



PSORIASIS

THE TOP TEN RESEARCH PRIORITIES FOR PSORIASIS

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Introduction: Psoriasis is a common disease – affecting 3% of the UK population - which has a significant and devastating impact on quality of life in addition to predisposing sufferers to other, related health conditions. There are significant unmet needs in psoriasis care and many unanswered questions about psoriasis remain. Academic researchers and commercial interests have traditionally held pivotal roles in setting research agendas with patient views given less emphasis.

Objective: In order to redress this imbalance a Psoriasis Priority Setting Partnership was set up to identify the most important research priorities in psoriasis from the perspective of both patients and health-care professionals.

Materials and Methods: In collaboration with the Psoriasis Association – the major patient support group for psoriasis in the U.K. – we used methodology established by the James Lind Alliance to sample opinion on the key issues faced by individuals with psoriasis and those who treat them. A Steering Group, composed of patients and health-care professionals, had oversight of the project.

Results: We conducted an initial survey, in which 819 participants submitted 2185 questions, including 70% from patients / carers. Following comprehensive literature searches to remove questions where there were answers, questions were categorised and refined to reflect the overarching themes of the original submissions. We conducted a second survey with voting and ranking by 1154 respondents on the 55 issues identified. The final stage of the process involved a workshop where those affected by psoriasis together with health-care professionals identified the “top ten research priorities” in psoriasis.

Conclusions: Having identified the key issues faced by the psoriasis community we anticipate that the “Psoriasis Top Ten” will inform the translational research agenda for psoriasis. Addressing these questions will make future research more relevant for the





needs of people with psoriasis and result in significant clinical benefit for patients.

