

Protocol: Support for gaining employment for people with long-term conditions – qualitative systematic review

Review title

Gaining and maintaining paid work for adults with long-term health conditions: a systematic review of qualitative research

Working group (bold = core working group)

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Background

People who experience health conditions and/or disability often also have difficulty accessing employment due to a number of complex factors. These factors are very often associated with broader societal issues. They include stigma, poorly-informed judgements about what makes somebody 'work-able', fear of negatively affecting health and safety in the workplace and/or making the workplace vulnerable to higher costs, and challenges in negotiating work arrangements that are outside the norm when needed (Fadyl & Payne, 2016; Harlan & Robert, 1998; Louvet, 2007; Pacheco, Page, & Webber, 2014; Schur, Kruse, Blasi, & Blanck, 2009). Case management, vocational rehabilitation and employment support can all help to address these challenges and improve work outcomes for people experiencing health conditions and/or disability, and various approaches exist within these broad categories that have been tested in research (e.g. Fadyl, McPherson, & Nicholls, 2015; Fleming, Del Valle, Kim, & Leahy, 2013; Trexler, Trexler, Malec, Klyce, & Parrott, 2010).

Qualitative research about experiences of gaining paid employment and also experiences of the support services that are set up to help people with long-term conditions gain employment allow insights into what people find helpful and what are challenges or hindrances in the context of people's lives. Furthermore, qualitative research that examines the social context and/or social and cultural conditions that affect opportunities for engagement in paid employment for people living with long-term conditions can assist with understanding of what may facilitate or prevent people and the services that are set up to assist them from achieving the intended outcomes. Although there will be condition-specific issues, it is also very likely there are common themes across conditions. Moreover, it is commonly the case that services are set up to serve people with a range

of conditions, as condition-specific services are often limited in funding and resources. A systematic review of qualitative research relating to gaining and maintaining employment for people with long-term conditions will allow for a thematic overview of issues, facilitators, barriers and opportunities in this field.

Review question

The objective of this review is to thematically analyse qualitative research into a) experiences of gaining paid work, b) experiences of the support services that are set up to help people with long-term conditions gain paid work, and c) qualitative research that examines the social context and/or social and cultural conditions that affect opportunities for engagement in paid work for people living with long-term conditions.

Our review questions are as follows:

1. What are the experiences of people living with long-term conditions with regard to gaining paid work and maintaining that work once gained?
2. What are the experiences of employment-related support services and vocational rehabilitation for people living with long-term conditions?
3. What social, cultural, and biographical factors affect opportunities for engagement in paid work for people living with long-term conditions?
4. What is the quality of current qualitative research related to gaining and maintaining paid work for people with long-term health conditions?
5. What evidence gaps exist in qualitative research related to gaining and maintaining paid work for people with long-term health conditions (e.g. gaps that relate to applying the evidence base to local context; questions generated by the body of literature indicating other areas that should be investigated)?
6. What recommendations for policy and service delivery can be derived from the current qualitative literature?

Condition or domain being studied

For the purpose of this review we will consider someone with a long-term health condition to be a person living with effects of an injury, illness or health condition that are expected to continue for the foreseeable future. Broad categories of long-term conditions considered in scope for the review include: musculoskeletal, neurological, cardiac, respiratory, congenital & paediatric, sensory, endocrine & metabolic, skin and subcutaneous, or mental health conditions.

For the purpose of this review, paid work is defined as:

- Commencement of either full- or part-time paid work as defined in the *Resolution concerning statistics of the economically active population, employment, unemployment and underemployment, adapted by the Thirteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians (1982)*.
- Commencement of legal occupation that generates a livelihood (e.g. indigenous practices that generate resources to live on but are not paid employment).

Participants/population

We will include any study about people with a long-term health condition, as defined above.

Phenomena of interest

We will include qualitative studies concerned with:

- Experiences gaining paid work and maintaining that work
- Analysing social and cultural factors that affect opportunities for engagement with paid work in the context of a long-term condition.
- Experiences of employment support services or vocational rehabilitation. For the purposes of this review, employment support services includes the following:
 - Training or education to prepare people to apply for employment (e.g. preparation of resumes; development of work skills; job-specific skills training and licencing (e.g. drivers licence), training in employment interview techniques; motivational and behavioural interventions to help people increase their self-efficacy for employment and engage in work)
 - Vocational counselling to help people identify their work skills and aptitude, seek work, or find and apply for jobs
 - Provision of support for people to apply for jobs or actively seek employment in other ways (including peer support programmes).
- Identification of environmental barriers to employment (e.g. workplace, transport, or attitudinal barriers) and implementation of supports and/or strategies to reduce or remove those barriers (e.g. job accommodation, workplace modification – including access, provision of equipment, employer education, supporting workplace relationships and other psychosocial interventions, negotiating health and safety requirements, providing adapted transport).
- Job development (e.g. working with employers to create non-standard or modified positions)
- Job placement schemes
- Provision of support for people newly in employment
- Provision of financial and related supports to move into employment (e.g. appropriate clothing, equipment, transportation, transitional loans, etc.)
- Job coaching (short or long-term) to develop skills and strategies to manage a job
- Community development specifically focused on creating employment opportunities for people living with long-term conditions and/or disabilities (e.g. development of business initiatives that need employees with lived experience of disability, employer awareness, incentive programmes, social enterprises focused on work for this population).
- Community and family support initiatives focused on enabling participation in paid work.
- Work-readiness training or transitional employment where the focus is on transitioning into paid employment or providing skills for people to immediately enter paid employment at the completion of the training.

We will exclude sheltered workshops where the expectation is that participants will earn less than minimum wage and retain social welfare benefits for the foreseeable future. We will also exclude general primary, secondary, or tertiary education that has not been designed specifically for people with long-term health conditions and/or disability. We will exclude stay-at-work interventions for people who are currently in paid work and needing to maintain that work in the context of a newly

acquired health condition or disability. We will exclude reviews that primarily focus on helping people to gain or maintain occupational roles and activities that are unpaid and unlikely to provide a livelihood.

