



QRMH3
The Third Qualitative Research on Mental Health Conference.
Nottingham, UK. August 25th – 27th 2010.

Call for papers and expressions of interest.

Qualitative mental health research focuses on questions pertaining to individual, social, and cultural meanings related to mental health. These include, for example, how victims of mental health problems make sense of their experiences, how the victim's social milieu can enhance or hinder recovery from their difficulties, and what happens in treatment settings and encounters.

QRMH1 was held in Tampere, Finland in 2006. It attracted over 120 participants from three continents and 11 countries. QRMH2 was also held in Tampere, in 2008, and also attracted a similar degree of international interest.

QRMH3 is to be held at the University of Nottingham, UK between August 25th and 27th 2010.

This time the theme is to be:

The Disabled Self. Theoretical and Empirical Approaches to Stigma and Recovery.

Illness, whether physical or mental, has important social dimensions. The success with which anyone recovers their autonomy and independence after an episode of illness reflects far more than just how tissues have healed or infection resolved. Social support, professional attitudes, esteem and other features of psychological adjustment all play their part.

These are important in determining and limiting disability and they are particularly important in mental health where boundaries between illness and social constructs are far from clear and often openly disputed.

QRMH3 will focus upon these matters. Stigma, and recovery from illness can both be viewed as developments of 'self', whether as how an individual is viewed by others, or as how they view themselves. Keynotes will include accounts of mental and physical patient-hood, methodological approaches to understanding constructions and development of 'self' in relation to experiences of illness and health services, and differing theoretical accounts.

The conference will be of interest to health and social care professionals from all backgrounds but particularly those with an interest in the management of chronic conditions, rehabilitation and mental health: psychological and social scientists and health policy makers. Several keynote speakers have been approached but we wish to invite suggestions from potential delegates before making final arrangements.

The conference will take place in the attractive campus of the [University of Nottingham](#). Inexpensive but good quality student accommodation will be available. Nottingham is within easy reach of East Midlands Airport (which has a range of domestic services and links to mainland Europe, as well as Orlando and Cancún) and is well linked by road and rail to other parts of the UK and to other UK airports. [Nottingham](#) itself is well known as the home of legendary Robin Hood and it offers a wealth of historic and scenic tourist opportunities.

The University of Nottingham is also hosting the second conference of the [British Psychological Society's](#) qualitative methods section; Qualitative Methods in Psychology (QMIP) during the first half of the same week. We have agreed to host joint sessions on August 25th, where delegates from each of the conferences can share overlapping interests.

This is an early call for expressions of interest, papers and suggestions of keynotes and content for QRMH3.

Replies should be directed to QRMH3@nottingham.ac.uk

A fuller programme and details of costs and timing will be circulated in November 2009.