

The Anaesthesia and Perioperative Care Priority Setting Partnership

Welcome to the Anaesthesia and Perioperative Care Prioritisation Survey

We want you to nominate the most important topics for future research in anaesthesia and perioperative care. We are therefore asking you to choose your 'top ten priorities' from topics suggested on the next page.

Why do your views matter to us?

Research in all areas of medicine needs to address questions that will make a real difference to improving patient care. Surveys like this - inviting views from patients, carers and clinicians who the research might affect - help us identify topics that are truly important to all those involved.

How were these topics first identified?

We conducted an initial survey in June - July 2014 to gather ideas for future research in anaesthesia and perioperative care. We collected almost 1500 suggestions, which were incorporated into a shortlist of 93 'summary' research questions. We are now asking you to choose the ten most important questions from the shortlist.

How long will it take?

It should take about 15 minutes for you to consider the questions and choose your personal 'top ten' research priorities.

How can I find more information?

Full details of the project can be found here: [Anaesthesia and Perioperative Care PSP website](#)



James
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Alliance

Priority Setting Partnerships

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Please select up to 10 research questions that you think are the most important

- MATERNITY:** How can **pain relief during childbirth** be improved?
- MATERNITY:** How do epidurals affect **progress and outcomes** of labour (childbirth), and how can **adverse effects** be minimised?
- MATERNITY:** How can detection and management of **maternal bleeding** during childbirth be improved?
- MATERNITY:** How do anaesthetic interventions during pregnancy or around the time of birth **affect the baby**?
- MATERNITY:** How can anaesthesia for **Caesarean sections** be improved?
- MATERNITY:** What anaesthetic strategies can reduce complications and deaths in **higher risk pregnancies**?
- CHILDREN:** How can we reduce **pain after surgery** in children and newborns?
- CHILDREN:** How can we **reduce anxiety** in children undergoing surgery?
- CHILDREN:** What are the effects of anaesthesia on the **developing brain**?
- CHILDREN:** How can **pre-operative assessment** for children be improved?
- CHILDREN:** How can we improve outcomes through **better monitoring** of children around the time of surgery?
- CHILDREN:** What **intravenous fluids** should we give children having surgery?
- CHILDREN:** What are the **long-term effects** of anaesthesia in babies?
- CHILDREN:** What can we do to improve outcomes for **higher risk children** having surgery?
- CHILDREN:** What is the best way to **organise anaesthetic and surgical services** for children?
- ELDERLY CARE:** How can the anaesthetic team improve outcomes for **hip fracture patients**?
- ELDERLY CARE:** How can we reduce the effects of anaesthesia on **brain function**, particularly in the elderly?
- ELDERLY CARE:** What are the consequences of **low blood pressure** around the time of surgery, particularly in the elderly?
- ELDERLY CARE:** How can we reduce the **risks** of anaesthesia in elderly patients?
- ELDERLY CARE:** How can we **improve recovery** from surgery for elderly patients?
- PERIOPERATIVE CARE DELIVERY:** How can protocols, guidelines, checklists and care pathways **improve the safety and effectiveness** of anaesthesia?
- PERIOPERATIVE CARE DELIVERY:** How can operating **theatre efficiency** be improved?
- PERIOPERATIVE CARE DELIVERY:** How can patient care around the time of **emergency surgery** be improved?
- PERIOPERATIVE CARE DELIVERY:** What is the best way to **organise specialist surgical services**?
- PERIOPERATIVE CARE DELIVERY:** How can **patient data** be used to improve perioperative care?
- PERIOPERATIVE CARE DELIVERY:** What **outcomes** should we use to **measure the 'success'** of anaesthesia and perioperative care?
- PERIOPERATIVE CARE DELIVERY:** How do we decide which **clinicians** should deliver the different elements of perioperative care?
- TRAINING:** How can we most effectively deliver training to improve **quality and safety** in anaesthesia and perioperative care?
- TRAINING:** Should anaesthetists receive more training on caring for patients with **specific medical problems** (e.g. Ehlers Danlos Syndrome)?
- TRAINING:** Would greater use of **Physician's Assistants (Anaesthesia)** be beneficial?