Comparator(s)/control

N/A

Types of studies to be included

We will include studies that have used qualitative methodologies for data collection (e.g. interviews, focus group discussions, document analysis, observation) and analysis designed to inquire about experiences or social and cultural conditions. Some examples are:

- Qualitative descriptive
- Phenomenology
- Ethnography
- Grounded theory
- Kaupapa Māori and other indigenous methodologies
- Post-structural feminist
- Discourse analysis

We will include mixed-methods studies where qualitative data is used to augment quantitative findings, where qualitative data can be extracted and analysed. We will exclude studies where it is not possible to tease out our phenomena of interest from other phenomena where multiple components of vocational rehabilitation have been examined together. We will exclude studies in which the report is not available in English. We will examine peer reviewed articles, Proquest Dissertations and Thesis manuscripts, and grey literature. Upon assessing the quality of studies (see below), all corresponding authors will be contacted about other potentially relevant or pending sources.

Two reviewers will independently screen the titles and abstracts of each potential study, identifying whether or not to retrieve the full study for further synthesis. Reviewers will identify and record their reasons for the exclusion of ineligible studies. Covidence will be used to manage this process. Disagreements will be resolved via a third reviewer from the study team.

Study identification and selection

Search methods for identification of studies

We will identify relevant studies by searching

- MEDLINE (OvidSP)
- PsychINFO (OvidSP)
- AMED (OvidSP)
- CINAHL (EBSCOhost)
- Proquest Dissertations and Theses database.
- Business Source Complete (EBSCO)

We will search all databases from 2004 to 2019. We will include only studies reported in English or Maori. We will seek full reports of any potentially eligible studies that are published as abstracts or conference proceedings only.

Selection of studies

Two review authors will independently consider the title and abstracts from the identified studies and apply the inclusion criteria described above. Disagreement or uncertainty about relevance at this stage will be resolved through consideration and discussion of full study reports, involving a third review author where necessary.

All studies will be included for quality assessment. In line with recommendations by Thomas and Harding (2008), study authors will consider the diversity of studies following quality assessment. If there are homogeneous studies that cover the same questions and report similar findings (indicating data saturation), the highest quality studies only will be included in the thematic synthesis.

Quality assessment

Two review authors will independently assess the methodological quality of the included studies. We will use Sections A and B of the Critical Appraisal Skills Programme (CASP) quality assessment checklist for qualitative research (Section C addresses external transferability, which will be addressed using stakeholder reference groups in this review).

CASP questions in sections A and B are:

1. Was there a clear statement of the aims of the research?
2. Is a qualitative methodology appropriate?
3. Was the research design appropriate to address the aims of the research?
4. Was the recruitment strategy appropriate to the aims of the research?
5. Was the data collected in a way that addressed the research issue?
6. Has the relationship between researcher and participants been adequately considered?
7. Have ethical issues been taken into consideration?
8. Was the data analysis sufficiently rigorous?
9. Is there a clear statement of findings?

Reviewers will score each question 'yes', 'no' or 'can't tell'. Disagreements will be resolved through discussion.

Studies where the consensus answer to all questions is 'yes' will be included for data extraction.

Where the consensus answer to question 2, 3, 5, 8 or 9 is 'no', the relevant study will be excluded from data extraction. A 'yes' to these questions is considered essential for confidence in the reported findings.

Where the answer is 'can't tell' and the information is critical to quality assessment, study authors will be contacted for further information. If they cannot be reached or cannot provide the requested information, the study will be excluded from data extraction.

Any notes or concerns will be referred to in interpreting the findings during data analysis and synthesis.

Assessment of external transferability

We will discuss the review findings in the preliminary stage with four stakeholder reference groups (one indigenous focused group, and three condition-focused groups: mental health, amputees and multiple sclerosis). We will incorporate the feedback on external transferability based on lived experience into the grading of confidence in evidence (see below).

Grading of confidence of evidence in included studies

Combining the quality assessment and the feedback on study findings from our stakeholder reference groups (relating to local applicability and congruence with local context), we will be guided by the CERQual criteria in order to evaluate confidence in the main findings arising from this review (Lewin et al., 2018). CERQual draws on information from critical appraisal of study quality in conjunction with evaluation of the coherence of the findings, adequacy of data, and relevance of data to the review question to draw conclusions regarding confidence in these findings. The overall assessment of confidence in each finding will be a product of a weighting of these respective components, and we will assess it as either 'very low', 'low', 'moderate', or 'high' (Lewin et al., 2018).

Data extraction

Contextual data

The following contextual characteristics of included studies listed below will be recorded to put qualitative findings and thematic analysis into context.

- Full citation
- Year published
- Corresponding author
- Country (or countries) of affiliation with the authors of the review
- Theoretical/conceptual perspective of study
- Method and methodology
- Sample size
- Participant characteristics (age, gender, ethnicity, diagnostic history if stated)
- Description of intervention (if relevant) or note absence of information
- Description of outcomes associated with intervention (if relevant) or note absence of information

Qualitative findings

We will follow the method outlined by Thomas and Harden (2008). These authors propose the extraction of all text in the 'results' or 'findings' sections of qualitative studies in their entirety, which is then coded in the process of data analysis (see below).

Data analysis and synthesis

Data synthesis will follow the process described by Thomas and Harden (2008) that they name 'thematic synthesis'. We will code all extracted text from 'result's or 'findings' section and develop descriptive themes. During coding, each sentence is attributed a code which represents the content and meaning of the sentence. Over the course of coding, an across-studies 'bank' of codes is built up and adjusted in an ongoing process. Codes are then grouped hierarchically and organised into higher order themes. These higher order themes are then considered and reshaped within the context of

the initial research questions. Throughout this process, we will also consider the contextual characteristics and grading of articles as discussed above. We will use QSR International's NVivo software for data management during coding and thematic development.

Dissemination plans

We will publish a report on the review findings in a peer-reviewed journal, and make the raw data from the review available in an open-access online repository (Auckland University of Technology's 'Tuwhera' database). We aim to present the reviews finding at national and/or international research meetings on rehabilitation and work. Stakeholder reference groups will further advise on dissemination appropriate to local context and stakeholder populations.

