Practical approaches to undertaking research priority setting in health

WORKSHOP PROGRAM AND MATERIALS

Background

Increasing efforts have been made to conduct research priority setting to guide researchers, healthcare organisations and funders in allocating scarce public resources to research. Involving patients, clinicians and policy makers in priority setting can help ensure that research is conducted in areas of relevance to end users, not just researchers

Facilitators

Anneliese Synnot	Cochrane Consumers and Communication Group, Centre for Health Communication and Participation, La Trobe University
Allison Tong	Sydney School of Public Health The University of Sydney; Centre for Kidney Research, The Children's Hospital at Westmead
Jonathan Craig	Sydney School of Public Health The University of Sydney; Centre for Kidney Research, The Children's Hospital at Westmead
Sophie Hill	Cochrane Consumers and Communication Group Centre for Health Communication and Participation, La Trobe University

Learning Objectives

The objectives of this workshop are to:
- Understand the purpose and principles of research priority setting
- Gain knowledge of the practical aspects of different approaches to research priority setting

Program

Time	Session
1:30 – 1:40	**Welcome and introduction** Allison Tong
1:40 – 1:45	**Why do research priority setting?** Allison Tong
1:45 – 2:00	**Overview of approaches to research priority setting** Anneliese Synnot
2:00 – 2:10	**Questions**
2:10 – 2:40	**Small group exercise: appraisal of research priority setting exercise** Anneliese Synnot, Allison Tong, Jonathan Craig, Sophie Hill
2:40 – 3:00	**Summary, questions, and closing remarks** Jonathan Craig

Materials and Resources

The following printouts will be provided:
- Slides
- Workshop program and materials
- Article for appraisal

Additional resources (examples approaches and guidance documents) will be available online at
www.latrobe.edu.au/chcp/projects/research-priority-setting

Appraisal framework and template

Article: Research priorities in CKD: report of a national workshop conducted in Australia AJKD 2015 66:212-212

ID	Item	Descriptor and/or examples	Appraisal/comments
A. Context and scope			
1	Define geographical scope	*Global, regional, national, institutional, health service*	
2	Define health area or focus	*Disease or condition specific, healthcare delivery*	
3	Define end-users of research	*General population, patients*	
4	Define the target audience	*Policy makers, funders, researchers, industry*	
5	Identify the research focus	*Public health, health services, clinical, basic science; primary research, systematic reviews, guidelines*	
6	Identify the type of research question	*Etiology, diagnosis, prevention, treatment, prognosis, health services, psychosocial, education, QOL, economic evaluation*	
7	Define the time frame	*Short term or long term priorities*	
B. Governance and team			
8	Describe selection of the project leader/s and team	*Steering Committee, working group, coordinators*	
9	Describe the characteristics of the project leader/team members	*Stakeholder group, organisations represented, characteristics*	
10	Training or experience in research priority setting	*Involvement of JLA advisor*	

C. Inclusion of stakeholders/participants		
11	Define the inclusion criteria for stakeholder groups involved in the PSP	*Stakeholder group*
12	State the strategy or method for identifying and engaging stakeholders	*Partnerships, social media, recruitment through hospitals*
13	Indicate the number of participants and/or organisations involved	*Individuals, organisations*
14	Describe the characteristics of stakeholders	*Name of stakeholder group e.g. clinicians, patients, policy makers*
15	Reimbursement for participation	*Cash, vouchers, certificates, acknowledgement*
D. Identification and collection of research topics/questions		
16	Describe methods for collecting all research topics or questions	*Technical data (burden of disease, incidence), systematic reviews, reviews of guidelines/other documents, surveys, interviews, focus groups, meetings, workshops*
17	Describe methods for collating and/or categorising topics or questions	*Taxonomy, framework, used to organised and aggregate topics or questions*
18	Describe methods or reason for initial removal or topics or questions	*Beyond scope, lack of clarity and ill-defined, duplicative, number of submissions*
19	Describe methods for refining research questions/topics	*Reviewed by Steering Committee*
20	Cross check to identify if research questions have been answered	*Systematic reviews, consultation with experts*
21	Describe number of research questions/topics	*Report number of research questions at each stage of the process*
E. Prioritisation of research topics/questions		
22	Describe methods for prioritising or achieving consensus on priority research areas, topics, or questions	*Consensus methods: Delphi, nominal group technique, workshops; define thresholds: ranking scores, proportions, votes (interim and final stage)*
23	Provide reasons for excluding research topics/questions	*Thresholds for ranking scores, proportions, votes (interim and final stage)*

F. Output		
24	Define specificity of research priorities	*Area, topic, questions, PICO*

G. Evaluation and feedback		
25	Describe how the research priorities exercise was evaluated	*Conduct a survey, interviews, debriefing session*
26	Describe how priorities were made accessible for review by stakeholders	*Circulate or upload a draft report*
27	State how feedback was integrated	*Describe changes made based on feedback*

H. Dissemination, translation and implementation		
28	Outline the strategy or action plans for implementing priorities	*Liaise with key partners*
29	Describe how impact will be measured	*Improved stakeholder understanding, shifted priorities, reallocation of resources, improved quality of decision-making, stakeholder acceptance and satisfaction*

I. Funding and conflict of interest		
30	State sources of funding	*Name of funders*
31	Outline the budget and/or cost	*Report project expenses*
32	Provide declaration of conflict of interest	*Statement of conflict of interest collected and reported*