

Public Priorities for Osteoporosis and Fracture Research: Results from a General Population Survey

Paskins et al. (2017)

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For which topic were research priorities identified?

osteoporosis and fracture research

In which location was the research priority setting conducted?

Europe - United Kingdom

Why was it conducted at all?

Increasingly, policy makers and public funders recognise the importance of involving public and patients in setting priorities for research to ensure that research agendas are patient-centred, relevant and that research outcomes have a high likelihood of resulting in patient benefit. Ensuring that research addresses the priorities of research users is also one of four strategies proposed to reduce waste and increase value of research. With respect to osteoporosis, no studies to date have investigated the research priorities of patients and members of the public, which is surprising given the extent and impact of the condition.

What was the objective?

to prioritize, with patients and public members, research topics for the osteoporosis research agenda

What was the outcome?

a ranking list of 10 research topics

How long did the research prioritization take?

No information provided.

Which methods were used to identify research priorities?

focus group; survey

How were the priorities for research identified exactly?

Step 1: 4 focus groups: participants were asked to describe their experience of osteoporosis, what was important to them, what problems they had had, what was missing from their care/management and what could be improved. Step 2: data processing: content analysis: four topics emerged, for each topic number of sub-themes were identified, researchers worked with patient research user group to translate each sub-theme into survey item. Step 3: survey: containing 4 topics and each topic containing 10 subtopics, participants were asked to indicate their top three subtopics within each topic, participants were asked to indicate their most important topic out of the four topics

Which stakeholders took part?

Patients and public members. Survey: 1188 participants.

How were stakeholders recruited?

Participants for the focus groups were recruited from members of the National Osteoporosis Society (NOS) (Staffordshire) and a research cohort (Oxford) of individuals who had experienced fracture. The link to the e-survey was disseminated to approximately 16,000 supporters of the UK National Osteoporosis Society (NOS) in one monthly e-newsletter, in December 2015. The e-survey was also advertised via social media, via a page on the society's website and the society's quarterly membership magazine.

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.