

Priority setting

BACAPH discussion paper
October 2015

This paper is for discussion, and agreement on the criteria used, together with the weighting proposed.

Purpose

The purpose of this discussion paper is to develop a framework for priority setting that informs the work of BACAPH. This would include policymaking, projects that BACAPH may wish to support, priorities for the website and the work of individual members. It should therefore support the majority of work that BACAPH undertakes.

Introduction

Resources will always limit aspirations. No organisation can ever do everything that its members aspire to achieve. Therefore there needs to be some process for priority setting that is logical, understandable, agreed in advance and acceptable to members, which will inform the decisionmaking of the organisation.

There appear to be very few priority setting frameworks already developed in the literature, so the proposals here have been distilled down from a number of different sources.

Logically, important issues, affecting a lot of children and young people, where there is a large potential for improvement should be prioritised before issues that affect a small number of people where there is little opportunity for improvement.

A framework for prioritising "health conditions" is proposed with a further framework for deciding whether the topic is right for BACAPH. The framework consists of a criterion, followed by a weighting system (points) and an aide memoir to guide discussion and point allocation.

Framework for health conditions/lifestyles/determinants		
Affects lots of children/ young people ie frequency (incidence/ prevalence)		
Points	Very common (6 points) very rare (1 point)	
<i>Aide memoir</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1:100 common • 1:10,000 rare 	

Significant health problem ie the burden on the healthcare system (Economic impact):		
Points	Very high 6 points very low 1 point	
<i>Aide memoir</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of visits; • Number of procedures; • Multiple specialties involved; • Need for special training or special devices; • Interest or demand from the population; 	

Health impact (individual and family)		
Points	High additional costs or savings (4 points) no change (1 point)	
<i>Aide memoir</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Costs of identification and assessment; • Expensive treatments 	

Educational impact:		
Points	Significant (3 points) – minor (1 point)	
<i>Aide memoir</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absence from school; • Need for additional support 	

Social impact:		
Points	Significant (3 points) – minor (1 point)	
<i>Aide memoir</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disability; • Family impact • Need for short breaks 	

Variation of treatments or outcomes		
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Points	Major (6 points) negligible (1 point)	
<i>Aide memoir</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Use of different treatments;</i> • <i>Inequality in access to care;</i> • <i>Inequity in health outcomes</i> 	

Potential for health promotion and protection:		
Points	Considerable (6 points) Small (1 point)	
<i>Aide memoir</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Prevention on a population level or among high-risk individuals;</i> • <i>Lifestyle choices;</i> • <i>Effect on quality-weighted years of life</i> 	

Effectiveness and adverse impact of intervention:		
Points	Effective and risk-free (3 points) - contradicting effects (1 point)	
<i>Aide memoir</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Availability of effective treatment;</i> • <i>Possibility of serious adverse effects;</i> • <i>Treatment-induced effect on quality-weighted years of life</i> 	

Need for public information:		
Points	Great (2 points) Minor (0 point)	
<i>Aide memoir</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Contradicting information;</i> • <i>New types of methods available;</i> • <i>Discussion about values needed</i> 	

Other		
Points		
<i>Aide memoir</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	

Other		
Points		

<i>Aide memoir</i>	•	
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Framework for BACAPH		
Is BACAPH the right organisation for this topic		
Points	Little 1 Great 3	
<i>Aide memoir</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Has the right skills</i> • <i>Has the time/energy</i> • <i>Alliance needed?</i> 	

Potential for impact		
Points	Small 1 Large 3	
<i>Aide memoir</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Of public concern • Political issue • Professional concern 	

Strong evidence base		
Points	Case reports 1 RCTs 2 Systematic review 3	
<i>Aide memoir</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Of public concern</i> • <i>Political issue</i> • <i>Professional concern</i> 	

Cost/time		
Points	High cost 1 low-cost 3	
<i>Aide memoir</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development costs • Distribution costs • Potential adverse impacts 	

Potential for change/improvement		
Points	Large opportunity 3 small opportunity 1	
<i>Aide memoir</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Professional</i> • <i>Political</i> • <i>Public</i> 	

Alliance opportunity		
Points		
<i>Aide memoir</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Short-term benefits</i> • <i>Long-term benefits</i> • Diplomatic 	

Other		
Points	•	
<i>Aide memoir</i>		

Please add to or amend