

# Identifying HIV/AIDS Research Priorities for the Next Millennium: A Delphi Study with Nurses in AIDS Care

Sowell (2000)

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## For which topic were research priorities identified?

HIV

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

North America - USA

## Why was it conducted at all?

Although there is little doubt about the need for continued biomedical research to develop improved HIV therapies, the potential ramifications of a growing population living with chronic HIV infection underscores the paramount need for a more comprehensive portfolio of HIV/AIDS research. HIV/AIDS research is needed to examine issues related to the many social, psychological, and economic consequences of HIV diagnosis and treatment. New models of care delivery will require evaluation, and new HIV prevention approaches will need to be developed and tested. Much of this research will be conducted by nurse researchers or by multidisciplinary teams that include nurse researchers. In addition, nurses working in expanded roles can be expected to have greater responsibility for the support and management of persons with chronic HIV infection.

## What was the objective?

to identify HIV/AIDS research priorities for the next millennium from the perspective of nurses in AIDS care

## 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?

Delphi

## How were the priorities for research identified exactly?

Step 1: Delphi round 1: participants were asked to identify research topics or issues, both overall and specific to nursing, viewed as most important for future research, 1258 responses under overall HIV/AIDS research category and 759 responses under HIV/AIDS nursing research category. Step 2: data processing: thematic analysis: resulting in two lists of 12 research priority topics each (12 overall HIV/AIDS research topics and 12 nursing research-specific topics). Step 2: Delphi round 2: participants were asked to rank each of the research topics. Step 3: Delphi round 3: participants were asked to rank top five research topics

## Which stakeholders took part?

Nurses in AIDS care. Delphi round 1: 317 participants. Delphi round 2: 252 participants. Delphi round 3: 226 participants.

## How were stakeholders recruited?

A group of 700 ANAC members was selected, one fourth of the active ANAC members at the time of the study. Potential participants were selected from the roster of active ANAC members as of June 1999. All ANAC members on the roster designated as having a graduate degree were selected to participate in the study (N=385). All ANAC members having graduate degrees were included in the sample given the relatively smaller number of members with graduate degrees and their potential to provide a more fully informed perspective on current and needed research in HIV/AIDS. The remainder of the sample was selected using a table of random numbers. In the third round of the Delphi survey, a different but potentially overlapping panel of experts was questioned: all nurses attending a November 13, 1999, plenary session at the annual ANAC conference in San Diego, California.

## 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.