



DELAKTIGHETSMODELLEN
SKÅNETEAMET

A short presentation of the Involvement Model, IMO, towards empowerment – Possibilities as a research method

Besides the positive results for all participants in the IMO dialogue when used in support and care settings for service users, we see great potentials to use **the model as a research method**.

The IMO could be used as a research method in three ways:

1. In collaboration with the research team
2. As a research method to scientifically study phenomenon as participation, influence, power imbalances and inclusion
3. To strengthen and high-light service users' own experiences in developing the knowledge based practice (EBP) they depend on.

1. Collaboration during the research process

- Both service users, caregivers and the Facilitator team can take part as co-researchers.
- The IMO dialogue can facilitate cooperation and partnership in different stages of the study:
 - To clarify initial research ideas and questions,
 - Identifying relevant local questions,
 - Shape and test research questions and project design,
 - Being a speaking partner to researchers throughout the research,
 - Discuss ethic values and interpret results from different perspectives.
- The participants can facilitate contact to other service users e.g. those with the most weak voices and give credibility to the study and
- Get around "Gate keepers".

2. IMO research design

The researcher could take the role of Facilitators and from the inside observe the process of the dialogue and the POQ:s significance during the talks (participatory observation). Or the researcher will observe a dialogue loop from a passive role.

Research questions when you want to understand attitude change through a participatory dialogue, deliberative meetings.

Better understanding how people change attitudes, get involved, and the strength in the dialogue

- In combination with other methods e.g. questionnaire + IMO
- Different kinds of Participatory action research
- Impact evaluations where service users have an active role in the research process
- Mixed methods, with participatory and qualitative approach
- Multisite studies

3. Knowledge and EBP

Some examples of research questions that could be studied by using IMO:

- The learning process when two different perspectives meet.
- Top-down and bottom-up issues and balance of power.
- Studying barriers to participation in e.g. tacit knowledge.
- Studying professional support strategies to strengthen participation and involvement.
- Studying changes and consequences when service users gets aware of their rights.
- Studying required communication skills from both supporters and service users.

Contact

Ann-Christine Gullacksen, Associate professor, ann-christine.gullacksen@mah.se

RoseMarie Hejdedal, Consultant, hejdedalutveckling@ystad.nu