

Priorities for Peri-Operative Research in Africa

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For which topic were research priorities identified?

perioperative research

In which location was the research priority setting conducted?

Africa

Why was it conducted at all?

Deaths following surgery are the third largest contributor to deaths globally, and in Africa are twice the global average. There is a need for a peri-operative research agenda to ensure co-ordinated, collaborative research efforts across Africa in order to decrease peri-operative mortality.

What was the objective?

to determine the top 10 research priorities for peri-operative research in Africa

What was the outcome?

a ranking list of 10 research topics

How long did the research prioritization take?

July 2019 - September 2019

Which methods were used to identify research priorities?

Delphi

How were the priorities for research identified exactly?

Step 1: Delphi round 1: survey asking participants to submit potential peri-operative research priorities, 158 priorities submitted. Step 2: data processing: data cleaning, resulting in 60 unique research priorities. Step 3: Delphi round 2: survey asking participants to rank the top 10 research priorities according to importance and where possible to provide justifications for inclusion or exclusion of priorities. Step 4: Delphi round 3: participants were asked to re-rank top 20 research priorities from round 2. Step 4: Delphi round 4: workshop: participants were asked to discuss top 15 research priorities and to determine final top 10

Which stakeholders took part?

National leaders from the African Surgical Outcomes (ASOS). 32 participants

How were stakeholders recruited?

In the first round, an email invitation was sent to all ASOS and ASOS-2 national leaders across Africa (a convenience sample). This was a closed survey within this group and was not advertised openly.

Were stakeholders actively involved or did they just participate?

Stakeholders were mere participants of the research prioritization process; they were not actively involved in the process.