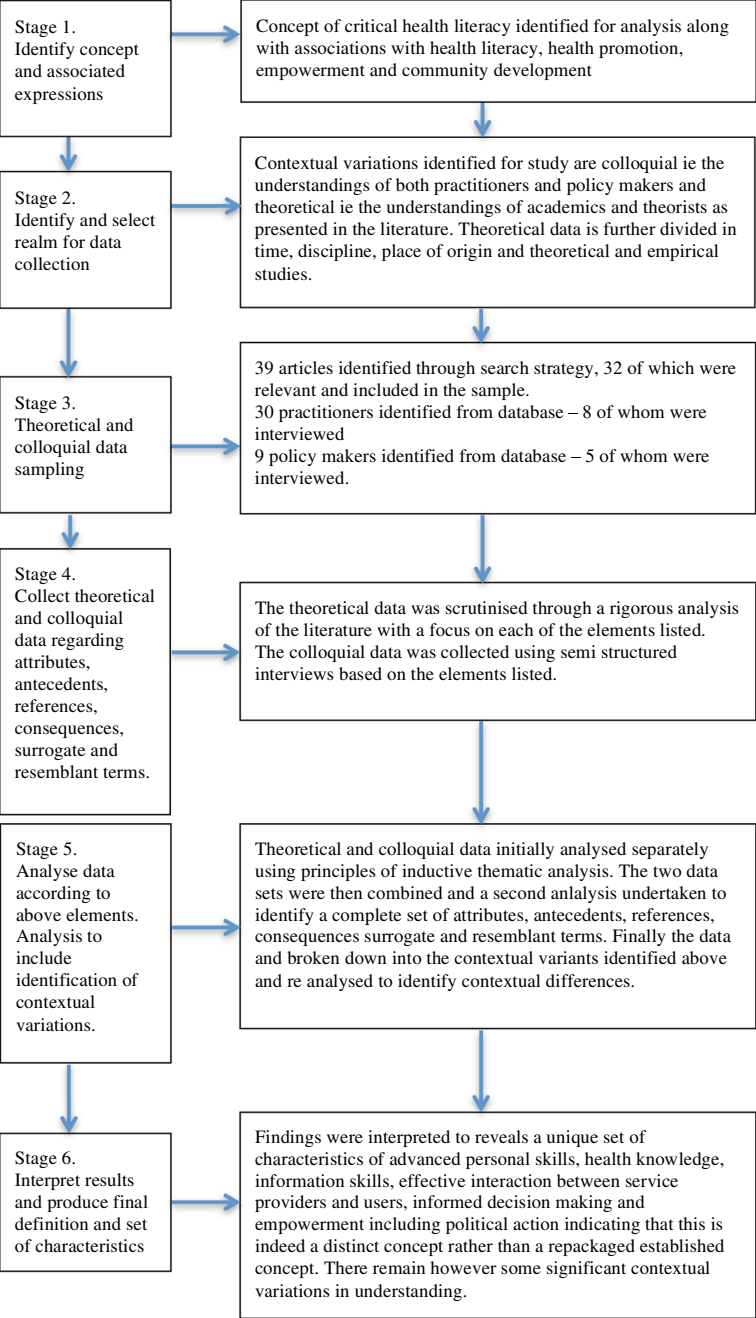
Stage 1.
Identify concept and associated expressions
Concept of critical health literacy identified for analysis along with associations with health literacy, health promotion, empowerment and community development
Stage 2.
Identify and select realm for data collection
Contextual variations identified for study are colloquial ie the understandings of both practitioners and policy makers and theoretical ie the understandings of academics and theorists as presented in the literature. Theoretical data is further divided in time, discipline, place of origin and theoretical and empirical studies.
Stage 3.
Theoretical and colloquial data sampling
39 articles identified through search strategy, 32 of which were relevant and included in the sample.
30 practitioners identified from database – 8 of whom were interviewed
9 policy makers identified from database – 5 of whom were interviewed.
Stage 4.
Collect theoretical and colloquial data regarding attributes, antecedents, references, consequences, surrogate and resemblant terms.
The theoretical data was scrutinised through a rigorous analysis of the literature with a focus on each of the elements listed.
The colloquial data was collected using semi structured interviews based on the elements listed.
Stage 5.
Analyse data according to above elements. Analysis to include identification of contextual variations.
Theoretical and colloquial data initially analysed separately using principles of inductive thematic analysis. The two data sets were then combined and a second anlalysis undertaken to identify a complete set of attributes, antecedents, references, consequences surrogate and resemblant terms. Finally the data and broken down into the contextual variants identified above and re analysed to identify contextual differences.
Stage 6.
Interpret results and produce final definition and set of characteristics
Findings were interpreted to reveals a unique set of characteristics of advanced personal skills, health knowledge, information skills, effective interaction between service providers and users, informed decision making and empowerment including political action indicating that this is indeed a distinct concept rather than a repackaged established concept. There remain however some significant contextual variations in understanding.