

	Purpose	Activity	Example
Research	Create generalizable new knowledge, including studies whose aim is to generate hypotheses and studies which aim to test them.	Quantitative research – may involve evaluating or comparing various interventions, solutions, or prototypes. Qualitative research – usually involves studying how interventions, solutions, prototypes and relationships are experienced.	Quantitative – measuring the effect of a certain tool over another Qualitative – exploring attitudes towards a certain issue or situation
Evaluation	Designed and conducted solely to define or judge current systems or policy implementation.	Involves examining the world as it already exists (including policy interventions or pilots already implemented). Does <b>not</b> involve implementing and measuring new proposed interventions.	Examining how things have changed following implementation of a policy measure/intervention or pilot scheme.
Audit	Designed and conducted to produce information to inform delivery of system or policy implementation	Involves examining the world as it already exists to ensure smooth running processes. Does <b>not</b> involve implementing and measuring new interventions.	An assessment of whether an office seat, desk and monitor height match specified standards in an office.
PPIE	Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement (PPIE) refers to an active partnership where members of the public work alongside researchers and are actively involved in contributing to the research process.	Involves patients and the public in decisions about how to best implement research designs, interpret and communicate analysis.	Patients providing insights into what it is like to live with a particular illness, or what it is like to be a user of a treatment or health service.
Service Improvement	Designed to utilise knowledge to improve the quality of service being offered.	Involves collecting feedback from service users to improve a specific service.	An assessment of a module using student feedback.