

Research Priorities for the Nursing of Children and Their Families: A Delphi Study

Broome et al. (1996)

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For which topic were research priorities identified?

nursing

In which location was the research priority setting conducted?

North America - USA

Why was it conducted at all?

To most effectively address the issues influencing the health care of children while using limited resources, some priorities for research must be established. To date, there has not been a focused effort to systematically identify and describe critical areas of inquiry needed to provide quality pediatric care in the next decade

What was the objective?

to systematically survey a cross-section of pediatric nurse experts in a variety of settings across the nation

What was the outcome?

a ranking list of 28 research topics

How long did the research prioritization take?

2 years from conceptualization to dissemination

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 3 questions: What do you see as the three greatest threats to comprehensive pediatric health care in the next 10 years? Identify the three factors that you believe will have the most positive impact on the care of children and families during the next decade. List three research questions you would like to see answered in the near future., participants identified 19 threats to children's health in the future and 12 societal factors that could have a positive impact on children's health. 78 researchable topics were identified. Step 2: Delphi round 2: participants were asked to indicate the degree of importance they attached to the 78 researchable topics. Step 3: Delphi round 3: participants asked to re-rate importance

Which stakeholders took part?

Mostly pediatric nurses, but in round 3 also educators and researchers. Delphi round 1: 113 participants. Delphi round 2: 56 participants. Delphi round 3: 255 participants.

How were stakeholders recruited?

Nurses were randomly selected from several sources including The Directory of Researchers-Sigma Theta Tau, and The National League for Nursing Directory of Educational Programs. Names of staff nurses and nurse executives were obtained using professional contacts of the investigators. To obtain greater variety and variability in age, setting, education, and experience, the participant sample size was expanded to 500 individuals. In Round III, the questionnaire was mailed to randomly selected registered nurses from the Society of Pediatric Nurses including 250 educators and researchers, 150 APNs and 100 pediatric staff nurses.

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.