

Table of contents

Page

Chapter 1

Orientation to the study

1.1	INTRODUCTION	1
1.2	BACKGROUND TO THE PROBLEM	1
1.3	THE PROBLEM STATEMENT	3
1.4	SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY	4
1.5	PURPOSE OF THE STUDY	4
1.6	ASSUMPTIONS	4
1.6.1	Theoretical/conceptual	4
1.6.2	Methodological-technical	5
1.6.3	Ontological	5
1.6.4	Epistemology	6
1.7	RESEARCH QUESTIONS AND OBJECTIVES	6
1.8	METHODOLOGY	6
1.8.1	Design	6
1.8.2	Population and sample	8
1.8.3	Setting	8
1.9	DATA COLLECTION	9
1.10	DATA ANALYSIS	11
1.11	TRUSTWORTHINESS	12
1.12	ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS	12
1.12.1	Consent to conduct the study	12
1.12.2	Confidentiality and anonymity	12
1.12.3	Privacy	13
1.12.4	Dissemination of results	13
1.12.5	The right to withdraw from the study	13
1.13	LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY	14
1.14	DEFINITION OF KEY CONCEPTS	14

Table of contents

Page

1.15	REFERENCE TECHNIQUES	15
1.16	OUTLINE OF THE STUDY	16
1.17	CONCLUSION	16

Chapter 2

Literature review

2.1	INTRODUCTION	17
2.2	THE PHENOMENON OF PAIN	18
2.2.1	Pain in general	18
2.2.1.1	Definition of pain	18
2.2.1.2	Physiology of pain	19
2.2.1.2.1	Sensory component of pain	19
2.2.1.2.2	Perceptual component of pain	20
2.2.1.2.3	Pain responses	20
2.2.1.3	Psychology of Pain	21
2.2.1.4	Pain perception	21
2.2.1.5	Measurements of dimensions of pain	22
2.2.1.6	Types of pain	23
2.2.2	Pain in labour	25
2.2.2.1	Physiology of labour pain	25
2.2.2.2	Labour pain experience	25
2.2.2.3	Factors influencing perception of pain during labour	27
2.2.3	Cultural aspects of pain and labour pain	29
2.2.4	Transcultural nursing	31
2.2.5	Research outcomes on pain in general, labour pain and cultural aspects of labour pain	32
2.2.5.1	Pain in general	32
2.2.5.2	Labour pain	33
2.2.5.3	Cultural aspects of general pain and labour pain	34
2.2.5.3.1	General pain	34
2.2.5.3.2	Labour pain	35
2.3	CONCLUSION	37

	Page
Chapter 3	
Research design and methodology	
3.1 INTRODUCTION.....	38
3.2 DEFINITION OF <i>METHODOLOGY</i>	38
3.3 LITERATURE REVIEW ON APPROACHES TO ASPECTS OF PAIN	39
3.3.1 Pain in general	39
3.3.2 Labour pain	39
3.3.3 Cultural aspects of labour pain	40
3.4 RESEARCH DESIGN	42
3.4.1 Definitions	42
3.4.1.1 Qualitative research	42
3.4.1.2 Attributes of qualitative research	42
3.4.1.3 Indications for the use of qualitative research	44
3.4.1.4 Advantages of qualitative research	44
3.4.1.5 Disadvantages of qualitative research.....	45
3.4.2.1.1 Definition	45
3.4.2.1.2 Purpose for using the exploratory method	46
3.4.2.2.1 Definition	46
3.4.2.2.2 Purpose for using the descriptive method	46
3.4.2.2.3 Advantages of a descriptive approach	46
3.4.2.3.1 Contextual	47
3.4.2.4.1 Transcultural nursing research	47
3.4.3.1 Epistemology	48
3.5 PHENOMENOLOGICAL RESEARCH	48
3.5.1 Definitions	48

