

Using the Delphi Process to Identify Priorities for Dietetic Research in Australia 2020-2030

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For which topic were research priorities identified?

nutrition and dietetic research

In which location was the research priority setting conducted?

Australia - Australia

Why was it conducted at all?

Presently there is no recognised definition or framework for dietetic research.

What was the objective?

to develop a framework and definition for nutrition and dietetic research, and to identify dietetic research priorities for Australia for the period 2020 to 2030

What was the outcome?

a ranking list of 15 research topics

How long did the research prioritization take?

June 2019 - February 2020

Which methods were used to identify research priorities?

Delphi

How were the priorities for research identified exactly?

Step 1: Delphi round 1: participants were asked to comment on the proposed research framework, definition of dietetic research and to rate a set of priorities categorized within seven themes. Step 2: Delphi round 2: participants were again asked to comment on the proposed research framework, definition of dietetic research and to rate a set of priorities categorized within seven themes. Step 3: Delphi round 3: participants were asked to rank the resultant priorities within themes

Which stakeholders took part?

Advanced accredited practicing dietitians and research leaders. Delphi round 1: 50 participants. Delphi round 2: 38 participants. Delphi round 3: 35 participants.

How were stakeholders recruited?

Participants were invited as Fellows of Dietitians Association of Australia (FDAA); Associate Professors and Professors from accredited dietetic programs in Australia; National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), Australian Research Council and Heart Foundation fellowship recipients (including recipients of NHMRC Translating Research into Practice and Early Career Fellowships during the period 2014-2018) and senior dietetic researchers at the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research organization (CSIRO). Advanced Accredited Practising Dietitians (AdvAPDs) were invited through distribution of an invitation from the Dietitians Australia National Office.

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.