

# Coping with Covid-19: *reflecting on the process of modifying methods midway*

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## Background

- Modifying methods midway through a PhD, once project plans have been painstakingly prepared, revised, and scrutinised is not ideal.
- Following the realisation that Covid-19 was unlikely to be a passing pandemic, it was necessary to decide:

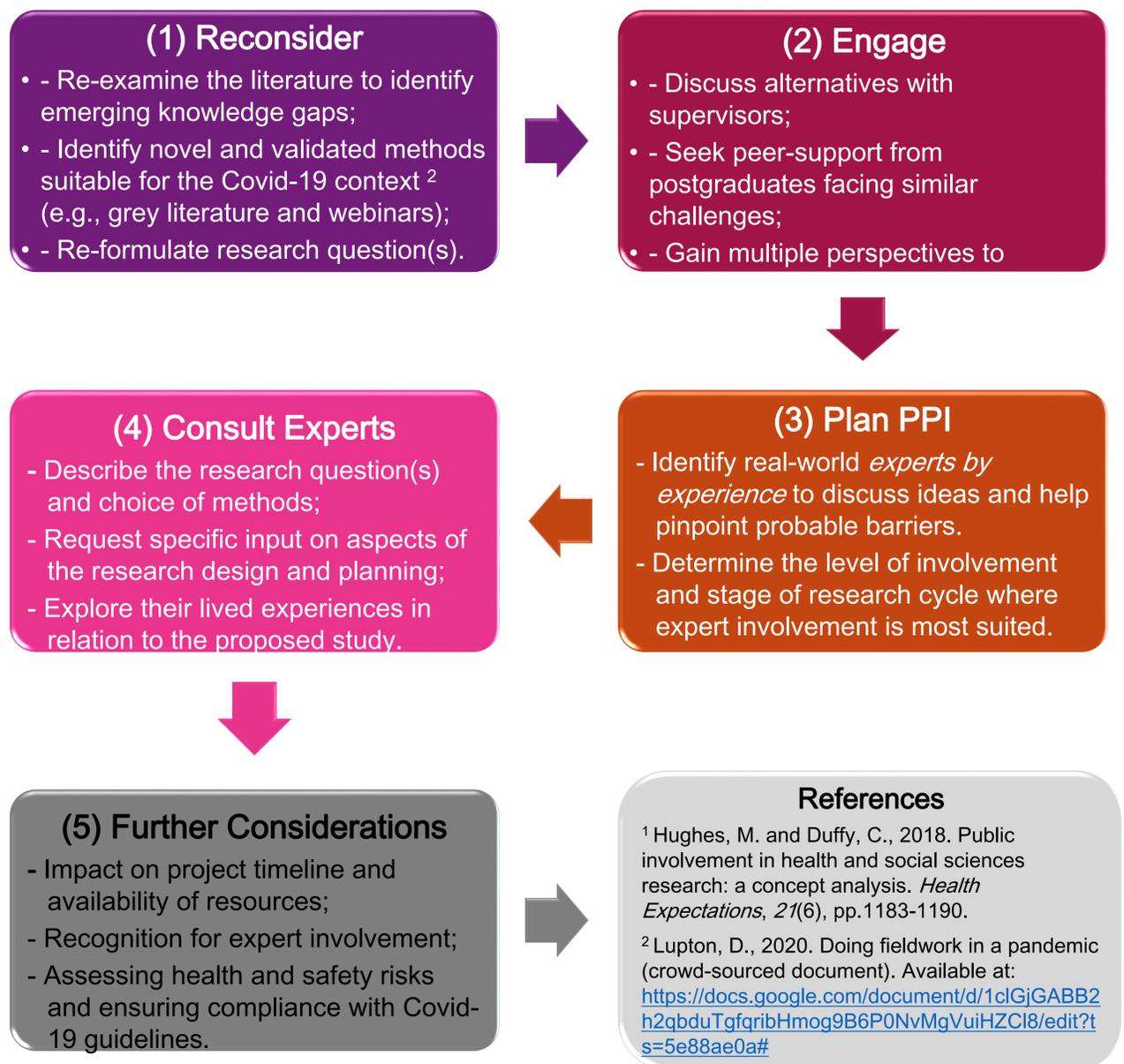
**Are the proposed methods still feasible considering the change in context?**

*If not, what are the alternatives and how should the research methods be adapted?*

- This poster summarises the process taken to address these crucial questions.
- In the post-Covid-19 research milieu, stakeholder engagement and collaboration and are likely to become increasingly pivotal.
- Bournemouth University's *Public Involvement in Education and Research* (PIER partnership) was a vital role-player in facilitating patient and public involvement (PPI) during the re-design phase.

## Approach

- PPI represents an invaluable tool for (re-)planning and (re-)designing healthcare research by informing essential research decisions.<sup>1</sup>
- Targeted consultation (i.e., involving real-world research users with lived experience)<sup>1</sup> was utilised to reformulate the research design, and inform its implementation which is presented in the figure below.



## Contribution

- Covid-19 remains an ongoing challenge to student researchers.
- This poster provides a pragmatic guide explaining the approach used to modify the initial research design.
- It presents key considerations and potential ideas which may be useful to healthcare research students.

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