

# THE FOUNDATIONS OF QUALITATIVE RESEARCH: A WORKSHOP TO BUILD RESEARCHER AND COMMUNITY CAPACITY

## Speakers/Facilitators:

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## Bio:

Carla Treloar is Scientia Professor at the Centre for Social Research in Health at UNSW, Sydney Australia. Carla is a qualitative method specialist and mixed-method researcher and has published more than 300 peer-reviewed papers. She is co Editor in Chief of the International Journal of Drug Policy and served as senior editor for qualitative research for Addiction from 2018-2024.

Dr Lise Lafferty is a Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Social Research in Health, and Kirby Institute, UNSW Sydney. Lise uses qualitative methodologies to explore barriers and enablers to healthcare for infectious diseases. She was awarded the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia's Paul Bourke Award (2023) for her hepatitis C-focused qualitative research in the prison setting.

Dr Anna Conway is a Research Associate investigating drug use, drug treatment, and hepatitis C at the Kirby Institute, UNSW, Sydney. Her research draws on social sciences and epidemiology to explore barriers to health and wellbeing at the program and policy levels. She is an editorial board member for the International Journal of Drug Policy.

## Background and aims:

Many disciplines and sectors seek to incorporate some qualitative research into their work – but outside of the social sciences, training in these methods may be difficult to access, with many people learning “on the job”. The aim of this workshop is to introduce key qualitative research methods currently used in health care research and to indicate how they can be appropriately and fruitfully employed.

## Description of workshop:

This ‘qualitative research 101’ workshop aims to provide a base understanding of qualitative research and help attendees gain confidence in using qualitative methods in their own work, including in reading and applying qualitative research papers. This symposium is designed for early/mid career researchers (including Masters and PhD students), community members, and workers in community-based organisations and health organisations who are new to qualitative research.

## Methods and format:

This interactive session will be delivered in three parts. First, we will present an overview of the foundations of qualitative research with worked examples of each aspect, including why choose a qualitative design, what types of methods are typically used and why, the ethics of qualitative research, key steps in data collection, how data analysis is done, and the ways to write up and present qualitative research findings. Next, using an example paper, we will explore how to read, and make sense of, a qualitative research paper. Third, in small group format, a qualitative research proposal will be developed, using the content previously covered in the workshop and with examples provided by workshop attendees. Attendees will be encouraged to raise their own issues and questions for discussion throughout the workshop.

**Number of delegates:**

Suggest up to 30 delegates in a 90 minute session.

**Disclosure of Interest Statement: *See example below:***

*The conference collaborators recognise the considerable contribution that industry partners make to professional and research activities. We also recognise the need for transparency of disclosure of potential conflicts of interest by acknowledging these relationships in publications and presentations.*

**Note:** If accepted into the program you will be requested to include a disclosure of interest slide into your workshop.

CT has received speaker fees from Gilead.

LL and AC have no disclosures of interest.