

## Identifying Research Priorities in Young Adult Hip Pain: Results from a UK Priority Setting Partnership

**Introduction:** Young adults with hip pain represent an underserved population who frequently experience delays in diagnosis and treatment. Non-arthritic hip conditions, including femoroacetabular impingement, acetabular dysplasia, and labral pathology, can lead to chronic pain, functional limitation, and early degenerative joint disease. Despite advances in management, significant uncertainties remain regarding optimal diagnostic pathways, treatment strategies, and healthcare delivery, particularly within the UK.

**Methods:** A UK-based Priority Setting Partnership was conducted using the methodology of the James Lind Alliance in collaboration with the British Hip Society. A multidisciplinary steering group, including clinicians and patient representatives, oversaw the process. A national UK survey collected research uncertainties from patients, carers, and healthcare professionals across all aspects of care. Responses were reviewed and thematically categorised into summary research questions. These underwent evidence checking, interim prioritisation through a second national survey, and final ranking during an in-person consensus workshop.

**Results:** A total of 208 eligible UK survey responses generated 1,089 unique research questions. Following thematic analysis and removal of duplicate or out-of-scope submissions, these were consolidated into approximately 50 summary questions. Subsequent stakeholder prioritisation and structured consensus discussion culminated in the establishment of the final top ten research priorities.

**Conclusions:** The identified UK 'top ten' research priorities provide a consensus-driven framework to guide future research. While developed within the UK healthcare context, these priorities have international relevance and may support funding allocation, study design, and collaborative research efforts to improve outcomes for young adults with hip pain.