Table of contents

	Page
3.5.2 Advantages of phenomenology	49
3.5.3 Indications for the use of the phenomenological approach	49
3.5.4 Dimensions of phenomenology	50
3.5.5 Procedural steps	52
3.5.6 Special strategies in phenomenology	52
3.5.6.1 Intuiting	52
3.5.6.2 Bracketing	53
3.5.6.3 Analysing	53
3.5.6.4 Describing	53
3.6 POPULATION AND SAMPLING	54
3.6.1 Population	54
3.6.2 Sampling	54
3.6.3 Sample location	54
3.6.4 Sampling method	54
3.6.5 Sampling criteria	55
3.6.5.1 Inclusion criteria	55
3.6.5.2 Exclusion criteria	55
3.6.6 Sampling size	56
3.7 DATA COLLECTION	56
3.7.1 Interviewing	56
3.7.1.1 In-depth interviews	56
3.7.1.2 Open unstructured interviews	57
3.7.1.3 Advantages of interviews	57
3.7.1.4 Disadvantages of interviews	58
3.7.2 Preparing for the interview	58
3.7.2.1 Becoming acquainted: the initial relationship	58
3.7.3 Conducting the interview	59
3.7.3.1 Role of the interviewer	59
3.7.3.2 Role of the interviewee	60
3.7.4 The researcher/interviewer as the main data collection instrument	60
3.8 DATA ANALYSIS	60
3.8.1 Qualitative phenomenological data analysis	60
3.8.2 Types of qualitative data analysis	61

Table of contents	Page
3.8.2.1 Thematic analysis	61
3.8.2.2 Content analysis	61
3.8.3 The data analysis process	62
3.9 ADEQUACY AND TRUSTWORTHINESS	65
3.9.1 Credibility	65
3.9.1.1 Prolonged engagement	65
3.9.1.2 Persistent observation	66
3.9.1.3 Triangulation	66
3.9.1.3.1 Sources	66
3.9.1.3.2 Methods	66
3.9.1.3.3 Investigators	66
3.9.1.4 Peer debriefing	67
3.9.1.5 Member checks	67
3.9.2 Dependability	67
3.9.3 Confirmability	68
3.9.4 Transferability	68
3.10 ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS	68
3.10.1 Permission to conduct the study	69
3.10.2 Confidentiality and anonymity	69
3.10.3 Privacy	69
3.10.4 Right to withdraw	70
3.10.5 Dissemination of results	70
3.11 CONCLUSION	70

Chapter 4

Data analysis and research findings

4.1 INTRODUCTION	71
4.2 DATA STRUCTURE	71
4.3 PRESENTATION OF THEMES AND CATEGORIES	73
4.3.1 Theme 1: Physiological manifestations of labour pain	73

Table of contents

	Page
4.3.1.1 Types of pain experienced during labour	73
4.3.1.2 Location of pain during labour	74
4.3.1.3 Pain: intensity, frequency and time	75
4.3.1.4 Other signs and symptoms experienced during labour	76
4.3.2 Theme 2: Reactions to the experience of labour pain	77
4.3.2.1 Physical reaction to labour pain	77
4.3.2.1.1 Bodily movements	78
4.3.2.1.2 Verbalisation	79
4.3.2.2 Psychological reaction	80
4.3.2.2.1 Fear and anxiety	81
4.3.2.2.2 Feeling lonely	82
4.3.3 Theme 3: Cultural-religious meaning of and reaction to labour pain	84
4.3.3.1 Stoicism	84
4.3.3.2 Bravery	85
4.3.3.3 Pride	86
4.3.3.4 Womanhood and honour	87
4.3.3.5 Gratification and reward	88
4.3.3.6 Removal of shame	88
4.3.3.7 Bitter-sweet paradox	90
4.3.3.8 Valuing the baby	91
4.3.3.9 Labour pain as a natural phenomenon	92
4.3.3.10 Judeo-Christian belief	92
4.3.4 Theme 4: Factors that support the research problem	93
4.3.4.1 Ethnic stereotyping	93
4.3.4.2 Screaming	94
4.3.4.3 The need for pain relief	95
4.3.5 Theme 5: Pain relief during labour	96
4.3.5.1 General measures (self-treatment)	96
4.3.5.2 Cultural and herbal remedies	99
4.3.6 Theme 6: Prophylactic taboo practices	101
4.4 CONCLUSION	103

Table of contents	Page
Chapter 5	
Conclusion and recommendations	
5.1 INTRODUCTION	105
5.2 OVERVIEW OF THE STUDY	105
5.3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES	105
5.4 SUMMARY OF THE DATA	106
5.5 THE THEMES AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS	106
5.6 RECOMMENDATIONS	111
5.7 CONCLUSION	115
BIBLIOGRAPHY	116

