
Identifying research priorities for health care priority setting: A collaborative effort between managers and researchers

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The Researcher-Decision Maker Collaborative Process

- Three forums held
 - Sept 2007
 - Jan 2008
 - Apr 2008
- Three initial focus areas
 - Measure of benefit
 - Disinvestment
 - Evaluation
- All B.C. Health Authorities represented



A Priority Setting and Resource Allocation Research Agenda

1

Both decision makers and researchers perceive a need for research projects which are

- Longitudinal,
- Comparative, and/or
- Interdisciplinary



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A Priority Setting and Resource Allocation Research Agenda

2

More research should focus upon the larger organizational context(s) in which priority setting occurs:

- alignment with other decision making processes (e.g., strategic planning)?
- measurement of costs and benefits across the whole organization (not just the proposing department)?
- ‘ripple effects’, or how bringing in new formal processes does or does not catalyze change elsewhere in an organization?
- relative merits of implementing formal priority setting incrementally or as an organization wide mandate (‘big bang’)?



A Priority Setting and Resource Allocation Research Agenda

3

More research should focus upon implementation of priority setting processes and change management within organizations:

- How do decision-makers understand 'disinvestment'?
- How do the rhetorical and tactical choices made in 'bundling' spending options affect the results of formal priority setting?
- How do decision-makers manage conflicting role loyalties?
- Why, when and how should decision makers engage the public?



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Benefits to both parties:

- ❑ Decision makers benefit by connecting with their peers and sparking increased interest in priority setting frameworks
- ❑ Researchers benefit by narrowing their focus to a set of issues relevant to decision makers and obtaining support of potential partner organizations



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