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- TRAINING:** What training or resources could improve perioperative care in **developing countries**?
- PAIN:** How can anaesthesia and pain relief be improved for patients with **Ehlers Danlos Syndrome**?
- PAIN:** How can pain control be improved in patients with **longstanding medical conditions**?
- PAIN:** How can we better **predict the severity** of pain immediately after surgery?
- PAIN:** How can we improve our use of **drugs** to provide better pain relief before and after surgery?
- PAIN:** How can we use **non-drug therapies** to provide better pain relief before and after surgery?
- PAIN:** How can we better **assess perioperative pain** in adults and children?
- PAIN:** What are the risk factors for developing **chronic pain** after surgery?
- PAIN:** What can we do to stop patients developing **chronic pain** after surgery?
- PAIN:** What can we do to reduce the **side effects** of pain relief medications?
- REGIONAL ANAESTHESIA:** What are the risks and benefits of **epidural and spinal injections** for major abdominal surgery?
- REGIONAL ANAESTHESIA:** How can the effectiveness of **epidural and spinal injections** be improved?
- REGIONAL ANAESTHESIA:** How do we improve **involvement of patients** in decision-making about regional anaesthesia?
- REGIONAL ANAESTHESIA:** How can the **effectiveness** of regional (local) anaesthetic techniques (other than epidural and spinal injections) be improved?
- REGIONAL ANAESTHESIA:** For **which patients** does regional (local) anaesthesia give **better outcomes** than general anaesthesia?
- REGIONAL ANAESTHESIA:** How can the **risks and side effects** of regional (local) anaesthesia be minimised?
- COMPLEMENTARY MEDICINE:** How can **acupuncture** be used to improve recovery from surgery?
- COMPLEMENTARY MEDICINE:** How can **hypnosis** help control anxiety and improve recovery around the time of surgery?
- COMPLEMENTARY MEDICINE:** How can complementary medicine **help with recovery** from surgery?
- COMPLEMENTARY MEDICINE:** How can **psychological techniques** improve post-operative outcomes and satisfaction?
- COMMUNICATION:** How can we improve communication **between the teams** looking after patients having surgery?
- COMMUNICATION:** How could we improve communication between **healthcare staff and patients** before and after surgery?
- COMMUNICATION:**How can we promote **compassion and empathy** among staff caring for patients having surgery?
- COMMUNICATION:** What are the benefits of increased **patient and carer involvement** in perioperative care?
- ACCIDENTAL AWARENESS:** What is the best method for monitoring the **depth of anaesthesia**?
- ACCIDENTAL AWARENESS:** How can accidental awareness under general anaesthesia be **detected and avoided**?
- ACCIDENTAL AWARENESS:** What is the best way to **reduce the harm** caused by accidental awareness under general anaesthesia if it occurs?
- LONG-TERM EFFECTS:** How can anaesthetic technique and perioperative care help reduce the risk of **cancer recurrence**?
- LONG-TERM EFFECTS:** What can be done to **speed up recovery** from anaesthesia?
- LONG-TERM EFFECTS:** What **long-term harm** may result from anaesthesia, in particular following **repeated anaesthetics**?
- ANXIETY/STRESS:** How can we **reduce** anxiety and stress **before** an operation?
- ANXIETY/STRESS:** How can we **reduce** anxiety and stress **at the start** of an anaesthetic?
- ANXIETY/STRESS:** How can we **reduce** a patient's anxiety and stress immediately **after** an operation?
- ANXIETY/STRESS:** What can we do to help patients with **needle phobia**?

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- ANXIETY/STRESS:** Should patients routinely be offered **sedation for minor procedures**?
- PATIENT EXPERIENCE:** How can the patient's experience **before** surgery be improved?
- PATIENT EXPERIENCE:** What should be **discussed with patients** before surgery, and what is the best **setting** for this discussion?
- PATIENT EXPERIENCE:** How can we better implement fasting guidelines to avoid **excessive pre-operative fasting** and improve the patients experience?
- PATIENT EXPERIENCE:** How can better information improve patients' **expectations of pain** after surgery?
- PREPARING FOR SURGERY:** What **fasting guidelines** should patients follow before surgery?
- PREPARING FOR SURGERY:** How can we improve medical assessment to determine the **risk of harm** after surgery?
- PREPARING FOR SURGERY:** How can **pre-operative assessment** for adults be improved?
- PREPARING FOR SURGERY:**How can **patient education programmes** improve outcomes after surgery?
- PREPARING FOR SURGERY:** How can **weight loss programmes** improve outcomes after surgery?
- PREPARING FOR SURGERY:** How can pre-operative **nutritional modifications** improve outcomes after surgery?
- PREPARING FOR SURGERY:** How can pre-operative **exercise or fitness training**, including physiotherapy, improve outcomes after surgery?
- PREPARING FOR SURGERY:** Does treating **pre-operative anaemia** improve outcomes after surgery?
- PREPARING FOR SURGERY:** How should a patient's **existing drug regime** be modified before and after surgery?
- ANAESTHETIC PRACTICE:** How can we minimise the **risk of physical injury** in patients undergoing anaesthetic?
- ANAESTHETIC PRACTICE:** How can the anaesthetist help reduce the risk of **complications after surgery**?
- ANAESTHETIC PRACTICE:** What is the best choice of **intravenous fluids** to improve outcomes after surgery?
- ANAESTHETIC PRACTICE:** How can we better detect and treat **major bleeding**?
- ANAESTHETIC PRACTICE:** Does **cardiac output monitoring** improve outcomes after surgery? How can we improve cardiac output monitoring?
- ANAESTHETIC PRACTICE:** How can we make **airway management** safer?
- RECOVERY FROM SURGERY:** What causes **nausea and vomiting** after surgery?
- RECOVERY FROM SURGERY:** How can we **prevent nausea and vomiting** after surgery? What is the **best treatment** if it occurs?
- RECOVERY FROM SURGERY:** What is the **impact of nausea and vomiting** after surgery on a patient's overall recovery?
- RECOVERY FROM SURGERY:** How can we **reduce complications** (adverse events) after surgery?
- RECOVERY FROM SURGERY:** Does post-operative **intensive care** improve outcomes in **higher risk patients** having major surgery?
- RECOVERY FROM SURGERY:** How should we **plan discharge** from hospital after surgery, and what would help patients recover at home after discharge?
- RECOVERY FROM SURGERY:** How can we **improve patient recovery** from surgery?
- RECOVERY FROM SURGERY:** Do **enhanced recovery programmes** (fast track surgery to speed up patient recovery) improve short and long-term outcomes?

