

Research Priorities in the Development of a National Research Strategy for Paramedicine in Ireland: A Delphi Study

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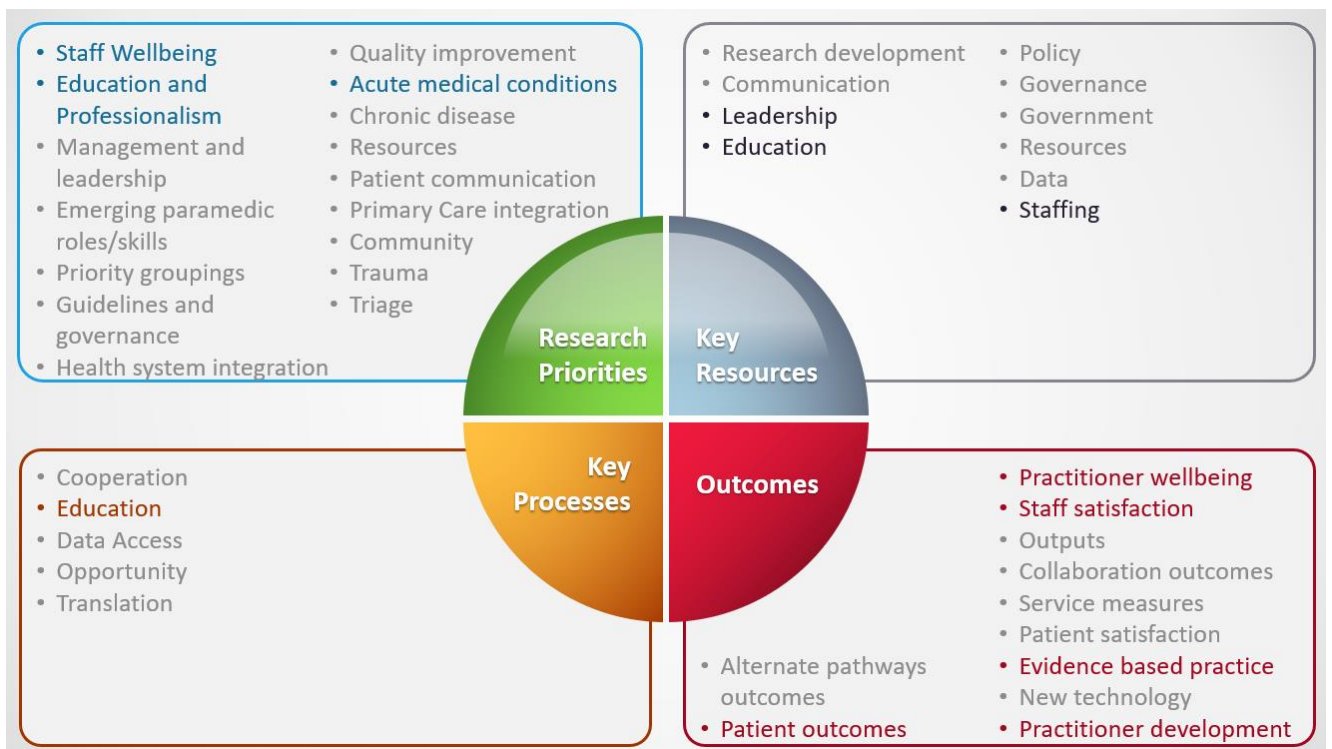
BACKGROUND

The aim of this study was to establish, via consensus, the Research Priorities for Paramedicine in Ireland. Secondary aims were to identify the Key Resources and Process Changes required and to establish measurable Outcomes for a national research strategy.

METHODS

The study design was an online modified Delphi with end-user consensus set a priori at 70%. Participants were stakeholders involved in pre-hospital care or research in Ireland. The first-round questionnaire (n=104) was open-ended and the results were coded into themes for the second (n=99) and third rounds (n=73) which comprised closed-ended questions.

RESULTS



CONCLUSIONS

The findings align with prior international studies with some key differences. Education had not been highlighted to this extent, which may reflect the more recent move to higher education in Ireland. The focus on staff wellbeing may be due to timing relative to the COVID-19 pandemic. This work forms a basis for the establishment of the national Irish strategy and may help inform international research policy in paramedicine.