Setting a Health Policy Research Agenda for Controlling Cancer Burden in Korea

For which topic were research priorities identified?
cancer burden

In which location was the research priority setting conducted?
Asia - South Korea

Why was it conducted at all?
Cancer is a major cause of mortality worldwide, contribut ing to 7.6 million deaths and resulting in an estimated 169.3 million years of healthy life lost in 2008. In Korea, cancer has been the leading cause of death since 1983, and is associ ated with the largest disease burden. To maximize efficient disease management, research priorities should be determined in accordance to the disease burden. Efficient resource allocation and planning of the use of limited human and financial resources require priori tization of research by the government. Investment and studies based on evidence are needed in order to reduce cancer burden efficiently. For this, object selection and priority setting based on objective data and a comprehensive understanding of the current cancer burden are required.

What was the objective?
to provide suggestions for prioritizing research in effort to reduce cancer burden in Korea based on a comprehensive analysis of cancer burden and Delphi consensus among cancer experts

What was the outcome?
a ranking list of 7 research areas

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: literature review: to collecting research priorities, 10 topics represented by 20 plans were selected. Step 2: Delphi round 1: participants were asked: Do you agree with the selection of this research plan as a priority for reducing cancer burden? How important do you think this research plan is for reducing cancer burden? Please rank on a scale from nine (most important) to one (least important). Step 3: Delphi round 2: participants were asked to re-rank based on group rankings

Which stakeholders took part?
Experts in the field. Delphi round 1: 34 participants. Delphi round 2: 21 participants.

How were stakeholders recruited?
Experts were selected from four different organizations: National Cancer Center (n=20), Regional Cancer Center (n=23), Korean Foundation for Cancer Research (n=7), and Korean Society for Preventive Medicine (n=29).

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.