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Trials and tribulations of commissioned evaluation research

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This presentation will discuss potential and actual problems that may occur when carrying out commissioned research. For instance if the commissioned research is from an organisation that anticipates finding positive evidence for changes or interventions they introduced, this can create conflict if data do not show this. Sometimes access to the sample is through the organisation and the researcher has no control over data collection or methods for data collection. This can create anxiety for the researcher and may compromise their objectivity. The presentation will also discuss how to deal with such problems and will provide examples of strategies that can be used to maintain empirical rigor whilst fulfilling commissioned obligations.

Biography

Maria Ponto is an Associate Professor at School of Nursing at Kingston University and St. George's University of London and a Visiting Professor at Lapland University in Finland. She is a Nurse, Midwife and Psychologist and has links with many European Universities. She has run MSc programmes since 1996 in the UK and St. Petersburg in Russia and has given many lectures and presentations at international conferences. She has undertaken and supervised commissioned research in nursing and education.

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