List of tables**Page**

Table 2.1	Behavioural indicators of pain	21
Table 3.1	Categorisation of the verbatim transcriptions	64
Table 4.1	Structure of the data	72

List of figures	Page
-----------------	------

Figure 1.1 Map of Swaziland	10
-----------------------------------	----

			Page
Data display	4.1	Theme 1	Physiological manifestation of labour pain (overview) 73
Data display	4.1.1	Theme 1	Physiological manifestation of labour pain (type of labour pain) 73
Data display	4.1.2	Theme 1	Physiological manifestation of labour pain (location of pain) 74
Data display	4.1.3	Theme 1	Physiological manifestation of labour pain: (intensity, frequency and time) 75
Data display	4.1.4	Theme 1	Physiological manifestation of labour (other signs and symptoms) 76
Data display	4.2	Theme 2	Reactions to the experience of labour pain (overview) 77
Data display	4.2.1	Theme 2	Reactions to the experience of labour pain (physical reactions) 78
Data display	4.2.1.1	Theme 2	Reactions to the experience of labour pain (physical reactions: body movements) 78
Data display	4.2.1.2	Theme 2	Reactions to the experience of labour pain (physical reactions: verbalisation) 79
Data display	4.2.2	Theme 2	Reactions to the experience of labour pain (psychological reactions: overview) 81
Data display	4.2.2.1	Theme 2	Reaction to the experience of labour pain (psychological reactions: fear and anxiety) 81
Data display	4.2.2.2	Theme 2	Reactions to the experience of labour pain (psychological reactions: feeling of loneliness/need for support) 82
Data display	4.3	Theme 3	Cultural-religious meaning of and reactions to labour pains (overview) 84
Data display	4.3.1	Theme 3	Cultural-religious meaning of and reactions to labour pain (stoicism) 85
Data display	4.3.2	Theme 3	Cultural-religious meaning of and reaction to labour pain (bravery) 85
Data display	4.3.3	Theme 3	Cultural-religious meaning of and reaction to labour pain (pride) 86
Data display	4.3.4	Theme 3	Cultural-religious meaning of and reaction to labour pain (womanhood and honour) 87
Data display	4.3.5	Theme 3	Cultural-religious meaning of and reaction to labour pain (gratification and reward) 88
Data display	4.3.6	Theme 3	Cultural-religious meaning of and reaction to labour pain (removal of shame) 89
Data display	4.3.7	Theme 3	Cultural-religious meaning of and reaction to labour pain (bitter-sweet paradox) 90
Data display	4.3.8	Theme 3	Cultural-religious meaning of and reaction to labour pain (valuing the baby) 91
Data display	4.3.9	Theme 3	Cultural-religious meaning of and reaction to labour pain (labour pain as a natural phenomenon) 92
Data display	4.3.10	Theme 3	Cultural-religious meaning of and reaction to labour pain (Judeo-Christian belief) 93
Data display	4.4	Theme 4	Factors that support the research problem (overview) 93
Data display	4.4.1	Theme 4	Factors that support the research problem (ethnic stereotyping) 94
Data display	4.4.2	Theme 4	Factors that support the research problem (screaming) 94
Data display	4.4.3	Theme 4	Factors that support the research problem (Need for pain relief) 95
Data display	4.5	Theme 5	Pain relief during labour (overview) 96
Data display	4.5.1	Theme 5	Pain relief during labour (general measures: self-treatment) 96
Data display	4.5.2	Theme 5	Pain relief during labour (cultural and herbal remedies) 99
Data display	4.6	Theme 6	Prophylactic taboo practices 102

List of appendices	Page
--------------------	------

Appendix 1	Request to the Raleigh Fitkin Memorial Hospital to conduct research
------------	---

Appendix 2	Permission from Raleigh Fitkin Memorial Hospital to conduct the research
------------	--

Appendix 3	Informed consent form
------------	-----------------------

List of abbreviations**Page**

ICN	International Council of Nursing
MPQ	McGill Pain Questionnaire Scale
PMS	Premenstrual syndrome
RFMH	Raleigh Fitkin Memorial Hospital
RSA	Republic of South Africa
SA	South Africa
USA	United States of America
UK	United Kingdom
VAS	Visual Analogue Scale
WHO	World Health Organization

