

Identifying Suicide and Self-Harm Research Priorities in North West England: A Delphi Study

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For which topic were research priorities identified?

suicide and self-harm

In which location was the research priority setting conducted?

Europe - United Kingdom

Why was it conducted at all?

Understanding and effectively managing self-harm and suicide requires collaborative research between stakeholders focused on shared priorities. Little is known about the extent to which different stakeholder groups share research priorities. A combined partnership between academic researchers, local service stakeholders and service users brings an understanding of shared priorities that are particularly important for producing research relevant to local services and organisations.

What was the objective?

to develop a consensus about suicide and self-harm research priorities in the North-West of England

What was the outcome?

a ranking list of 13 research topics

How long did the research prioritization take?

No information provided.

Which methods were used to identify research priorities?

Delphi; workshop

How were the priorities for research identified exactly?

Step 1: workshop: small group discussions on the questions: What are the main issues within these populations? What are the gaps in our understanding? What do you think we could do differently? How should we begin designing future work?, between 9 and 15 priorities were generated for each of the four domains. Step 2: Delphi round 1: list of 51 items, participants were asked to choose top five. Step 3: Delphi round 2: 54 items, participants were asked to rate items. Step 4: Delphi round 3: participants were asked to re-rate items

Which stakeholders took part?

Experts-by-experience by clinical practice, academic research interests and service delivery. Meeting: 103 participants: academic researchers (n=28), clinicians, (n=5), experts-by-experience (n=18), pharmacists (n=2), police (n=2), local authority (n=15), third sector and voluntary organizations (n=30), mental health commissioners (n=3). Delphi round 1: 44 participants. Delphi round 2: 22 participants. Delphi round 3: 12 participants.

How were stakeholders recruited?

Workshop: Participants (n=88) were attendees at the Suicide and Self-Harm Research North West conference. Delphi: Participants in Phase Two came from multiple sources, including: a) attendees of the conference who provided consent to be contacted about the Delphi survey, b) individuals responding to adverts that were disseminated amongst known suicide and self-harm research groups within the North-West of England, 3rd sector organizations focused on suicide and self-harm, suicide and self-harm support groups and services, and partner organizations of the CLAHRC NWC.

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.