Finding Qualitative Research

In CINAHL:

Another option: In the Limits section on the CINAHL search screen, select one of the Clinical Queries. High Sensitivity is the broadest search, to include ALL relevant material, but may also include less relevant materials. High Specificity is the most targeted search to include only the most relevant result set, but may miss some relevant materials. Best Balance retrieves the best balance between Sensitivity and Specificity.

In PubMed, do your search, then from the screen where you have your list of results, you can select an appropriate article type, such as observational study or personal narrative.

For any database, experiment with search terms for specific qualitative study designs such as:

- Focus group
- Observational
- Narrative
- Interview

Add the word qualitative to your search and set the box to the right to Subject.
Finding Quantitative Research

In CINAHL:

Another option in CINAHL: use the checkbox in the Limits section for Randomized Controlled Trials:

Add the word qualitative to your search and set the box to the right to Subject.

In PubMed, do your search, then from the screen where you have your list of results, you can select an appropriate article type, such as randomized controlled trial.