



Global Consensus on Critical Care Nursing Research Priorities: A Modified Delphi Study

Laura Alberto, Paul Fulbrook PhD, Ged Williams, Mathilde Elsa Christensen, Candelaria María Cafferata, Dolores Albor Vázquez, Isabel Coetzee-Prinsloo, Khalil Yousef, Ruth Kleinpell

Background: Some studies reported research priorities for adult critical care nurses. However the changing nature of health systems and the pandemic emergence raises the question of whether these findings are contemporaneous and internationally relevant. Protocol and progress on the study are provided in this presentation.

Aim: The aim of this study is to describe contemporary global research priorities in adult critical care nursing.

Method: A modified Delphi method using a 4-round online survey is being used with an international panel of critical care nursing. In the initial round, panel members were asked to nominate 5 research priorities. Findings from this round will be grouped thematically into survey items (research priority areas). In round 2, panel members will be asked to rate survey items using a 9-point ordinal scale to indicate strength of agreement. Items that do not achieve the pre-set consensus level, will be sent to panel members in a 3rd round. When all of the research priorities have been identified panel members will be asked to rank the research priorities (round 4) in terms of contemporary importance by placing them in order of importance. The World Federation of Critical Care Nurses global network will be utilised to identify a purposive sample of critical care nursing experts working in association with adult intensive care units (n = 100). This study protocol was approved by the Ethics Committee of Hospital Alemán (Argentina).

Conclusion: Findings of this study may be used by governments, universities, hospitals, and other organizations where critical care nursing research is used, designed, conducted, and promoted. The study will help critical care nurses of adult critical care units to focus their contribution to research via internationally agreed priority areas to improve global health.