

Chapter 14: Metasynthesis

Multiple Choice Answers (correct answers in bold):

1. Which of the following is NOT a valid rationale for secondary analysis of qualitative data?
 - A. To maximise the use of existing data, thus making the research process less time-consuming and labour intensive
 - B. To reduce the risk of researcher bias**
 - C. To reduce the burden on research participants
 - D. To widen the research focus beyond a single sample, and so draw conclusions with wider applicability

2. Which of the following is the best example of 'informal data sharing', in the context of reusing existing qualitative data (Heaton, 2004)?
 - A. A researcher sharing data in public or institutional archives or repositories
 - B. A researcher reusing data they previously collected for a different project
 - C. A researcher publishing their research findings
 - D. A researcher sharing data with trusted research colleagues or collaborators**

3. The first step for a metasynthesis is to...
 - A. Collate raw data for analysis
 - B. Formulate a research question**
 - C. Undertake a search of the literature
 - D. Identify available datasets for analysis

4. Which one of the following is NOT an issue of debate in metasynthesis?
- A. A metasynthesis should involve re-interpretation of results (e.g. participant quotes) from the included primary studies
 - B. A metasynthesis should assess the quality of eligible studies and exclude those of poor quality
 - C. A metasynthesis should do more than simply produce a summary of findings from the included primary studies**
 - D. A metasynthesis should only include primary studies whose methods align with the approach of the metasynthesis research question
5. What best describes the intended 'end result' of a metasynthesis?
- A. A novel interpretation of published findings on a given topic**
 - B. A systematic integration of findings reflecting the current state of knowledge about a phenomenon
 - C. Identification of thematic similarities across studies
 - D. Tabulation and aggregation of a body of qualitative research
6. The knowledge generated through a metasynthesis can be considered to be...
- A. Realist
 - B. Social constructionist
 - C. Phenomenological
 - D. Varied, depending on the research question driving the metasynthesis and the methods used in the included studies**