

Australian Mental Health Consumers' Priorities for Research: Qualitative Findings from the SCOPE for Research Project

Banfield et al. (2014)

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For which topic were research priorities identified?

mental health

In which location was the research priority setting conducted?

Australia - Australia

Why was it conducted at all?

Little is known about the research priorities of consumers with specific mental health conditions.

What was the objective?

to explore Australian mental health consumers' priorities for depression and bipolar disorder research

What was the outcome?

a ranking list of 16 research areas

How long did the research prioritization take?

No information provided.

Which methods were used to identify research priorities?

focus group

How were the priorities for research identified exactly?

Step 1: focus groups: participants were asked to discuss the question: What aspects of (or topics about) depression/bipolar disorder do you think we should research?, brainstorming session and participants were given a prompt list of topics to discuss and comment, to conclude participants were asked to write down which of the topics discussed would be their top three priorities for research. Step 2: data processing: thematic analysis

Which stakeholders took part?

Patients, and mental health advocates. Focus group: 15 people with depression and 24 with bipolar disorder, 5 Australian consumer advocates with experience of depression and 9 with experience of bipolar disorder.

How were stakeholders recruited?

Initial recruitment was via an invitation sent through the ANU Depression & Anxiety Consumer Research Unit (CRU) register mailing list, a national register of people who have expressed interest in participating in CRU research projects. Additional participants were recruited by advertising in the local newspapers, through mental health networks, support groups and key non-government organizations. recruitment online focus groups: CRU's online depression and anxiety mutual support community, BlueBoard. Advocates were recruited through email advertisements to key mental health organizations such as the peak Australian national mental health body, the Mental Health Council of Australia.

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.