

UNLOCKING HEALTHCARE INSIGHTS

# Research Priority Setting



**Cochrane**

Multiple Sclerosis and Rare Diseases  
of the Central Nervous System



**Research Priority Setting (RPS)** is a collaborative effort to pinpoint key research questions. It can involve various stakeholders and aims to **identify critical topics** that need attention.

From specific disease areas to national strategies, RPS shapes the future direction of research efforts.



RPS involves a series of steps:

1. Identification of stakeholders
2. Identifying research questions
3. Ranking the questions.
4. Dissemination of the results to all stakeholders
5. Provision for appeal
6. Priorities' implementation
7. Evaluation of the process and outcome

Each step contributes to a comprehensive understanding of research needs.



## WHY RPS MATTERS

There is no clear definition of RPS, and its purpose varies based on organizational goals. It could guide resource allocation, inform strategic decisions, or advocate for changes in priorities.

Engaging stakeholders, including patients and clinicians, is crucial to ensure **diverse perspectives and priorities** are considered in research.



## REDUCING RESEARCH WASTE THROUGH RPS

Well-conducted RPS plays a vital role in minimizing research waste.

This is especially crucial in resource-limited settings, where optimizing the use of available resources is essential.

RPS ensures research efforts align with community needs and address health system imbalances.



## CHALLENGES IN RESEARCH PRIORITY SETTING

Although there's an increase in methods studies, lack of documentation makes critical questions still unanswered.

Key questions include evaluating the success of RPS outcomes, selecting the right stakeholders, handling disagreements, and addressing topics challenging to translate into research questions.

Resolving these concerns is crucial for advancing effective and transparent priority setting processes.



GET INVOLVED

# Want to know more?

- Check out [Cochrane Methods Priority Settings](#)
- Participate as Health Consumer through Cochrane Engage
- Follow us to be updated about our Priorities Setting efforts and initiatives



**Cochrane**

Multiple Sclerosis and Rare Diseases  
of the Central Nervous System