

Abstract Title: Australian Health Research Alliance (AHRA) - National priority setting in Data Driven Healthcare Improvement

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On behalf of AHRA's Data Driven Health Care improvement committee and AHRA Council

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Background

AHRA encompasses NHMRC accredited Advanced Health Research Translation Centres (AHRTCs) and Centres for Innovation in Regional Health (CIHR) as academic and health partnerships. Funded through the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF), we offer unprecedented national collaborative opportunities to integrate research and healthcare to deliver better health outcomes. Data Driven Healthcare Improvement is a key AHRA and MRFF priority. Here we outline our national priority setting process, in data driven healthcare improvement, to deliver agreed national driven healthcare improvement priorities for the next three years.

Objectives

AHRA's objectives were to undertake a priority setting process to generate national collaborative priorities in data-driven healthcare improvement.

Method

We used modified Delphi and Nominal Group techniques in a five step process, to generate priorities from policy, evidence synthesis and national experts. Online voting generated preliminary priorities, which were refined at a national workshop. Thorough sense making, consolidation and a co-designed prioritisation framework preceded final voting for agreed priorities.

Results

Three national AHRA priorities were agreed to: 1) Create virtual or actual health data research incubator hubs within the member Centres to stimulate partnerships across academic, clinician and industry stakeholders, 2) Integrate large scale data sets to undertake research and quality improvement across the primary care, acute and sub-acute continuum 3) Build workforce capacity in data use for health care improvement through national training of undergraduates and postgraduates. We have identified Australia's topmost stakeholder driven, strategic, healthcare improvement priorities from our AHRTCs and CIHRs. These will inform AHRA's shared approach to healthcare improvement and education in service delivery.