

Action Priority Setting Process for
addressing the Challenges in the
field of Burns for Africa :
A PROPOSAL

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Why ?

- Huge challenges in our setting
- Different to high income countries
- What will make the greatest impact for our patients ?

- Training of nurses
- Training of doctors
- Lack of equipment
- Data
- Availability of allograft or blood for our patients
- Affordable skin substitute
- Rehabilitation

- Development of a strategic action plan with short, medium and long-term goals
- Addressing the most pressing practical issues in our region in order to improve mortality and other outcomes
- Focus limited resources
- Harness existing initiatives – Interburns & Cosecsa
- Collaboration is essential for success

Delphi Technique

- Widely used and accepted method for gathering data from respondents within their domain of expertise
- Designed as a group communication process which aims to achieve a convergence of opinion on a specific issue
- Well suited as a method for consensus-building by using a series of ranking
- Allows us to inclusion of all issues that you as the key role players feel are important but reduce redundancy and influence from each other

1. Chia-Chien Hsu, The Ohio State University & Brian A. Sandford, Oklahoma State University The Delphi Technique: Making Sense Of Consensus. Volume 12, Number 10, August 2007

2. The James Lind Alliance. <http://www.lindalliance.org/>



- Necessary to further develop perioperative outcomes research in South Africa.
 - Connect key role players and interested researchers from around the country
 - Used Delphi process to establish research priorities in various fields of perioperative research in South Africa
 - Through workshop interest groups creating 'Clinical Research Pathways' in each field take the research forward

National Research Priorities in South Africa

1. The establishment of a national data base of i) critical care outcomes and ii) critical care resources.
2. A randomised controlled trial of preoperative B-type natriuretic peptide guided medical therapy to decrease major adverse cardiac events following non-cardiac surgery.
3. A national prospective observational study of the outcomes associated with paediatric surgical cases.
4. A national observational study of maternal and foetal outcomes following operative delivery in South Africa.
5. A stepped wedge trial of an enhanced recovery after surgery programme for either i) surgery, ii) obstetrics, iii) emergency surgery or iv) trauma surgery.
6. A stepped wedge trial of a surgical safety checklist on patient outcomes in South Africa.
7. A prospective observational study of perioperative outcomes following surgery in district general hospitals in South Africa.
8. Short course interventions to improve anaesthetic skills in rural doctors.
9. Studies of the efficacy of simulation training to improve i) patient outcomes, ii) team dynamics, iii) leadership.
10. Development and validation of a risk stratification tool for South Africa surgery based on the SASOS data.

The way forward

- We want to improve outcomes for our patients
- Collaboration is more effective

- Not research priorities we seek, but action ones
- Know where we need to focus our resources and energies

- Need surgeons from around Africa to partake in this process
- Email me to join the list : nikkiallorto@gmail.com