

## Mixed Methods Research In Public Health: From Theory to Practice

**Krishnamurthy Jayanna, Satyanarayana Ramanaik, Manoj Kumar  
Pati, Arin Kar, Swaroop N, Tejaswini B D, Vinod Ramani**

### **ABSTRACT**

Mixed Methods study design is increasingly adopted in recent times by the public health researchers. The two critical components of mixed methods i.e., quantitative, and qualitative approaches are often discussed by domain experts in isolation, resulting in lack of practical application of these methods. The current chapter aims to address these gaps through blending theoretical knowledge in this domain with the practical experience of the authors. The chapter sheds light on scope, definitions, and practical considerations while planning, implementing, analyzing, and disseminating mixed methods research findings for programs and policy.

The mixed methods research draws upon the strengths of both qualitative and quantitative approaches. The methodology leverages effective engagement of patient and community for identifying health priorities. However, the designing of mixed methods research requires unique methodological skill sets. The key challenge is to build a collaborative and cross-disciplinary team. When the perspectives of subjects are weaved into the research findings, the chances of engaging the community, health providers, systems authorities and policy makers are enhanced significantly. This facilitates effective implementation of programs and optimizes health outcomes.

**Key Words:** mixed-methods research; public health, health systems, community perspectives, quantitative research, qualitative research