Top Ten Research Priorities for Detecting Cancer Early

For which topic were research priorities identified?
early cancer detection

In which location was the research priority setting conducted?
Europe - United Kingdom

Why was it conducted at all?
Cancers diagnosed at an advanced stage are associated with poor prognosis, whereas finding cancer early offers patients the greatest potential for cure, and is economically best value. This principle is endorsed by Cancer Research UK's strategy to facilitate a major shift in early diagnosis research. However, currently, a mismatch exists between research questions considered important by researchers and those important to patients, carers, and health professionals.

What was the objective?
to identify the top ten research priorities in early cancer detection relevant to non-research stakeholders

What was the outcome?
a ranking list of 10 research questions

How long did the research prioritization take?
No information provided.

Which methods were used to identify research priorities?
JLA method

How were the priorities for research identified exactly?
Step 1: survey: participants were asked: "What under-researched topics could help us detect cancer sooner?", participants were asked to identify research questions, 1362 questions submitted. Step 2: data analysis: 54 unique indicative questions identified, check against literature to confirm that these questions were unanswered. Step 3: interim ranking: survey to rank the top ten research priority questions. Step 4: final prioritization: workshop: to gain consensus on priorities, small and plenary group discussions and rankings

Which stakeholders took part?
patients, carers, members of the public, healthcare professionals. Survey: 554 participants (66% patients and carers). Interim ranking: 241 participants (70% patients and carers). Workshop: 16 patient representatives and 12 healthcare professionals.

How were stakeholders recruited?
No information provided.

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.