N 536 - Utilization of Nursing Research in Advanced Practice, Summer 2008

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How to Critique a Research Paper

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Critique Process for Quantitative Studies

- Step I  Comprehension
- Step II  Comparison
- Step III  Analysis
- Step IV  Evaluation
- Step V  Conceptual clustering
1. Read the entire research report
2. Examine the organization and presentation of the entire research report
3. Identify the strengths and weaknesses of the study
   - Be objective and realistic
4. Suggest modifications for future studies
Skills Needed to Critique Qualitative Studies

- Context flexibility
- Inductive reasoning
- Conceptualization, theoretical modeling, and theory analysis
- Transforming ideas across levels of abstraction
Standards for Critique of Qualitative Studies

- **Standard I**  Descriptive vividness
- **Standard II**  Methodological congruence
  - Documentation rigor
  - Procedural rigor
  - Ethical rigor
  - Auditability
- **Standard III**  Analytical preciseness
- **Standard IV**  Theoretical
- **Standard V**  Heuristic relevance
  - Intuitive recognition
  - Relationship to existing body of knowledge
  - Applicability