

# The Prioritized Research Agenda for the Athletic Training Profession: A Report from the Strategic Alliance Research Agenda Task Force

Eberman et al. (2019)

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## For which topic were research priorities identified?

athletic training profession

## In which location was the research priority setting conducted?

North America - USA

## Why was it conducted at all?

Athletic trainers (ATs) must be equipped with evidence to inform their clinical practice. A research agenda for the profession of athletic training can help to establish funding priorities, guide researchers and clinicians in identifying individual research agendas, and facilitate the development of researchers in needed areas. A research agenda guided by the perceived needs of clinicians will help to address the challenges they experience in making decisions during their daily care of patients.

## What was the objective?

to identify research priorities and unify research with clinical practice to improve patient care and advance the profession

## What was the outcome?

a ranking list of 5 research topics

## How long did the research prioritization take?

No information provided.

## Which methods were used to identify research priorities?

focus group; survey

## How were the priorities for research identified exactly?

Step 1: focus groups: to understand aspects of clinical practice that lacked sufficient evidence to guide the selection and implementation of specific clinical procedures. Step 2: data processing: thematic analysis: research priorities were extracted. Step 3: survey: participants were asked to rank priorities, to rate level of agreement with research initiatives that might benefit the athletic training profession, to rate level of agreement as to whether specific health care initiatives were among their highest-priority clinical care concerns, to rate level of agreement regarding barriers to research and research collaborations in the athletic training profession

## Which stakeholders took part?

Athletic trainers. Focus group: 87 participants. Survey: 3910 participants.

## How were stakeholders recruited?

The recruitment announcement for the focus groups and link to volunteers via the "Range of Motion" newsletter were distributed to all registered attendees of a conference 5 and 6 weeks before the conference. As to the survey, 49,332 e-mails were sent to all certified ATs (from an e-mail list provided by the Board of Certification) by the primary investigator on behalf of the Strategic Alliance Research Agenda Task Force.

## 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.