References

- Fadyl, J. K., McPherson, K., & Nicholls, D. (2015). Re/creating entrepreneurs of the self: discourses of worker and employee 'value' and current vocational rehabilitation practices. *Sociology of Health & Illness*, 37(4), 506-521.
- Fadyl, J. K., & Payne, D. (2016). Socially constructed 'value' and vocational experiences following neurological injury. *Disability and Rehabilitation*, 38(22), 2165-2177.
- Fleming, A. R., Del Valle, R., Kim, M., & Leahy, M. J. (2013). Best practice models of effective vocational rehabilitation service delivery in the public rehabilitation program: A review and synthesis of the empirical literature. *Rehabilitation Counseling Bulletin*, 56(3), 146-159.
- Harlan, S. L., & Robert, P. M. (1998). The social construction of disability in organizations: Why employers resist reasonable accommodation. *Work and occupations*, 25(4), 397-435.
- Lewin, S., Bohren, M., Rashidian, A., Munthe-Kaas, H., Glenton, C., Colvin, C. J., . . . Carlsen, B. (2018). Applying GRADE-CERQual to qualitative evidence synthesis findings—paper 2: how to make an overall CERQual assessment of confidence and create a Summary of Qualitative Findings table. *Implementation Science*, 13(1), 10. doi:10.1186/s13012-017-0689-2
- Louvet, E. (2007). Social judgment toward job applicants with disabilities: Perception of personal qualities and competences. *Rehabilitation Psychology*, 52(3), 297-303.
- Pacheco, G., Page, D., & Webber, D. J. (2014). Mental and physical health: re-assessing the relationship with employment propensity. *Work, employment and society*, 28(3), 407-429.
- Schur, L., Kruse, D., Blasi, J., & Blanck, P. (2009). Is disability disabling in all workplaces? Workplace disparities and corporate culture. *Industrial Relations*, 48(3), 381-410.
- Trexler, L. E., Trexler, L. C., Malec, J. F., Klyce, D., & Parrott, D. (2010). Prospective randomized controlled trial of resource facilitation on community participation and vocational outcome following brain injury. *Journal of Head Trauma Rehabilitation*, 25(6), 440-446.

Appendix 1. MEDLINE search strategy

1. exp qualitative research/
2. Nursing Methodology Research/
3. (qualitative or ethno\$ or emic or etic or phenomenolog\$).mp.
4. (focus group\$ or lived experience\$ or life experience\$).mp.
5. (theoretical sampl\$ or purposive sampl\$).mp.
6. (hermeneutic\$ or constant compar\$ or grounded theory or narrative analysis).mp.
7. (metasynthes\$ or meta-synthes\$ or metasummar\$ or meta-summar\$ or metastud\$ or meta-stud\$).mp.
8. (field stud\$ or field note\$ or fieldnote\$ or field record\$).mp.
9. (content analy\$ or participant observ\$ or action research or audiorecord\$ or taperecord\$ or videorecord\$ or videotap\$).mp.
10. (thematic\$ adj3 analys\$).mp.
11. exp Tape Recording/
12. ((audio or tape or video\$) adj5 record\$).mp.
13. ((audio or tape or video\$) adj5 interview\$).mp.
14. (heuristic\$ or semiotic\$ or discourse\$ or postmodern\$ or post modern\$ or post structural\$ or poststructural\$ or feminis\$).mp.
15. or/1-14
16. (occupational adj (counseling or training or intervention* or rehabilitation)).tw.
17. (vocational adj (counseling or training or intervention* or rehabilitation)).tw.
18. (work adj1 (status or training or counseling or intervention* or accommodation or adjustment or activities or ability or disabil* or retention or maintenance or rehabilitation)).tw.
19. (job adj1 (status or training or counseling or intervention* or accommodation or adjustment or activities or ability or disabil* or retention or maintenance or modification or trial or placement or development or coaching or creation)).tw.
20. or/16-19
21. exp Chronic Disease/
22. exp Disabled Persons/
23. (disable* or disabil* or impairment or handicap).mp.
24. ((persistent or long* term or ongoing or degenerative or chronic or progressive) adj3 (disease* or ill* or condition* or insufficienc* or disorder* or impair*)).tw.

25. exp cardiovascular diseases/
26. (heart disease* or heart failure or myocardial ischemia or coronary disease* or coronary artery disease* or myocardial infarction or hypertension or high blood pressure).tw.
27. sickle cell.mp.
28. exp lung diseases obstructive/
29. (obstructive lung disease* or obstructive pulmonary disease* or copd or asthma or bronchitis).tw.
30. exp emphysema/
31. exp pulmonary emphysema/
32. emphysema.tw.
33. (cystic fibrosis or respiratory distress).mp.
34. exp nervous system diseases/
35. (brain adj (disease* or damage* or injur*)).tw.
36. (cerebrovascular or brain ischemia or cerebral infarction or carotid artery disease* or stroke or epilep* or seizure*).tw.
37. (neurodegenerative or Huntington* or Parkinson* or lateral sclerosis or multiple sclerosis or motor neuron disease or muscular dystrophy or Steinerts* or facioscapulohumeral or progressive bulbar palsy or myasthenia gravis or Gillian Barre or West Nile or muscular atrophy or Spondylosis or osteoarthritis or scoliosis or spinal stenosis or herniated nucleus pulposus or spinal arachnoiditis or cranial hemorrhage or cranial haemorrhage or aneurysm* or aphasia or dysarthria or apraxia or dystonia or ataxia or paraparesis or regional pain syndrome or neuropathy or neuritis or supranuclear palsy or Steele-Richardson-Olszewski or multi system atrophy or myositis or encephalitis or meningitis or clinical isolated syndrome).tw.
38. (paralys* or quadriplegi* or tetraplegi* or paraplegi*).tw.
39. ((communication or learning or consciousness or perpetual or speech or voice or vision or hearing or psychomotor) adj disorder*).tw.
40. (hearing loss or hearing aid* or deaf* or blind* or stutter* or amputation*).tw.
41. down* syndrome.tw.
42. cerebral palsy.tw.
43. exp gastrointestinal diseases/
44. (gastroenter* or intestinal or bowel or colonic).tw.
45. renal insufficiency/
46. ((renal or kidney) adj (failure* or insufficienc*)).tw.
47. diabetes mellitus/
48. (diabetes or diabetic*).tw.

