

Setting Priorities in Childhood Cancer in Low Income Countries Using Nominal Group Technique: Experience from an International Childhood Cancer Forum Exercise in Bangladesh

Rahman et al. (2019)

<https://doi.org/10.31557/APJCP.2019.20.1.97>

For which topic were research priorities identified?

childhood cancer

In which location was the research priority setting conducted?

international

Why was it conducted at all?

Cancer is one of the major causes of mortality and morbidity worldwide. The incidence of paediatric cancer in particular, in Bangladesh is alarming and most of these patients die without correct diagnosis and adequate medical treatment (MOHFW, 2008). There is a clear disparity in access to care between rural and urban areas (WHO, 2015; Rahman, 2001). There are no established formal childhood cancer registry systems to help inform planning decisions across the country. Most importantly, there are no explicit priorities or methods for identifying such priorities in low and middle income countries (LMICs).

What was the objective?

to identify priorities for research and interventions for childhood cancer care

What was the outcome?

a ranking list of 6 research topics

How long did the research prioritization take?

2 days

Which methods were used to identify research priorities?

workshop

How were the priorities for research identified exactly?

Step 1: workshop with nominal group technique: 4 small group discussions: groups were asked to formulate 5 high-priority ideas that would answer the assigned question, each group worked on one question; those being: What interventions would you suggest to improve the diagnosis, treatment and care for child cancer patients in Bangladesh? Which social interventions would you suggest for the general population regarding childhood cancer in Bangladesh? What types of clinical research are needed to address childhood cancer in Bangladesh, considering the resources and technology are available? What types of social and economic research are needed to address the current childhood cancer problem in Bangladesh?, research ideas were then collected, participants then voted on 20 priorities, final list of 6 priorities was established

Which stakeholders took part?

Researchers, social scientists, service providers, policymakers, national and international cancer experts.

How were stakeholders recruited?

Participants were recruited via International Childhood Cancer Forum (ICCF).

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.