

ENGAGING INNOVATIVE KNOWLEDGE THROUGH APPLIED QUALITATIVE RESEARCH

MCAST 2nd ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS



The Use of an Observation Proforma during a School-based Physical Activity Programme

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The Aims of this Presentation

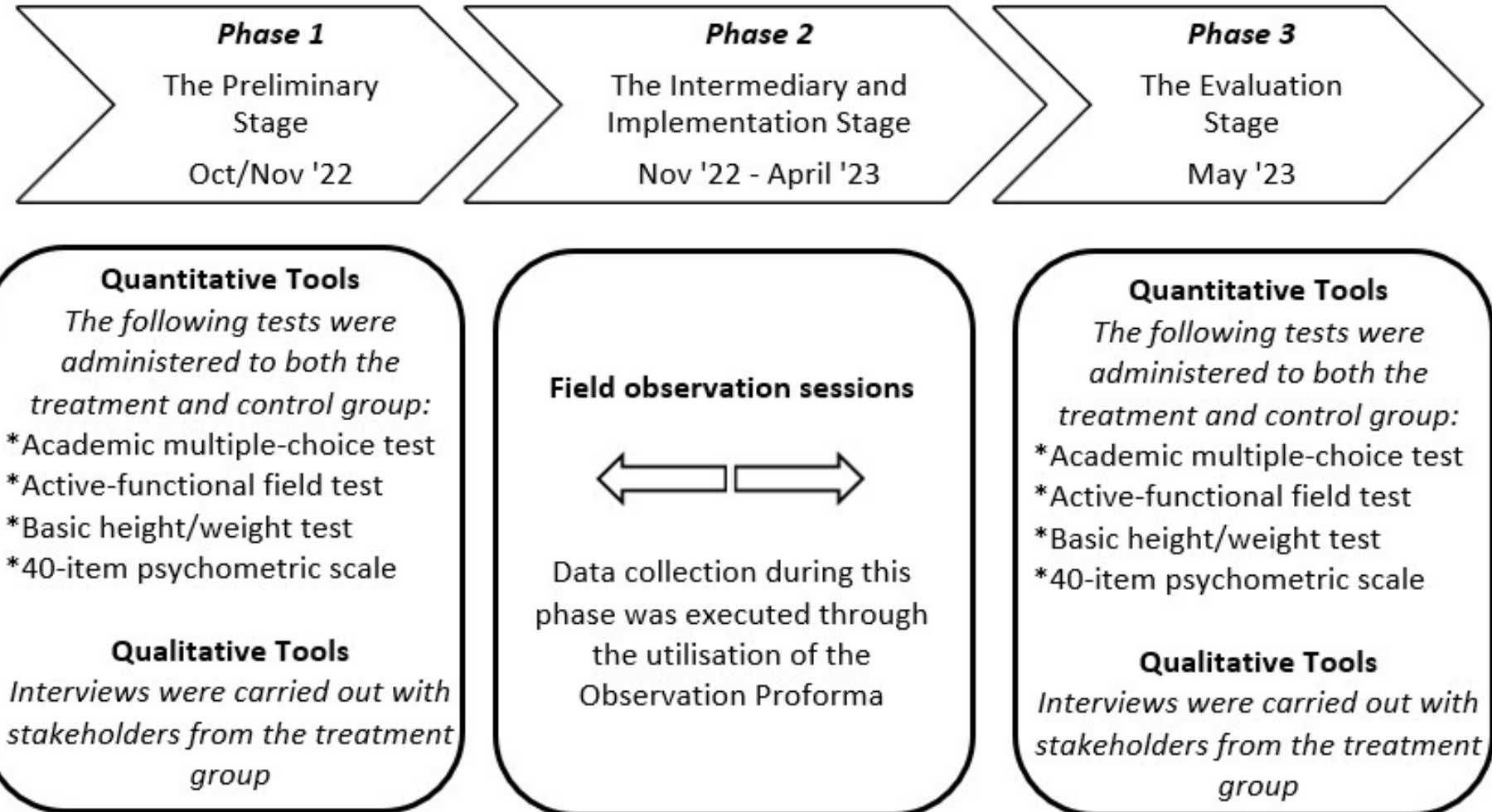
- i) To present an observation proforma; a qualitative research tool employed to evaluate a daily physical activity programme initiated in primary schools
- ii) To elucidate the development process of the observation proforma by a group of researchers, with the goal of contributing to qualitative academic literature
- iii) To provide some of the researchers' insights upon using the observation proforma within the field of physical activity

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The Overarching Research Design



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The
 Presentation
 of the
 Proforma

Section *A*

Date	Time	Duration	Term	Observation number
Location	Area	Name/s of coaches	Number of students	Number of other staff members
Researcher's Name				
Peer Researcher's Name (if applicable)				
Learning Outcome				

Section *B*

Objective Field Notes	Interpretative Field Notes

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Section C

	Objective Observations	Interpretive Observations
General feeling/mood of the session		
Peer interaction		
Level of engagement		
Group management		
Activity pace and pitch		
Time on task (can be quantified)		
Cross-curricular implementations (concerning skills pertaining to the physical, academic, and wellness domains)		
Awareness of individual needs and inclusivity		
Learning feedback provided by learners		
The approach/instructional model applied by coaches		

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Section

D

Anecdotal notes	
Further observations	

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The Development Process of the Proforma

- Step 1: A preliminary version of the proforma was formulated by a member of the research team
- Step 2: The research team provided input and recommendations, leading to revisions of the proforma
- Step 3: The observation proforma was utilised as a tool for data collection during the second phase of the research study
- Step 4: Feedback was obtained at the end of the research study
- Step 5: The proforma, along with derived insights was disseminated through a research paper



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Exploring some of the Researchers' Insights...

- The developmental process was considered as “*fundamental*” as the intersection of the researchers’ backgrounds contributed positively:

“Everyone is on the same page and can navigate the research landscape effectively”.

- Scepticism → Autonomy + Flexibility

Would the proforma rigidise and compartmentalise the data collection process? The proforma allowed the researchers to present data in varying multidimensional ways.

- Recommendations and varying insights were shared regarding the sections presented, yet aligned insights were recorded regarding how the proforma aligns with the research objectives.

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THANK YOU