49. exp nutrition disorders/
50. (underweight or malnutrition or malnourished or overweight or obes*).tw.
51. exp arthritis/
52. exp rheumatic diseases/
53. (arthritis or osteoarthritis or rheumati* or fibromyalgia).tw.
54. ((back or neck) adj pain).tw.
55. exp thyroid diseases/
56. thyroid.tw.
57. exp hypersensitivity/
58. (hypersensitivit* or allerg* or intolerance or anaphyla*).mp.
59. exp neoplasms/
60. (cancer* or oncolog* or neoplasm* or carcinom* or tumo?r* or malignan* or leuk?emia).tw.
61. exp hiv infections/
62. (hiv infect* or hiv disease*).tw.
63. exp mental disorders/
64. exp behavioral symptoms/
65. ((mental* or psychiatr* or psychological*) adj (ill* or disorder* or disease* or distress* or disab* or problem* or health* or patient* or treatment)).tw.
66. ((personality or mood or dysthymic or cognit* or anxiety or stress or eating or adjustment or reactive or somatoform or conversion or behavior or perception or psycho* or impulse control or development* or attention deficit or hyperactivity or conduct or motor skills or movement or tic or substance related) adj disorder*).tw.
67. (psychos#s or psychotic* or paranoi* or schizo* or neuros#s or neurotic* or delusion* or depression or depressive or bipolar or mania or manic or obsessi* or compulsi* or panic or phobic or phobia or anorexia or bulimia or neurastheni* or dissociative or autis* or Asperger* or Tourette or dyslex* or affective or borderline or narcissis* or suicid* or self injur* or self harm or adhd).tw.
68. (((substance or drug or alcohol) adj abuse) or "substance use" or "illegal drug use" or addict* or alcoholism or (problem* adj1 drinking)).tw.
69. or/21-68
70. 20 and 69
71. exp Rehabilitation, Vocational/
72. 70 or 71
73. 72 and 15

Appendix 2. EMBASE search strategy

1. exp qualitative research/
2. Nursing Methodology Research/
3. (qualitative or ethno\$ or emic or etic or phenomenolog\$).mp.
4. (focus group\$ or lived experience\$ or life experience\$).mp.
5. (theoretical sampl\$ or purposive sampl\$).mp.
6. (hermeneutic\$ or constant compar\$ or grounded theory or narrative analysis).mp.
7. (metasynthes\$ or meta-synthes\$ or metasummar\$ or meta-summar\$ or metastud\$ or meta-stud\$).mp.
8. (field stud\$ or field note\$ or fieldnote\$ or field record\$).mp.
9. (content analy\$ or participant observ\$ or action research or audiorecord\$ or taperecord\$ or videorecord\$ or videotap\$).mp.
10. (thematic\$ adj3 analys\$).mp.
11. exp Tape Recording/
12. ((audio or tape or video\$) adj5 record\$).mp.
13. ((audio or tape or video\$) adj5 interview\$).mp.
14. (heuristic\$ or semiotic\$ or discourse\$ or postmodern\$ or post modern\$ or post structural\$ or poststructural\$ or feminis\$).mp.
15. or/1-14
16. (occupational adj (counseling or training or intervention* or rehabilitation)).tw.
17. (vocational adj (counseling or training or intervention* or rehabilitation)).tw.
18. (work adj1 (status or training or counseling or intervention* or accommodation or adjustment or activities or ability or disabil* or retention or maintenance or rehabilitation)).tw.
19. (job adj1 (status or training or counseling or intervention* or accommodation or adjustment or activities or ability or disabil* or retention or maintenance or modification or trial or placement or development or coaching or creation)).tw.
20. or/16-19
21. exp Chronic Disease/
22. exp Disabled Persons/
23. (disable* or disabil* or impairment or handicap).mp.
24. ((persistent or long* term or ongoing or degenerative or chronic or progressive) adj3 (disease* or ill* or condition* or insufficienc* or disorder* or impair*)).tw.

25. exp cardiovascular diseases/
26. (heart disease* or heart failure or myocardial ischemia or coronary disease* or coronary artery disease* or myocardial infarction or hypertension or high blood pressure).tw.
27. sickle cell.mp.
28. exp lung diseases obstructive/
29. (obstructive lung disease* or obstructive pulmonary disease* or copd or asthma or bronchitis).tw.
30. exp emphysema/
31. exp pulmonary emphysema/
32. emphysema.tw.
33. (cystic fibrosis or respiratory distress).mp.
34. exp nervous system diseases/
35. (brain adj (disease* or damage* or injur*)).tw.
36. (cerebrovascular or brain ischemia or cerebral infarction or carotid artery disease* or stroke or epilep* or seizure*).tw.
37. (neurodegenerative or Huntington* or Parkinson* or lateral sclerosis or multiple sclerosis or motor neuron disease or muscular dystrophy or Steinerts* or facioscapulohumeral or progressive bulbar palsy or myasthenia gravis or Gillian Barre or West Nile or muscular atrophy or Spondylosis or osteoarthritis or scoliosis or spinal stenosis or herniated nucleus pulposus or spinal arachnoiditis or cranial hemorrhage or cranial haemorrhage or aneurysm* or aphasia or dysarthria or apraxia or dystonia or ataxia or paraparesis or regional pain syndrome or neuropathy or neuritis or supranuclear palsy or Steele-Richardson-Olszewski or multi system atrophy or myositis or encephalitis or meningitis or clinical isolated syndrome).tw.
38. (paralys* or quadriplegi* or tetraplegi* or paraplegi*).tw.
39. ((communication or learning or consciousness or perpetual or speech or voice or vision or hearing or psychomotor) adj disorder*).tw.
40. (hearing loss or hearing aid* or deaf* or blind* or stutter* or amputation*).tw.
41. down* syndrome.tw.
42. cerebral palsy.tw.
43. exp gastrointestinal diseases/
44. (gastroenter* or intestinal or bowel or colonic).tw.
45. renal insufficiency/
46. ((renal or kidney) adj (failure* or insufficienc*)).tw.
47. diabetes mellitus/
48. (diabetes or diabetic*).tw.

