

# Top Ten Priorities for Anesthesia and Perioperative Research: A Report from the Canadian Anesthesia Research Priority Setting Partnership

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## For which topic were research priorities identified?

anesthesia and perioperative care

## In which location was the research priority setting conducted?

North America - Canada

## Why was it conducted at all?

Current research in anesthesia and perioperative care has focused on studies to better understand physiology and applied pharmacology as well as to assess safety or postoperative pain relief. Such studies advance knowledge about anesthesia and perioperative practice but may not provide readily translatable meaningful answers to relevant patient-centred questions

## What was the objective?

to identify a top ten list of shared priorities for research in anesthesia and perioperative care in Canada

## 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: setting up PSP: identifying and inviting partners, defining scope. Step 2: collecting research uncertainties: survey asking: "Based on your experience, what questions do you have? No question is too big or too small! Please provide up to three questions about anesthesia or perioperative care that you want research to answer. You can provide details about your own experiences, if you would like to do so.", 574 initial questions submitted. Step 3: data processing: longlist of 49 questions generated, evidence reviewed, resulting in 49 unanswered questions. Step 4: interim ranking: survey with longlist of summary, participants were asked to choose up to ten questions that they thought were top priorities according to their personal or professional experience, resulting in 24 questions most highly ranked. Step 5: final prioritization: workshop: with nominal group technique, small group discussions and rankings, aggregate ranking calculated, final top ten priorities determined by consensus through large group plenary discussion

## Which stakeholders took part?

Patients, caregivers, healthcare professionals, and researchers. Survey: 254 participants: 75 who know someone who had surgery, 114 patients, 72 caregivers, 180 healthcare providers (138 anesthesiologists, 14 surgeons). Interim ranking: 233 participants. Workshop: 22 participants: 14 patients/caregivers.

## How were stakeholders recruited?

Web links to the CAR PSP surveys were distributed by some of the 11 partner national perioperative organization email listservs and newsletters. In addition, the survey was distributed via patient networks, project's website, Twitter, and Facebook.

## Were stakeholders actively involved or did they just participate?

Stakeholders not only participated but were also actively involved in the research prioritization process: They were part of a steering group. The steering group consisted of 11 members with equal representation of anesthesia providers and patients/informal caregivers. The members informed and directed all the research processes.