

# Primary Care Research Priorities in Low- And Middle-Income Countries

Goodyear-Smith et al. (2019)  
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## For which topic were research priorities identified?

primary care

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

international

## Why was it conducted at all?

Primary health care research has advanced predominantly in high income countries (HICs). Many low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) are still establishing family medicine as a specialty, and the relative immaturity of the discipline, combined with the dominance of research by bioscience agendas and the greater capacity of HICs for funding and performing research, means that capacity and funding for research on LMIC PHC priorities are still limited. Research priority setting does occur in LMICs but tends to be led by governments and international agencies with limited evidence of subsequent implementation.

## What was the objective?

to identify and prioritize the needs for new research evidence for primary health care in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) about organization, models of care, and financing of primary health care

## What was the outcome?

a ranking list of 8 research questions

## 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: participants were asked to generate research questions addressing knowledge gaps, 1229 questions submitted: 744 questions for PHC organization and 479 questions for financing. Step 2: data processing: responses collated, coded, and synthesized. Step 3: Delphi round 2: 36 questions on organization and 31 questions on financing presented and participants were asked to rate. Step 4: Delphi round 3: top 16 questions in each area were presented and participants were asked to rank them

## Which stakeholders took part?

Primary health care practitioners and academics. 70 Delphi round 1: participants, 84 Delphi round 2: participants. 68 Delphi round 3: participants.

## How were stakeholders recruited?

Participants were invited via the research team's collective extensive global networks, augmented by snowball sampling techniques. Inclusion criteria were PHC practitioners or researchers residing in LMICs with Internet access and with relevant experience to provide opinions on regional or national research needs in PHC organization and financing.

## 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.