49. exp nutrition disorders/
50. (underweight or malnutrition or malnourished or overweight or obes*).tw.
51. exp arthritis/
52. exp rheumatic diseases/
53. (arthritis or osteoarthritis or rheumati* or fibromyalgia).tw.
54. ((back or neck) adj pain).tw.
55. exp thyroid diseases/
56. thyroid.tw.
57. exp hypersensitivity/
58. (hypersensitivit* or allerg* or intolerance or anaphyla*).mp.
59. exp neoplasms/
60. (cancer* or oncolog* or neoplasm* or carcinom* or tumo?r* or malignan* or leuk?emia).tw.
61. exp hiv infections/
62. (hiv infect* or hiv disease*).tw.
63. exp mental disorders/
64. exp behavioral symptoms/
65. ((mental* or psychiatr* or psychological*) adj (ill* or disorder* or disease* or distress* or disab* or problem* or health* or patient* or treatment)).tw.
66. ((personality or mood or dysthymic or cognit* or anxiety or stress or eating or adjustment or reactive or somatoform or conversion or behavior or perception or psycho* or impulse control or development* or attention deficit or hyperactivity or conduct or motor skills or movement or tic or substance related) adj disorder*).tw.
67. (psychos#s or psychotic* or paranoi* or schizo* or neuros#s or neurotic* or delusion* or depression or depressive or bipolar or mania or manic or obsessi* or compulsi* or panic or phobic or phobia or anorexia or bulimia or neurastheni* or dissociative or autis* or Asperger* or Tourette or dyslex* or affective or borderline or narcissis* or suicid* or self injur* or self harm or adhd).tw.
68. (((substance or drug or alcohol) adj abuse) or "substance use" or "illegal drug use" or addict* or alcoholism or (problem* adj1 drinking)).tw.
69. or/21-68
70. 20 and 69
71. exp Rehabilitation, Vocational/
72. 70 or 71
73. 72 and 15

Appendix 3. PSYCINFO search strategy

1. exp qualitative methods/
2. (qualitative or ethno\$ or emic or etic or phenomenolog\$).mp.
3. (focus group\$ or lived experience\$ or life experience\$).mp.
4. (theoretical sampl\$ or purposive sampl\$).mp.
5. (hermeneutic\$ or constant compar\$ or grounded theory or narrative analysis).mp.
6. (metasynthes\$ or meta-synthes\$ or metasummar\$ or meta-summar\$ or metastud\$ or meta-stud\$).mp.
7. (field stud\$ or field note\$ or fieldnote\$ or field record\$).mp.
8. (content analy\$ or participant observ\$ or action research or audiorecord\$ or taperecord\$ or videorecord\$ or videotap\$).mp.
9. (thematic\$ adj3 analys\$).mp.
10. ((audio or tape or video\$) adj5 record\$).mp.
11. ((audio or tape or video\$) adj5 interview\$).mp.
12. (heuristic\$ or semiotic\$ or discourse\$ or postmodern\$ or post modern\$ or post structural\$ or poststructural\$ or feminis\$).mp.
13. or/1-12
14. (occupational adj (counseling or training or intervention* or rehabilitation)).tw.
15. (vocational adj (counseling or training or intervention* or rehabilitation)).tw.
16. (work adj1 (status or training or counseling or intervention* or accommodation or adjustment or activities or ability or disabil* or retention or maintenance or rehabilitation)).tw.
17. (job adj1 (status or training or counseling or intervention* or accommodation or adjustment or activities or ability or disabil* or retention or maintenance or modification or trial or placement or development or coaching or creation)).tw.
18. or/14-17
19. exp Chronic Illness/
20. exp disabilities/
21. exp "Chronicity (Disorders)"/
22. (disable* or disabil* or impairment or handicap).mp.
23. ((persistent or long* term or ongoing or degenerative or chronic or progressive) adj3 (disease* or ill* or condition* or insufficienc* or disorder* or impair*)).tw.
24. exp cardiovascular disorders/

25. (heart disease* or heart failure or myocardial ischemia or coronary disease* or coronary artery disease* or myocardial infarction or hypertension or high blood pressure).tw.
26. sickle cell.mp.
27. exp lung disorders/
28. (obstructive lung disease* or obstructive pulmonary disease* or copd or asthma or bronchitis).tw.
29. emphysema.tw.
30. (cystic fibrosis or respiratory distress).mp.
31. exp nervous system diseases/
32. (brain adj (disease* or damage* or injur*)).tw.
33. (cerebrovascular or brain ischemia or cerebral infarction or carotid artery disease* or stroke or epilep* or seizure*).tw.
34. (neurodegenerative or Huntington* or Parkinson* or lateral sclerosis or multiple sclerosis or motor neuron disease or muscular dystrophy or Steinerts* or facioscapulohumeral or progressive bulbar palsy or myasthenia gravis or Gillian Barre or West Nile or muscular atrophy or Spondylosis or osteoarthritis or scoliosis or spinal stenosis or herniated nucleus pulposus or spinal arachnoiditis or cranial hemorrhage or cranial haemorrhage or aneurysm* or aphasia or dysarthria or apraxia or dystonia or ataxia or paraparesis or regional pain syndrome or neuropathy or neuritis or supranuclear palsy or Steele-Richardson-Olszewski or multi system atrophy or myositis or encephalitis or meningitis or clinical isolated syndrome).tw.
35. (paralys* or quadriplegi* or tetraplegi* or paraplegi*).tw.
36. ((communication or learning or consciousness or perpetual or speech or voice or vision or hearing or psychomotor) adj disorder*).tw.
37. (hearing loss or hearing aid* or deaf* or blind* or stutter* or amputation*).tw.
38. down* syndrome.tw.
39. cerebral palsy.tw.
40. exp gastrointestinal disorders/
41. (gastroenter* or intestinal or bowel or colonic).tw.
42. exp kidney diseases/
43. ((renal or kidney) adj (failure* or insufficienc*)).tw.
44. exp diabetes/
45. (diabetes or diabetic*).tw.
46. exp nutritional deficiencies/
47. (underweight or malnutrition or malnourished or overweight or obes*).tw.
48. exp arthritis/

49. (arthritis or osteoarthritis or rheumat* or fibromyalgia).tw.
50. ((back or neck) adj pain).tw.
51. exp thyroid diseases/
52. thyroid.tw.
53. (hypersensitivit* or allerg* or intolerance or anaphyla*).mp.
54. exp neoplasms/
55. (cancer* or oncolog* or neoplasm* or carcinom* or tumo?r* or malignan* or leuk?emia).tw.
56. exp HIV/
57. (hiv infect* or hiv disease*).tw.
58. exp mental disorders/
59. exp behavioral problems/
60. ((mental* or psychiatr* or psychological*) adj (ill* or disorder* or disease* or distress* or disab* or problem* or health* or patient* or treatment)).tw.
61. ((personality or mood or dysthymic or cognit* or anxiety or stress or eating or adjustment or reactive or somatoform or conversion or behavior or perception or psycho* or impulse control or development* or attention deficit or hyperactivity or conduct or motor skills or movement or tic or substance related) adj disorder*).tw.
62. (psychos#s or psychotic* or paranoi* or schizo* or neuros#s or neurotic* or delusion* or depression or depressive or bipolar or mania or manic or obsessi* or compulsi* or panic or phobic or phobia or anorexia or bulimia or neurastheni* or dissociative or autis* or Asperger* or Tourette or dyslex* or affective or borderline or narcissis* or suicid* or self injur* or self harm or adhd).tw.
63. (((substance or drug or alcohol) adj abuse) or "substance use" or "illegal drug use" or addict* or alcoholism or (problem* adj1 drinking)).tw.
64. or/19-63
65. 18 and 64
66. exp vocational rehabilitation/
67. 65 or 66
68. 67 and 13

