

A Delphi Study on National PICU Nursing Research Priorities in Australia and New Zealand

Ramelet et al. (2012)

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For which topic were research priorities identified?

nursing

In which location was the research priority setting conducted?

Australia - Australia; Australia - New Zealand

Why was it conducted at all?

There is a lack of evidence to direct and support nursing practice in the specialty of paediatric intensive care (PIC). The development of national PIC nursing research priorities may facilitate the process of undertaking clinical research and translating evidence into practice.

What was the objective?

to identify research priorities for the care of patients and their family as well as for the professional needs of PIC nurses, foster nursing research collaboration, and develop a research agenda for PIC nurses

What was the outcome?

a ranking list of 9 research topics

How long did the research prioritization take?

13 months

Which methods were used to identify research priorities?

Delphi

How were the priorities for research identified exactly?

Step 1: Delphi round 1: survey asking participants to develop five nursing research topics/questions they judged most relevant to their patients (infants, children and adolescents), the patient's family, and the professional needs of nursing staff, 512 submissions. Step 2: data processing: content analysis: identification of 132 research statements clustered in 17 categories. Step 3: Delphi round 2: survey: participants were asked to rate importance. Step 4: Delphi round 3: participants were asked to re-rate based on median rating of round 2

Which stakeholders took part?

Nurses. Delphi round 1: 84 participants. Delphi round 2: 166 participants. Delphi round 3: 88 participants.

How were stakeholders recruited?

Participating centres included six of the nine PIC units at the tertiary paediatric hospitals in Australia and New Zealand. All Registered nurses who were working at a specialist level in PIC at the participating tertiary paediatric hospitals in Australia and New Zealand were invited to participate in the study. Nurse coordinators distributed the survey to all potential participants via internal mail in their own institution.

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.