Postgraduate psychiatric nursing students often choose to gather data through interviews, or by participant-observation studies. However, a large number of students have difficulties in applying and attaining reliable and relevant research results. Hence, we started the grounded theory research study group from October, 2008.

Method
The grounded theory research study group for postgraduate students majoring in psychiatric nursing was conducted once a fortnight for a period of about six months, at a university in Tokyo, Japan. Statements and concerns raised by participants in regards to the qualitative research methods was extracted, and analyzed by categorizing based on content.

<Theoretical structure>

【Theoretical foundation】

Constructing the paradigm
Properties and Dimensions
- Observation studies
- Theoretical sampling
- The reading of data for understanding

【Technique】

Question and comment about interview technique
• Methods on requesting interviews
• The grounded theory approach based on Symbolic Interactionism
• Necessity and the significance of theoretical sampling
• Necessity and the significance of using the comparison techniques during the interview analyses

Question and comment about theoretical comparisons
• Necessity and the significance of using the comparison
• Necessity and the significance of comparing it based on properties
• Necessity and the significance of the comparison of the data which have common labels
• How to practice theoretical comparisons

Question and comment about research process (1)
• Other statement of research process demanded in article evaluation (a doctoral dissertation / a master's thesis) and the description of the scientific grounds
• Necessity and the significance of microanalysis
• Positioning of paradigm and category association map
• Necessity and the significance of category association map

Question and comment about research process (2)
• Necessity and the significance of constructing the paradigm
• Necessity and the significance of experiencing a series of flows of the analysis
• How to write story lines
• How to select a core category

Question and comment about theoretical sampling
• Necessity and the significance of theoretical sampling
• Concerns regarding diffusion of data with theoretical sampling
• How to receive ethical review

【Result】

250 statements were yielded, and were then placed in the following 5 categories: “question and comment about interview technique”, “question and comment about property and dimension”, “question and comment about theoretical comparisons”, “question and comment about theoretical sampling”, and “question and comment about research process”.

The research study group of grounded theory approach Schedule

No. 1: November 2008: Schedule 1
No. 2: December 2008: Schedule 2
No. 3: January 2009: Schedule 3
No. 4: February 2009: Schedule 4
No. 5: March 2009: Schedule 5
No. 6: April 2009: Schedule 6
No. 7: May 2009: Schedule 7
No. 8: June 2009: Schedule 8
No. 9: July 2009: Schedule 9
No. 10: August 2009: Schedule 10

The reading of data for understanding was conducted, and was analyzed by categorizing based on content.