Assessing the Quality of Studies
13:45	Choosing a Method of Synthesis: Overview of Thematic, Framework and Meta-ethnography
14:45	Generating Themes Organising and Interpreting the Findings
15:30	CERQual and Grading the Evidence
16:00	Close

email: [esi@universityofgalway.ie](mailto:esi@universityofgalway.ie)  [@EvidSynIRL](https://twitter.com/EvidSynIRL) #evidencesynthesis