Appendix 4. AMED search strategy

1. (qualitative or ethno\$ or emic or etic or phenomenolog\$).mp.
2. (focus group\$ or lived experience\$ or life experience\$).mp.
3. (theoretical sampl\$ or purposive sampl\$).mp.
4. (hermeneutic\$ or constant compar\$ or grounded theory or narrative analysis).mp.

5. (metasynthes\$ or meta-synthes\$ or metasummar\$ or meta-summar\$ or metastud\$ or meta-stud\$).mp.
6. (field stud\$ or field note\$ or fieldnote\$ or field record\$).mp.
7. (content analy\$ or participant observ\$ or action research or audiorecord\$ or taperecord\$ or videorecord\$ or videotap\$).mp.
8. (thematic\$ adj3 analys\$).mp.
9. exp Tape Recording/
10. ((audio or tape or video\$) adj5 record\$).mp.
11. ((audio or tape or video\$) adj5 interview\$).mp.
12. (heuristic\$ or semiotic\$ or discourse\$ or postmodern\$ or post modern\$ or post structural\$ or poststructural\$ or feminis\$).mp.
13. or/1-12
14. (occupational adj (counseling or training or intervention* or rehabilitation)).tw.
15. (vocational adj (counseling or training or intervention* or rehabilitation)).tw.
16. (work adj1 (status or training or counseling or intervention* or accommodation or adjustment or activities or ability or disabil* or retention or maintenance or rehabilitation)).tw.
17. (job adj1 (status or training or counseling or intervention* or accommodation or adjustment or activities or ability or disabil* or retention or maintenance or modification or trial or placement or development or coaching or creation)).tw.
18. or/14-17
19. exp Chronic Disease/
20. exp Disabled/
21. (disable* or disabil* or impairment or handicap).mp.
22. ((persistent or long* term or ongoing or degenerative or chronic or progressive) adj3 (disease* or ill* or condition* or insufficienc* or disorder* or impair*)).tw.
23. exp cardiovascular disease/
24. (heart disease* or heart failure or myocardial ischemia or coronary disease* or coronary artery disease* or myocardial infarction or hypertension or high blood pressure).tw.
25. sickle cell.mp.
26. exp lung disease/
27. (obstructive lung disease* or obstructive pulmonary disease* or copd or asthma or bronchitis).tw.
28. exp emphysema/
29. exp pulmonary emphysema/

30. emphysema.tw.
31. (cystic fibrosis or respiratory distress).mp.
32. exp nervous system disease/
33. (brain adj (disease* or damage* or injur*)).tw.
34. (cerebrovascular or brain ischemia or cerebral infarction or carotid artery disease* or stroke or epilep* or seizure*).tw.
35. (neurodegenerative or Huntington* or Parkinson* or lateral sclerosis or multiple sclerosis or motor neuron disease or muscular dystrophy or Steinerts* or facioscapulohumeral or progressive bulbar palsy or myasthenia gravis or Gillian Barre or West Nile or muscular atrophy or Spondylosis or osteoarthritis or scoliosis or spinal stenosis or herniated nucleus pulposus or spinal arachnoiditis or cranial hemorrhage or cranial haemorrhage or aneurysm* or aphasia or dysarthria or apraxia or dystonia or ataxia or paraparesis or regional pain syndrome or neuropathy or neuritis or supranuclear palsy or Steele-Richardson-Olszewski or multi system atrophy or myositis or encephalitis or meningitis or clinical isolated syndrome).tw.
36. (paralys* or quadriplegi* or tetraplegi* or paraplegi*).tw.
37. ((communication or learning or consciousness or perpetual or speech or voice or vision or hearing or psychomotor) adj disorder*).tw.
38. (hearing loss or hearing aid* or deaf* or blind* or stutter* or amputation*).tw.
39. down* syndrome.tw.
40. cerebral palsy.tw.
41. exp gastrointestinal disease/
42. (gastroenter* or intestinal or bowel or colonic).tw.
43. renal insufficiency/
44. ((renal or kidney) adj (failure* or insufficienc*)).tw.
45. diabetes mellitus/
46. (diabetes or diabetic*).tw.
47. exp Nutrition Disorders/
48. (underweight or malnutrition or malnourished or overweight or obes*).tw.
49. exp arthritis/
50. exp rheumatic disease/
51. (arthritis or osteoarthritis or rheumati* or fibromyalgia).tw.
52. ((back or neck) adj pain).tw.
53. exp thyroid disease/
54. thyroid.tw.

55. exp hypersensitivity/
56. (hypersensitivit* or allerg* or intolerance or anaphyla*).mp.
57. exp neoplasms/
58. (cancer* or oncolog* or neoplasm* or carcinom* or tumo?r* or malignan* or leuk?emia).tw.
59. exp hiv infections/
60. (hiv infect* or hiv disease*).tw.
61. exp mental disorders/
62. exp behavioral disorders/
63. ((mental* or psychiatr* or psychological*) adj (ill* or disorder* or disease* or distress* or disab* or problem* or health* or patient* or treatment)).tw.
64. ((personality or mood or dysthymic or cognit* or anxiety or stress or eating or adjustment or reactive or somatoform or conversion or behavior or perception or psycho* or impulse control or development* or attention deficit or hyperactivity or conduct or motor skills or movement or tic or substance related) adj disorder*).tw.
65. (psychos#s or psychotic* or paranoi* or schizo* or neuros#s or neurotic* or delusion* or depression or depressive or bipolar or mania or manic or obsessi* or compulsi* or panic or phobic or phobia or anorexia or bulimia or neurastheni* or dissociative or autis* or Asperger* or Tourette or dyslex* or affective or borderline or narcissis* or suicid* or self injur* or self harm or adhd).tw.
66. (((substance or drug or alcohol) adj abuse) or "substance use" or "illegal drug use" or addict* or alcoholism or (problem* adj1 drinking)).tw.
67. or/19-66
68. 18 and 67
69. exp rehabilitation vocational/
70. 68 or 69
71. 70 and 13

