

Engaging Patients in Health Care Epidemiology Research: A Case Example

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For which topic were research priorities identified?

healthcare-associated infections

In which location was the research priority setting conducted?

North America - USA

Why was it conducted at all?

In health care epidemiology research, stakeholders are most often patients, caregivers, and clinicians. Qualitative studies have sought to obtain input from patients and providers on infection control interventions, but, to our knowledge, engagement during all phases of the research process has not been reported. To highlight how stakeholder engagement can be applied to health care epidemiology research, we describe our stakeholder engagement experience and lessons learned.

What was the objective?

to identify patients' research priorities for healthcare-associated infections

What was the outcome?

a list of 4 research topics

How long did the research prioritization take?

No information provided.

Which methods were used to identify research priorities?

group discussion

How were the priorities for research identified exactly?

Step 1: group discussion: project team suggested 4 to 5 strategies as promising areas for further research on the basis of current evidence, group discussion among stakeholders, lists of barriers and facilitators were then compiled

Which stakeholders took part?

Patients and caregivers who had an HAI experience, clinicians, infection prevention experts, state public health professionals, and quality improvement experts.

How were stakeholders recruited?

Patients and caregivers were recruited through word-of-mouth with the authors' existing patient and caregiver contacts. Institutional stakeholder groups were recruited through existing network of infection control professionals.

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.