

# Top Research Priorities in Healthcare-Associated Infection in the UK

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## For which topic were research priorities identified?

healthcare-associated infections

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

Europe - United Kingdom

## Why was it conducted at all?

There is a mismatch between research questions which are considered to be important by patients, carers and healthcare professionals and the research performed in many fields of medicine. No relevant studies which have assessed research priorities in healthcare-associated infection (HCAI) that have involved patients' and carers' opinions were identified in the literature.

## What was the objective?

to identify the top research priorities in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of healthcare-associated infections in the UK considering the opinions of all these groups

## What was the outcome?

a ranking list of 10 research questions

## How long did the research prioritization take?

April 2015 - February 2019

## Which methods were used to identify research priorities?

JLA method

## How were the priorities for research identified exactly?

Step 1: setting up PSP: identifying stakeholders, forming steering group, defining scope of PSP. Step 2: collecting research uncertainties: from patients, carers and healthcare professionals via survey, 259 unique and valid questions submitted. Step 3: data processing: refining and categorizing questions, creating longlist of indicative questions. Step 4: interim ranking: steering group members were asked to select 20 questions which they thought required further research, only questions identified as an important research priority by at least one healthcare professional and one patient representative of the steering group moved forward, resulting in 50 questions, to reduce number of questions further survey was conducted asking participants to identify top 10 priorities based on their experience, resulting shortlist of 32 questions. Step 5: final prioritization: workshop: small group discussion and small group rankings, aggregate rankings and plenary discussion

## Which stakeholders took part?

Patients, carers and healthcare professionals. Survey: 221 participants: 134 patients, carers and those at risk of developing HCAI, and 87 healthcare professionals. Interim ranking: 44 participants. Workshop: 30 participants: 15 healthcare professionals, 15 patients, carers and public representative.

## How were stakeholders recruited?

No information provided.

## 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 patients and carers. The members defined scope and methodology, identified participants, participated in interim ranking and workshop and reviewed the draft report.