Appendix 5. CINHALL search strategy

1. (MH "Qualitative Studies+")
2. TX qualitative or ethno* or emic or etic or phenomenolog*
3. TX focus group* or lived experience* or life experience*
4. TX theoretical sampl* or purposive sampl* or purposeful sampl*
5. TX hermeneutic* or constant compar* or grounded theory or narrative analysis

6. TX metasyntes* or meta-syntes* or metasummar* or meta-summar* or metastud* or meta-stud*
7. TX field stud* or field note* or fieldnote* or field record*
8. TX content analy* or participant observ* or action research or audiorecord* or taperecord* or videorecord* or videotap*
9. TX thematic* adj3 analys*
10. (MH "Audiorecording") OR (MH "Videorecording")
11. TX (audio or tape or video*) N3 record*
12. TX (audio or tape or video*) N3 interview*
13. TX heuristic* or semiotic* or discourse* or postmodern* or post modern* or post structural* or poststructural* or feminis*
14. S1 OR S2 OR S3 OR S4 OR S5 OR S6 OR S7 OR S8 OR S9 OR S10 OR S11 OR S12 OR S13
15. TX occupational N1 (counseling or training or intervention* or rehabilitation)
16. TX vocational N1 (counseling or training or intervention* or rehabilitation)
17. TX work N1 (status or training or counseling or intervention* or accommodation or adjustment or activities or ability or disabil* or retention or maintenance or rehabilitation)
18. TX job N1 (status or training or counseling or intervention* or accommodation or adjustment or activities or ability or disabil* or retention or maintenance or modification or trial or placement or development or coaching or creation)
19. S15 OR S16 OR S17 OR S18
20. (MH "Chronic Disease+")
21. (MH "Disabled+")
22. TX disable* or disabil* or impairment or handicap
23. TX ((persistent or long* term or ongoing or degenerative or chronic or progressive) N1 (disease* or ill* or condition* or insufficienc* or disorder* or impair*))
24. (MH "Cardiovascular Diseases+")
25. TX heart disease* or heart failure or myocardial ischemia or coronary disease* or coronary artery disease* or myocardial infarction or hypertension or high blood pressure

26. TX sickle cell
27. (MH "Lung Diseases, Obstructive+")
28. TX obstructive lung disease* or obstructive pulmonary disease* or copd or asthma or bronchitis
29. TX cystic fibrosis or respiratory distress
30. (MH "Nervous System Diseases+")
31. TX brain N1 (disease* or damage* or injur* or tumour or tumor)
32. TX cerebrovascular or brain ischemia or cerebral infarction or carotid artery disease* or stroke or epilep* or seizure*
33. TX neurodegenerative or Huntington* or Parkinson* or lateral sclerosis or multiple sclerosis or motor neuron disease or muscular dystrophy or Steinerts* or facioscapulohumeral or progressive bulbar palsy or myasthenia gravis or Gillian Barre or West Nile or muscular atrophy or Spondylosis or osteoarthritis or scoliosis or spinal stenosis or herniated nucleus pulposus or spinal arachnoiditis or cranial hemorrhage or cranial haemorrhage or aneurysm* or aphasia or dysarthria or apraxia or dystonia ...
34. TX paralys* or quadriplegi* or tetraplegi* or paraplegi*
35. TX communication or learning or consciousness or perpetual or speech or voice or vision or hearing or psychomotor) N1 disorder*
36. TX hearing loss or hearing aid* or deaf* or blind* or stutter* or amputation*
37. TX down* syndrome
38. TX cerebral palsy
39. (MH "Gastrointestinal Diseases+")
40. TX gatroenter* or intestinal or bowel or colonic
41. (MH "Renal Insufficiency+")
42. TX (renal or kidney) N1 (failure* or insufficienc*)
43. (MH "Diabetes Mellitus+")
44. TX diabetes or diabetic*
45. (MH "Nutrition Disorders+")
46. TX underweight or malnutrition or malnourished or overweight or obes*

47. (MH "Arthritis+")
48. (MH "Rheumatic Diseases+")
49. TX arthritis or osteoarthritis or rheumati* or fibromyalgia
50. TX (back or neck) N1 pain
51. (MH "Thyroid Diseases+")
52. TX thyroid
53. (MH "Hypersensitivity+")
54. TX hypersensitivit* or allerg* or intolerance or anaphyla*
55. (MH "Neoplasms+")
56. TX cancer* or oncolog* or neoplasm* or carcinom* or tumo?r* or malignan* or leuk?emia
57. (MH "Human Immunodeficiency Virus+")
58. TX hiv infect* or hiv disease*
59. (MH "Mental Disorders+")
60. (MH "Behavioral Symptoms+")
61. TX (mental* or psychiatr* or psychological*) N1 (ill* or disorder* or disease* or distress* or disab* or problem* or health* or patient* or treatment)
62. TX (personality or mood or dysthymic or cognit* or anxiety or stress or eating or adjustment or reactive or somatoform or conversion or behavior or perception or psycho* or impulse control or development* or attention deficit or hyperactivity or conduct or motor skills or movement or tic or substance related) N1 disorder*
63. TX psychos* or psychotic* or paranoi* or schizo* or neuros* or neurotic* or delusion* or depression or depressive or bipolar or mania or manic or obsessi* or compulsi* or panic or phobic or phobia or anorexia or bulimia or neurastheni* or dissociative or autis* or Asperger* or Tourette or dyslex* or affective or borderline or narcissis* or suicid* or self injur* or self harm or adhd
64. TX ((substance or drug or alcohol) N1 abuse) or substance use or illegal drug use or addict* or alcoholism or (problem* N1 drinking)
65. S20 OR S21 OR S22 OR S23 OR S24 OR S25 OR S26 OR S27 OR S28 OR S29 OR S30 OR S31 OR S32 OR S33 OR S34 OR S35 OR S36 OR S37 OR S38 OR S39 OR S40 OR S41 OR S42 OR S43 OR S44 OR

