

Research Priorities in Pediatric Rheumatology: The Childhood Arthritis and Rheumatology Research Alliance (CARRA) Consensus

Ota et al. (2008)

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For which topic were research priorities identified?

pediatric rheumatology

In which location was the research priority setting conducted?

North America - Canada; North America - USA

Why was it conducted at all?

North American pediatric rheumatologists have created an investigator-initiated research network (the Childhood Arthritis and Rheumatology Research Alliance - CARRA) to facilitate multi-centre studies.

What was the objective?

to define, by consensus, research priorities for the group, and if possible a first group-sponsored clinical trial in which all members could participate

What was the outcome?

a ranking list of 8 research topics

How long did the research prioritization take?

October 2003 - June 2004

Which methods were used to identify research priorities?

Delphi

How were the priorities for research identified exactly?

Step 1: Delphi round 1: survey asking: What disease or problem should be studied in the first protocol? What treatment should be studied for this disease?, participants were asked to be as specific as possible and to provide a rationale or justification for their disease of choice and for the recommendation of the therapeutic approach for the study. Step 2: Delphi round 2: survey: participants were asked to select their top ten choices indicating what they would like to see studied. Step 3: Delphi round 3: survey with top 8 suggestions, participants were asked to rank order

Which stakeholders took part?

Members of the childhood arthritis and rheumatology research alliance. Delphi round 1: 81 participants. Delphi round 2: 86 participants. Delphi round 3: 92 participants.

How were stakeholders recruited?

Participants were members of the Childhood Arthritis and Rheumatology Research Alliance (CARRA), representing pediatric rheumatology experts across Canada and the United States.

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.