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#### Southfield City Schools

Figure 1. The relationship between the number of species and the area of forest cover.

For more details, see [the full report](#).

- **Qualitative research** is not necessarily more useful than quantitative research.

• **It's often considered that much of patient research is growth in knowledge as compared to the 100% better for patients' personal growth in knowledge (van der Valk et al., 2012).**

• **Qualitative methods are particularly suitable for the following:**

  - **Exploring the patient's own experiences of illness** (e.g. patients' accounts of their experiences).  
Many feel they have no choice but to focus on the negative aspects of their illness, yet it is important for patients to explore their own positive aspects of their illness (see right for a discussion of the Positive Health Program).
  - **Developing new forms of treatment** (e.g. through the development of new interventions).  
This can involve exploring what patients want from their treatment, e.g. how they would like to feel, what they value, etc.
  - **Improving the quality of care** (e.g. through the development of new guidelines).  
This can involve exploring what patients want from their healthcare providers.
  - **Addressing barriers to health promotion** (e.g. through the development of new interventions).  
This can involve exploring what patients think are barriers to their health.

• **Qualitative research has been used to explore the following:**

  - **How patients experience their illness** (e.g. through the development of new interventions).  
Patients all perceive their illness differently, so a common theme approach gives one an approximate overview, but single accounts, or one at a time, give patients more detailed and specific information (Hannink, 2012).
  - **What motivates patients to seek help** (e.g. through the development of new interventions).  
Patients often stop helping themselves because they can't see what they're doing is helping.
  - **What patients think about their healthcare providers** (e.g. through the development of new interventions).  
Patients are less likely to be compliant with their healthcare providers if they don't feel that their providers are listening to them or communicating effectively.

