

A TEAM-BASED APPROACH TO RAPID QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS

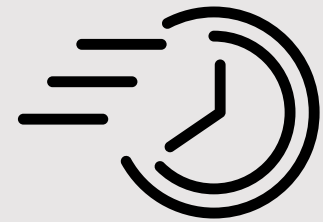
SO MUCH DATA, SO LITTLE TIME...

KEY MESSAGES

- Rapid qualitative analysis is an applied analytic strategy that produces actionable findings in a condensed time period
- Consider the context, purpose, and design before deciding if rapid analysis is right
- This team-based approach can be done efficiently in four systematic steps: templating, summarizing, synthesizing, and analyzing

WHAT IS RAPID QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS?

- An intensive applied analytic strategy to produce actionable findings from targeted data over a short period of time
- Not a rushed or less rigorous approach when applied within an appropriate study design
- Can be facilitated using a team approach
- Typical timeframe: Project <1 year, Analysis 4 days - 6 weeks



WHEN SHOULD RAPID QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS BE CONSIDERED?

Contextual considerations:

- Short timeframe to produce deliverables (e.g, informing practice or policy, building a proposal, reports to funders or partners)
- Competition or pressure to publish

Purpose or design considerations:

- Description of a specific issue, problem, or action (not ideal for exploration)
- Suited for more structured or focused data generation
- Multiple data sources

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WHO SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN A RAPID ANALYSIS TEAM?



- Aim for a mixed skill set (e.g., qualitative methods and context or context expertise)
- Include novice qualitative researchers and trainees as team-based approaches lend well to mentorship and capacity development

HOW IS RAPID QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS OPERATIONALIZED?



STEP ONE - Create templates for analysis

- Interview questions are converted to domains and formatted into a template or transcript summary for use in Step 2 (e.g., Interview question: “what were the strengths of the intervention?” Domain: “Strengths”)
- Test the transcript summary with 1-2 transcripts and 2 analysts to ensure consistency – revising them as needed

STEP TWO - Summarizing transcripts

- Using the transcript summary template each transcript is summarized by domain (e.g., every instance of “Strengths” described in the transcript is recorded under the “Strengths” domain of the template)
- Once each transcript has been summarized, the data is reorganized into a domain summary (e.g., all instances of “Strengths” are collated into one document)

STEP THREE - Synthesizing the domains

- Domain summaries are then synthesized to capture the findings from the data set for each domain (e.g., a statement synthesizing “Strengths” across the data set is created)
- * Tip: attempt to answer your research questions based on the synthesis of responses

STEP FOUR - Analyzing for specific needs

- Determine the products needed (e.g., reports, responses to partners, knowledge mobilization etc.) and present findings in the appropriate form (e.g., infographic) for a research advisory committee meeting