

Setting an International Research Agenda for Fear of Cancer Recurrence: An Online Delphi Consensus Study

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For which topic were research priorities identified?

fear of cancer recurrence

In which location was the research priority setting conducted?

Asia - Japan; Asia - South Korea; Australia - Australia; Europe - Denmark; Europe - Netherlands; Europe - Portugal; Europe - Russia; Europe - Spain; Europe - United Kingdom; North America - Canada; North America - Mexico; North America - USA

Why was it conducted at all?

Fear of cancer recurrence (FCR) is common amongst cancer survivors. There is rapidly growing research interest in FCR but a need to prioritize research to address the most pressing clinical issues and reduce duplication and fragmentation of effort.

What was the objective?

to establish international consensus among clinical and academic FCR (fear of cancer recurrence) experts regarding priorities for FCR research

What was the outcome?

a ranking list of 9 research topics

How long did the research prioritization take?

No information provided.

Which methods were used to identify research priorities?

Delphi

How were the priorities for research identified exactly?

Step 1: Delphi round 1: survey: participants were asked to indicate what they perceived to be the three most important FCR research priorities of international significance, 34 items were submitted. Step 2: data processing: resulting in 33 items across 6 domains. Step 3: Delphi round 2: focus groups: survey results were presented and discussed, new research priorities were added. Step 4: Delphi round 3: participants were asked to rate importance and to nominate their top 3 priorities

Which stakeholders took part?

Psychology, psychiatry, nursing, social work, oncology, research. Delphi round 1: 21 participants (66% psychologists). Delphi round 2: 12 psychologists, 2 nurses and 2 psychology graduate students. Delphi round 3: 25 participants. Delphi round 4: 29 participants.

How were stakeholders recruited?

Participants were recruited through the International Psychooncology Society (IPOS) fear of cancer recurrence special interest group (FORwards).

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.