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Extending the concept of interdisciplinary research – what can we learn from inclusive research? Reflections from two research circles

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The term interdisciplinary research is often understood in terms of research beyond disciplines but still inside the academic setting. In this paper we will discuss the pros and cons with expanding the concept by including participation from members in disability organizations in research projects. We have conducted two research circles, there we aim was to produce knowledge by knowledge sharing and knowledge equality. Our aim in the research circles was to explore the injury risks and risks strategies used in the residential setting. By inviting different organizations to collaborate in the circle we managed to include different perspectives and also find some practical recommendations to prevent some of the events. On the other hand, the research circle took a lot of time and engagement from both the researcher and the participators. We also experienced that the different organizations had different wishes and aims within the study, making us forced to handle with different trade-off situations. But in the end, the result of the conducted studies, we had a really solid research built on every-day experience of risks and by sharing knowledge between the members and also produce the end reports together, we extended the concept of interdisciplinary research in a more inclusive way of research. In this paper/session we will discuss more about our experience from the research circles and also the theoretical and methodological considerations that our project rely on.