

Establishing Research Priorities for Australian Radiation Therapists: What Patient Care Priorities Need to be Addressed?

Halkett et al. (2012)

<https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1365-2354.2011.01276.x>

For which topic were research priorities identified?

radiation therapy

In which location was the research priority setting conducted?

Australia - Australia

Why was it conducted at all?

Much of the research conducted in radiotherapy focuses on technology advances; however, research may also be warranted in the area of patient care. Patients are likely to benefit from further research on their care needs and the role that radiation therapists can play.

What was the objective?

to identify patient care-related research priorities in radiation therapy and to describe similarities and differences in radiation therapists' responses to research priorities related to patient care by subgroups revealed through cluster analysis

What was the outcome?

a ranking list of 2 research areas

How long did the research prioritization take?

early 2008 - mid 2008

Which methods were used to identify research priorities?

Delphi

How were the priorities for research identified exactly?

Step 1: list of research priorities based on prior study compiled. Step 2: Delphi round 1: participants were asked: How important is this research area to patient care?, participants also asked to rate research priorities, lead respondent of the survey was asked to seek the opinions of colleagues. Step 3: Delphi round 2: participants were asked to re-rate

Which stakeholders took part?

Departments of radiation oncology. 18 departments participated.

How were stakeholders recruited?

Participants were recruited from 41 Australian departments of radiation oncology, which together employ more than 1246 radiation therapists.

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.