

# Delphi Analysis of Science Gaps in the 2015 American Heart Association Cardiac Arrest Guidelines

Panchal et al. (2018)  
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## For which topic were research priorities identified?

cardiac arrest

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

North America - USA

## Why was it conducted at all?

Current cardiac arrest guidelines have limited high-quality scientific evidence to support recommendations for care. The quality of scientific evidence on which guidelines are based may correlate with improved patient outcomes and meaningful survival.

## What was the objective?

to develop a prioritized list of knowledge gaps in resuscitation to assist researchers, policy makers, and funding agencies in their decision-making process

## What was the outcome?

a list of 10 research topics

## How long did the research prioritization take?

October 2016 - December 2016

## 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 are the top 3 gaps in knowledge involving cardiac arrest care that should be research priorities for National Institutes of Health/AHA funding to have the greatest impact on public health?, total of 61 knowledge gaps with rationales submitted. Step 2: data processing: 19 distinct topics derived. Step 3: Delphi round 2: participants were asked to rate the importance of each knowledge gap in relation to its impact on public health, top 10 topics based on mean rating moved forward to round 2. Step 4: Delphi round 3: participants were asked to revise their judgments on basis of feedback from prior round and to individually rank order the top 10 topics. Step 5: Delphi round 4: participants were asked to re-rank topics, additionally list of the top 3 gaps was presented and participants were asked whether the prioritized list answers the following prompt: What are the top 3 gaps in knowledge involving cardiac arrest care that should be research priorities for National Institutes of Health/AHA funding to have the greatest impact on public health?

## Which stakeholders took part?

Cardiac arrest experts: physicians, pediatriacs, emergency medicine. 13 participants in all 4 rounds.

## How were stakeholders recruited?

invitation to participate was sent out by e-mail to 100 cardiac arrest experts identified from the author list of the 2015 AHA Guidelines for CPR and ECC published in November 2015. These individuals have previously been established as subject matter experts in cardiac arrest by the AHA ECC Committee.

## 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.