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ABOUT YOU

We want to make sure we are getting a broad representation of people contributing to our survey. Please tell us a little about your experience, background, and how you came across the survey.

How old are you?

Are you:

- Male
- Female
- Prefer not to say

Which of these best describes you? (please tick all that apply)

- I know someone who has had surgery and/or anaesthesia
- I am a patient with experience of surgery and/or anaesthesia
- I am a person with experience of caring for someone who has undergone surgery and/or anaesthesia
- I am a clinical professional

ABOUT YOU

If you are a clinical professional, please tick the box below that is closest to your professional category, or write in “other” if we have omitted your role:

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Anaesthetist | <input type="radio"/> ODP | <input type="radio"/> General practitioner |
| <input type="radio"/> Surgeon | <input type="radio"/> Recovery nurse | |
| <input type="radio"/> Operating theatre staff* | <input type="radio"/> Ward/ICU nurse | |
| <input type="radio"/> Other (please specify) | | |

** Physician's assistants, theatre nurses etc. If unsure, please specify in “other”*

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WHERE YOU FOUND US

We have partnered with many patient organisations and clinical, academic and perioperative professional bodies to launch this survey. You may have come across this survey through one, many, or none of them. Please let us know who has made you aware of this survey.

This also really helps us because these organisations want to know that their members have been contributing ideas!

Please tick all that apply:

- Age UK
- Anaesthesia (the official journal of the Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland)
- Anaesthetic Research Society
- Association for Improvements in the Maternity Services
- Association for Perioperative Practice
- Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland
- Association of Cardiothoracic Anaesthetists
- Association of Paediatric Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland
- Association of Physicians Assistants (Anaesthesia)
- British Anaesthetic & Recovery Nurses Association
- British Journal of Anaesthesia
- British Society of Orthopaedic Anaesthetists
- Cochrane Anaesthesia Review Group
- Difficult Airway Society
- Ehlers-Danlos Support UK
- Faculty of Pain Medicine, RCoA
- Headway
- Healthwatch Camden
- IA (the Ileostomy and Internal Pouch Support Group)
- Independent Cancer Patients Voices
- Kangaroo Club
- National Cancer Research Institute Consumer Liaison Group
- National Childbirth Trust
- Neuroanaesthesia Society of Great Britain and Ireland
- Obstetric Anaesthetists' Association
- Oesophageal Patients Association
- Patient Liaison Group of the Royal College of Anaesthetists
- Patient Liaison Group of the Royal College of Surgeons of England
- Patients Association

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- Pelvic Pain Support Network
- Polycystic Kidney Disease Charity
- Prostate Cancer Support Federation
- Regional Anaesthesia UK - The UK Division of ESRA
- Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Trust
- Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital Patients' Group
- South West Anaesthesia Research Matrix (SWARM)
- The Colostomy Association
- The Royal College of Anaesthetists
- The Royal College of Surgeons of England
- The Society for Education in Anesthesia (SEA UK)
- The Society for Obesity and Bariatric Anaesthesia (SOBA)
- The Swallows
- The Urostomy Association
- Vascular Anaesthesia Society of Great Britain and Ireland
- Welsh Anaesthesia Audit, Research and Engagement Network (WAAREN)
- Wessex - South Coast Perioperative Audit and Research Collaboration (SPARC)
- Other (please specify) e.g. friend, colleague, other organisation etc

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CONSENT

By participating in this survey you are agreeing to allow us to publish your suggestions anonymously, in an online tool for researchers called UK DUETs ([UK Database of Uncertainties about the Effects of Treatments](#)). UK DUETs also publishes research recommendations. This enables researchers to explore the current unanswered questions in their areas of research.

Please tick one option below:

- I have read the consent section and I am happy to take part
- I do not want my suggestions to be included in UK DUETs

Would you like to be kept informed of progress by email? If so, please enter your email address here:

If you do provide your personal contact details, we will not share them with anyone. We will keep them confidentially and securely, in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

THANK YOU!

Please click 'submit' below to complete the survey, you will then be redirected to our website. Please do not hesitate to [contact us](#) if you have any questions.