S45 OR S46 OR S47 OR S48 OR S49 OR S50 OR S51 OR S52 OR S53 OR S54 OR S55 OR S56 OR S57
OR S58 OR S59 OR S60 OR S61 OR S62 OR S63 OR S64

66. S19 AND S65

67. (MH "Rehabilitation, Vocational+")

68. S66 OR S67

69. S14 AND S68

Appendix 6. Business Source Complete search strategy

1. qualitative or ethno* or emic or etic or phenomenolog*
2. focus group* or lived experience* or life experience*
3. theoretical sampl* or purposive sampl* or purposeful sampl*
4. hermeneutic* or constant compar* or grounded theory or narrative analysis
5. metasyntes* or meta-syntes* or metasummar* or meta-summar* or metastud* or meta-stud*
6. field stud* or field note* or fieldnote* or field record*
7. content analy* or participant observ* or action research or audiorecord* or taperecord* or videorecord* or videotap*
8. thematic analys*
9. audiorecord* or audio record*
10. videorecord* or video record*
11. heuristic* or semiotic* or discourse* or postmodern* or post modern* or post structural* or poststructural* or feminis*
12. S1 OR S2 OR S3 OR S4 OR S5 OR S6 OR S7 OR S8 OR S9 OR S10 OR S11
13. occupational N1 (counseling or training or intervention* or rehabilitation)
14. vocational N1 (counseling or training or intervention* or rehabilitation)
15. work N1 (status or training or counseling or intervention* or accommodation or adjustment or activities or ability or disabil* or retention or maintenance or rehabilitation)

16. job N1 (status or training or counseling or intervention* or accommodation or adjustment or activities or ability or disabil* or retention or maintenance or modification or trial or placement or development or coaching or creation)
17. S13 OR S14 OR S15 OR S16
18. disable* or disabil* or impairment or handicap
19. ((persistent or long* term or ongoing or degenerative or chronic or progressive) N1 (disease* or ill* or condition* or insufficienc* or disorder* or impair*))
20. heart disease* or heart failure or myocardial ischemia or coronary disease* or coronary artery disease* or myocardial infarction or hypertension or high blood pressure
21. sickle cell
22. obstructive lung disease* or obstructive pulmonary disease* or copd or asthma or bronchitis
23. cystic fibrosis or respiratory distress
24. brain N1 (disease* or damage* or injur* or tumour or tumor)
25. cerebrovascular or brain ischemia or cerebral infarction or carotid artery disease* or stroke or epilep* or seizure*
26. neurodegenerative or Huntington* or Parkinson* or lateral sclerosis or multiple sclerosis or motor neuron disease or muscular dystrophy or Steinerts* or facioscapulohumeral or progressive bulbar palsy or myasthenia gravis or Gillian Barre or West Nile or muscular atrophy or Spondylosis or osteoarthritis or scoliosis or spinal stenosis or herniated nucleus pulposus or spinal arachnoiditis or cranial hemorrhage or cranial haemorrhage or aneurysm* or aphasia or dysarthria or apraxia or dystonia
27. communication or learning or consciousness or perpetual or speech or voice or vision or hearing or psychomotor) N1 disorder*
28. hearing loss or hearing aid* or deaf* or blind* or stutter* or amputation*
29. down* syndrome
30. cerebral palsy
31. gastroenter* or intestinal or bowel or colonic
32. (renal or kidney) N1 (failure* or insufficienc*)
33. diabetes or diabetic*
34. underweight or malnutrition or malnourished or overweight or obes*

35. arthritis or osteoarthritis or rheumati* or fibromyalgia
36. (back or neck) N1 pain
37. thyroid
38. hypersensitivit* or allerg* or intolerance or anaphyla*
39. cancer* or oncolog* or neoplasm* or carcinom* or tumo?r* or malignan* or leuk?emia
40. hiv infect* or hiv disease*
41. (mental* or psychiatr* or psychological*) N1 (ill* or disorder* or disease* or distress* or disab* or problem* or health* or patient* or treatment)
42. (personality or mood or dysthymic or cognit* or anxiety or stress or eating or adjustment or reactive or somatoform or conversion or behavior or perception or psycho* or impulse control or development* or attention deficit or hyperactivity or conduct or motor skills or movement or tic or substance related) N1 disorder*
43. psychos* or psychotic* or paranoi* or schizo* or neuros* or neurotic* or delusion* or depression or depressive or bipolar or mania or manic or obsessi* or compulsi* or panic or phobic or phobia or anorexia or bulimia or neurastheni* or dissociative or autis* or Asperger* or Tourette or dyslex* or affective or borderline or narcissis* or suicid* or self injur* or self harm or adhd
44. ((substance or drug or alcohol) N1 abuse) or substance use or illegal drug use or addict* or alcoholism or (problem* N1 drinking)
45. S18 OR S19 OR S20 OR S21 OR S22 OR S23 OR S24 OR S25 OR S26 OR S27 OR S28 OR S29 OR S30 OR S31 OR S32 OR S33 OR S34 OR S35 OR S36 OR S37 OR S38 OR S39 OR S40 OR S41 OR S42 OR S43 OR S44
46. S17 AND S45
47. S12 AND S46

Appendix 7. Proquest thesis and dissertations search strategy

all(disable* or disabil* or impairment or handicap or "long term condition*" or "degenerative condition*" or "chronic condition*" or "progressive conditions*" or "chronic disease*" or "chronic ill*" or "chronic disorder" or "heart disease" or "cardiac disease" or "lung disease" or neurological or "spinal cord" or sclerosis or Parkinson* or "motor neuron disease" or "learning disabil*" or paralys* or quadriplegi* or tetraplegi* or paraplegi* or "mental health" or "cerebral palsy" or "spina bifida" or arthritis or cancer or "brain injur*" or "head injur*") AND all("vocational rehabilitation" or

“vocational counselling” or “vocational training” or “vocational intervention” or “occupational counselling” or “occupational training” or “occupational rehabilitation” or “work training” or “work intervention” or “work counselling” or “work rehabilitation” or “work accommodation” or “work adjustment” or “work support” or “work retention” or “work maintenance” or “job training” or “job counselling” or “job accommodation” or “job retention” or “job maintenance” or “job rehabilitation”) AND all(qualitative or interview* or "focus group" or "focus groups" or questionnaire or ethnograph* or ethnological or phenomenol* or "grounded theory" or "grounded research" or "grounded study")