

The Top 10 priorities for adult cardiac surgery research

1 QUALITY OF LIFE

How does a patient's quality of life (QOL) change (e.g. disability-free survival) following heart surgery and what factors are associated with this?

2 FRAILITY

How can we address frailty and improve the management of frail patients in heart surgery?

3 CHRONIC CONDITIONS

How can we improve the outcomes of heart surgery patients with chronic conditions (obesity, diabetes, hypertension, renal failure, autoimmune diseases etc.)?

4 PREHABILITATION

Does prehabilitation (a programme of nutritional, exercise and psychological interventions before surgery) benefit heart surgery patients?

5 HEART VALVE INTERVENTION

When should heart valve intervention occur for patients without symptoms?

6 SURGICAL METHODS

How does minimally invasive heart surgery compare to traditional open surgery?

7 ORGAN DAMAGE

How do we minimise damage to organs from the heart-lung machine/heart surgery (heart, kidney, lung, brain and gut)?

8 3D BIO-PRINTING

Can we use 3D bio printing or stem cell technology to create living tissues (heart valves/heart) and repair failing hearts (myocardial regeneration)?

9 ATRIAL FIBRILLATION

What are the most effective ways of preventing and treating post-operative atrial fibrillation?

10 INFECTION

How do we reduce and manage infections after heart surgery including surgical site/sternal wound infection and pneumonia?