**Table 1.1 Research design and methodology**

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| Aspect | Description |
| Research design | The study utilized an exploratory research design to explore the challenges faced by midwives in a standard labour ward at a selected public hospital and make recommendations to overcome the challenges (see Chapter 3.2.1).  The researcher used a descriptive research approach to give a thorough account of the challenges midwives experience when caring for mechanically ventilated women in a labour ward of a public tertiary hospital (see Chapter 3.2.2). |
| Context | One maternity/labour ward in a selected public provincial tertiary hospital in Ekurhuleni, Gauteng (see Chapter 3.3.3) |
| Population | Midwives working in the maternity unit of a selected public hospital in Ekurhuleni (see Chapter 3.4) |
| Sampling | * Non-probability purposive sampling * Participants were midwives working in the maternity unit of the selected hospital with at least two years’ experience, had nursed one or two ventilated women and encountered challenges in nursing critically ill ventilated women. * The sample consisted of 13 midwives. * Data saturation was reached after 8 interviews (see Chapter 3.5) |
| Data collection | One-on-one interviews (see Chapter 3.6) |
| Data analysis | A qualitative content analysis approach was used (see Chapter 3.8) |
| Trustworthiness | Strategies to enhance trustworthiness included: credibility, dependability, confirmability, transferability and authenticity (see Chapter 3.9) |