

Research Priorities for Accelerating Progress Toward Measles and Rubella Elimination Identified by a Cross-Sectional Web-Based Survey

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For which topic were research priorities identified?

measles and rubella elimination

In which location was the research priority setting conducted?

international

Why was it conducted at all?

In 2012, the World Health Assembly endorsed the Global Vaccine Action Plan (GVAP) that set a target to eliminate measles and rubella in five of the six World Health Organization (WHO) regions by 2020. Significant progress has been made toward achieving this goal through intensive efforts by countries and Measles & Rubella Initiative (M&RI) partners. Accelerating progress will require evidence-based approaches to improve implementation of the core strategies in the Global Measles and Rubella Strategic Plan.

What was the objective?

to identify measles and rubella research priorities

What was the outcome?

a ranking list of 6 research questions

How long did the research prioritization take?

October 2016 - November 2016

Which methods were used to identify research priorities?

survey; webinar

How were the priorities for research identified exactly?

Step 1: list of research questions generated based on findings from previous research prioritization activities categorized into 4 research areas. Step 2: webinar: to discuss measles and rubella elimination goals and research priorities. Step 3: survey: with list of research questions, participants were asked to rate each question, to select the three research questions they considered of highest priority to achieve measles and rubella global and regional elimination goals, and asked to add key research questions they thought were missing from the list

Which stakeholders took part?

Experts on measles and/or rubella working for Ministry of Health/government (27%), WHO (25%), CDC (14%), academic setting/university (8%), UNICEF (7%), John Snow, inc. (4%), American Red Cross (2%), independent immunization consultant (3%). 207 participants.

How were stakeholders recruited?

774 experts in the field of measles and rubella, were recruited based on a list of experts compiled by the R&IWG with input from M&RI partner.

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.