

# Establishing a Set of Research Priorities in Care Homes for Older People in the UK: A Modified Delphi Consensus Study with Care Home Staff

Shepherd et al. (2017)

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## For which topic were research priorities identified?

care homes

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

Europe - United Kingdom

## Why was it conducted at all?

Currently, there is little evidence base for much of the care provided for older people in care homes. Given the wide range of topics that require further investigation, and limited resources, one solution is to identify the priorities for future research.

## What was the objective?

to develop an informed set of research priorities within the care home setting

## What was the outcome?

a ranking list of 15 research questions

## How long did the research prioritization take?

No information provided.

## Which methods were used to identify research priorities?

Delphi

## How were the priorities for research identified exactly?

Step 1: Delphi round 1: participants were asked to identify areas where they felt there were uncertainties or questions about the care provided on a day-to-day basis in care homes, 144 individual responses. Step 2: data processing: raw questions collated, analyzed and formatted, literature search undertaken for each topic, research questions that were considered to have sufficient existing evidence removed, resulting in 76 research questions. Step 3: Delphi round 2: participants were asked to rate how much they agreed or disagreed with statement: 'This topic is very important to me', resulting in shortlist of 15 most important questions. Step 4: Delphi round 3: participants were asked to rank how much of a priority each research question was

## Which stakeholders took part?

Care home staff: those providing care for older adults in care homes, which included registered nurses, care assistants and matrons/managers. Delphi round 1: 83 participants. Delphi round 2: 40 participants. Delphi round 3: 43 participants.

## How were stakeholders recruited?

Care homes providing nursing care (nursing homes) and those without nursing care (residential homes) were included. Participants were identified through partner organizations and networks, who disseminated the information via email and newsletters. Information about the project was also shared by websites that are commonly accessed by care home staff.

## 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.