

# Research Priorities in Health Communication and Participation: International Survey of Consumers and Other Stakeholders

Synnot et al. (2018)  
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## For which topic were research priorities identified?

health communication and participation

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

international

## Why was it conducted at all?

Within the area of health communication and participation, overarching research priorities of consumers and other stakeholders are unknown.

## What was the objective?

to identify research priorities of consumers and other stakeholders to inform Cochrane Reviews in health communication and participation

## What was the outcome?

a ranking list of 20 research topics

## How long did the research prioritization take?

No information provided.

## Which methods were used to identify research priorities?

JLA method

## How were the priorities for research identified exactly?

Step 1: survey asking: What is the health communication and participation problem you would like to see addressed? In your experience, is this a problem for particular groups of people? Is there a particular setting or group of health professionals this is relevant to? Do you have any particular solutions you would like to see tested?, 191 ideas for health communication and participation research were submitted. Step 2: data processing: thematic analysis: resulting in 21 research topics and 6 overarching priority themes. Step 3: workshop: participants were given list of 21 priority topics from survey, participants were asked to discuss these topics and add new ones. Step 4: thematic analysis of workshop discussions, mapping priority topics against Cochrane review portfolio

## Which stakeholders took part?

Patients, consumers, carers, and their advocates, health professionals, policymakers, researchers, funders, and persons interested in health communication and participation. Survey: 151 participants: 32 persons without health condition, 51 persons with health condition, 49 carers/family members, 57 consumers/patient advocates, 55 health professionals, 19 health service managers and staff, 10 policymakers, 43 researchers, 1 research funder. Workshop: 28 participants: 14 consumers, 14 health professionals/decision-makers.

## How were stakeholders recruited?

Purposive and snowball sampling was used. The survey was promoted by email and in newsletters. Approximately 1000 individuals and organizations were identified from the networks of the project team and steering group, and internet searches (for international patient groups, in particular), and were invited to forward the survey link to their networks or members.

## Were stakeholders actively involved or did they just participate?

Stakeholders not only participated but were also actively involved in the research prioritization process: They were part of a steering group. The steering group consisted of 11 members: 1 member of the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, 1 member of the National Health and Medical Research Council, 1 member of Safer Care Victoria, 2 members of Victorian health services (1 in a clinical and 1 a managerial positions), 1 health consumer organization, 2 health consumer representatives, 1 member of Cochrane Australia, 2 researchers with priority-setting expertise. The steering group defined the project scope, advised on participant selection and recruitment, refined identified priorities at key points and planned and assisted with dissemination.