

Priorities for Caregiver Research in Cancer Care: An International Delphi Survey of Caregivers, Clinicians, Managers, and Researchers

Lambert et al. (2019)

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For which topic were research priorities identified?

cancer care

In which location was the research priority setting conducted?

international

Why was it conducted at all?

With an increased investment in psychosocial caregiving research, it becomes critical to establish the need for data of key stakeholders and future strategic directions

What was the objective?

to engage caregivers, clinicians, researchers, and managers to identify priority topics for caregiver research in cancer care

What was the outcome?

a ranking list of 9 research topics

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: survey asking: In your opinion, what are priority topics for caregiver research in cancer care over the next decade?, 86 research topics identified organized into 10 broad research areas. Step 2: Delphi round 2: survey with 86 topics, participants were asked to rate importance of each topic. Step 3: Delphi round 3: survey with items that did not reach consensus in round 2, participants were asked to revise their ratings from round 2 if necessary

Which stakeholders took part?

Clinicians, managers, researchers, and caregivers. Delphi round 1: 249 participants (103 clinicians, 63 researchers, 61 caregivers, and 22 managers). Delphi round 2: 176 participants. Delphi round 3: 110 participants.

How were stakeholders recruited?

Stakeholders internationally were identified through several sources. Initially, convenience sampling was undertaken followed by purposive sampling to address gaps in stakeholders' geographical representation. Recruitment strategies included sending study advertisements through the listserv of relevant professional organizations. In addition, the study advertisement was sent directly to potential stakeholders identified through electronic searches of directories of government departments, health care centers, non-for-profit organizations, educational institutions, and conference proceedings. Caregivers mainly received the e-mail invitation from one of the collaborating cancer organizations or from their HCP. Participants were also asked to nominate additional stakeholders (snowball sampling) at the end of the first survey. Once stakeholders were identified, an e-mail was sent to introduce the study and provide the link to the round 1 survey.

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.