

Development of ASMBS Research Agenda for Bariatric Surgery using the Delphi Methodology

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For which topic were research priorities identified?

bariatric surgery

In which location was the research priority setting conducted?

North America - USA

Why was it conducted at all?

While the number of research publications related to bariatric surgery have increased remarkably in the past decade, research efforts remain uncoordinated and have limited focus, and numerous important questions remain unanswered.

What was the objective?

to generate a research agenda in bariatric surgery to guide investigators and funding agencies through a systematic survey of members of the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery (ASMBS)

What was the outcome?

a ranking list of 40 research questions

How long did the research prioritization take?

2016 - 2017

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 formulate and submit up to five research questions most urgently needed to advance the field of bariatric surgery, 292 research questions submitted. Step 2: data processing: resulting in 59 unique questions. Step 3: Delphi round 2: participants were asked to rate each question, top 40 research questions moved forward. Step 4: Delphi round 3: participants were asked to re-rate questions based on group mean rating

Which stakeholders took part?

Members of the American society of metabolic and bariatric surgery: bariatric surgeons, dietician, bariatricians, bariatric nurses. Delphi round 1: 95 participants. Delphi round 2: 19 participants. Delphi round 3: 239 participants.

How were stakeholders recruited?

Participants were recruited via the membership of the American Society of Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery (ASMBS).

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.