**Quantitative Study Critique- 75 points possible**

The purpose of this assignment is to develop skills in reviewing and appraising research articles.  Specific details are considered to determine quality, utility, and evidence.

**Review Chapter 4 in:**

Polit, D. F., & Beck, C. T. (2018). *Essentials of nursing research: Appraising evidence for nursing practice* (9th ed.). Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

**PLEASE USE THIS TEMPLATE for the assignment – save with your last name and submit in Canvas.**

**Direct quoted material** from the article **may be used** to help *explain* answers and *identify* components **(must include article page number).**

Please address **all questions** – **briefly** with simple items, phrases, or (if required) a sentence or two.

**If a** **yes/no** question – please answer as appropriate – **if not applicable**, please state – not applicable.

**List references ONLY IF other than the article being reviewed or the course text.**

**Helpful strategy - first view the critique template - to have an idea of what items to keep in mind when reading the article.**

1. **APA citation (2 points possible)** 
   1. Provide the reference (authors, year, title, volume, issue, pages, doi) in correct APA format: (use italics where appropriate, etc.) -- (2 pt.)
2. **Introduction: Problem and Purpose (3 points possible)**
   1. Is the problem clear, precise and well defined? Briefly identify. literature review/ (1 pt.)
   2. Is a good argument made for the importance of the problem to clinical practice, research, theory, or knowledge and policy development? Briefly explain. (2 pts)

**3.Introduction: Background/ Literature Review (5 pts possible)**

* 1. How many articles in the background /literature review are **within** and **after** five years of the article’s publication date? (Often in published studies, the literature review is not a separate section titled Literature Review, but a literature review is included in the **Introduction** or **Background** section.)(1 pt)
  2. What is the publication **date range** of the background/literature review articles**?** (1 pt.)
  3. From what type of **sources** (studies, relevant organizations, media)? (1 pt.)

* 1. Are the current **gaps in knowledge** clearly presented? Briefly explain? (note: typically related to the purpose for the study) (2 pt.)

1. **Introduction: Conceptual/theoretical framework Research Questions or Hypotheses (5 points possible)**
   1. Is a Research Question or PICO Question presented? If yes, please include here: (1 pt.)
   2. Is a Hypothesis presented? If yes, please include here: (1 pt.)
   3. Is a Theoretical or Conceptual Framework presented? If yes, please include here: (1 pt.)
   4. What is the **Main** overall topic (**in a broad sense**) – i.e. childhood obesity, surgical site infections, medical error? (2 pt.)

**5. Method: Protection of Human Rights (8 pts possible l)**

* 1. Was the study approved by an IRB? (1 pt.)
  2. What appropriate procedures were used to safeguard the rights of all study participants? Explain. (3 pts)
  3. Were any vulnerable populations used in the study? If yes, who? (2 pt.)
  4. What risks may subjects be exposed to while participating in the study? (2 pt.)

**6. Method: Research Design (11 pts possible)**

* 1. What was the type of quantitative research design used? (i.e. RCT, cross sectional, retrospective analysis, cohort study?) (3 pts)
  2. Is there an Independent Variable(s) (Intervention)? If yes, Identify here: (3 pt.)
  3. Is there a Dependent Variable(s) (outcome)? If yes, Identify here: (3 pt.)
  4. Is there a control group (experimental design)? If yes, Identify here: (1 pt.)
  5. Is there a comparison group (non-experimental design)? If yes, Identify here: (1 pt.)

**7. Method: Population and Sample (11 pts possible)**

* 1. Who or what (if the sample includes material items) is identified as the target population/item? (2 pts)
  2. How were the samples chosen (sampling method: i.e. randomly, convenience sampling, etc..)? (3 pts)
  3. How large was the sample? (1 pt.)
  4. What were the sample inclusion criteria and exclusion criteria? (2 pt.)
  5. Did any of the participants drop out (attrition)? If yes, was it explained why (please share)? (1 pt.)

**8. Method: Data collection and Measure (11 pts possible)**

* 1. How were data collected? (3 pts)
  2. What instruments or tools were used to collect data? (Did the researchers use already designed tools/instruments/questionnaires/ lab or x-ray results OR design and build their own?) Identify instruments by full title (not abbreviations). (3 pts)
  3. Were the instruments reliable and valid? (Review your text for how instrument reliability and validity are established.) Provide evidence for your response. (2 pts)
  4. Were the data collected in a way that decreased bias? Explain. For example, was the staff collecting data appropriately trained, or inter-rater reliability addressed? Explain. (3 pts)

**9. Results: Data Analysis (4 pts possible)**

* 1. Was a statistician or statistical software program (SPSS, SAS?) used for data analysis? (1 pt.)
  2. Were these methods used appropriate for the study? Briefly explain how? (consider the aim of the study: to describe, compare/difference, or explore relationship/correlation) (3 pts)

**10. Discussion: Interpretation of the Findings (6 pts possible)**

* 1. What were the major findings presented? Briefly Discuss. (3 pts)
  2. Were tables and figures used? (1 pts)
  3. Were all research questions/hypotheses discussed? (2 pts)

**11. Discussion: Limitations (4 pts possible)**

* 1. Did the researchers discuss the limitations and strengths of the study? Briefly What were they? (3 pts)
  2. Were there other limitations that you recognized? (1 pts)

**12. Discussion: Implications/Recommendations (5 pts possible)**

* 1. Do the conclusions accurately reflect the data? Briefly explain. (2 pts/)
  2. Are the implications for practice clearly presented? Briefly Explain (1 pts)
  3. Are suggestions for future research clearly presented? Briefly Explain (1 pts)
  4. How do you see this research useful in HC? (1 pts)

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