

FROM ACTION RESEARCH TO TRAILING RESEARCH-WHY AND HOW (ID71129)

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Action research study: Person-Centred Practice Development

Results showed that leadership is crucial when developing a more person-centred culture. We thus found that:

- The context and work environment is important when implementing a person-centred framework.
- Psychological safety must be present and when discussing delicate issues, the tone is important.
- We need to be conscious about our values and believes.



Trailing research
focusing on
leadership

Introduction

Why

Person-centred practice and culture is internationally recognized as an essential component of 21st century healthcare. Therefore, two departments at Zealand University Hospital initiated a three-year action research study with the purpose of developing clinical practice and the culture towards a more person-centred approach. Findings show that both departments have developed a more person-centred practice, and leaders' participation and support are crucial. This study ended December 2023.

As it is difficult to maintain achieved changes within the person-centred practice, we decided to follow the further implementation and development of person-centred practice. Thus, after ending the action research study, we continued with a trailing research study.

Purpose

This study aims to follow and evaluate the further implementation and development of a person-centred practice and culture in the departments.

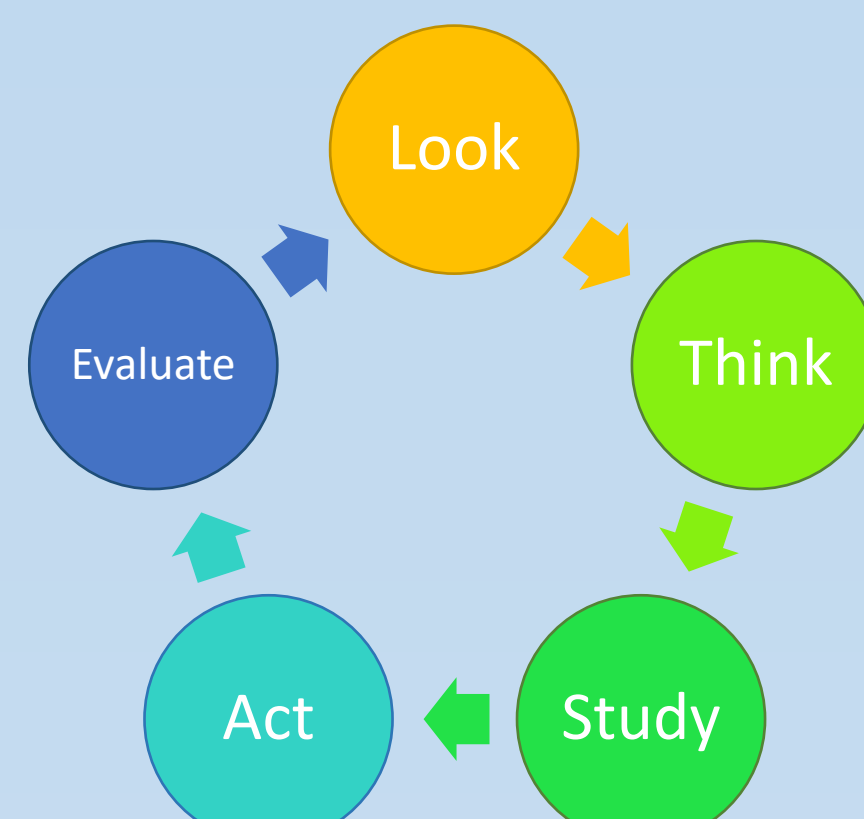
Method

How

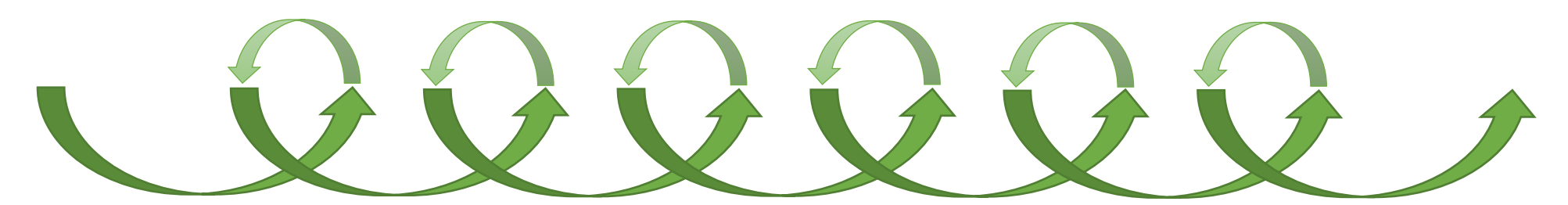
To further develop and implement person-centred practice dialogue meetings and the PDSA approach is used.

The researchers have a less active and prominent role in the development processes compared to the action research study. Therefore, the researchers "just" follow and evaluate the processes by collecting different kinds of data (field studies, logbook entries, meeting minutes, formative and summative evaluations) and these are analysed using a thematic approach.

PDSA/Action Learning
Processes



The Trailing Research is structured in three phases. The processes and the PDSA approach is cyclical and overlap in all phases.



Planning phase	Intervention phase	Final evaluation phase
Jan. to Apr. 2024	Apr. 2024 to Oct. 2025	Oct. to Dec. 2025
Preliminary meetings with project owners to plan activities	Initiating and implementing specific activities like dialogue meetings both formal and ad hoc with study participants and researchers.	Evaluation: Focus group interviews with study participants and other stakeholders to examine how person-centred practice develops in clinical practice. Analyses of logbook entries. Questionnaire surveys.

Results

The trailing research study started January 2024, and preliminary findings shows, that the chief nurses now are taking both responsibility and initiate concrete actions at leaders' level in relation to further development of a person-centred practice and culture in the departments.

The researchers' role are therefore less active and facilitating compared to in the action research.

Conclusion

Trailing research is suitable and relevant when following an implementation process in clinical practice without interference from experts, researchers etc.