

### **James Lind Alliance (JLA) Breast Cancer Surgery Priority Setting Partnership (PSP)**

We have now completed the ABS funded JLA Breast Cancer Surgery PSP. This was carried out over a 26 month period between March 2020 and April 2022. The scope of the PSP was defined as including all areas of breast cancer care where surgeons were primarily involved in clinical management or central to multi-disciplinary treatment (so was not confined purely to surgical procedures). The PSP was overseen by a steering group comprising patients, carers, healthcare professionals and charitable organisations.

The PSP comprised several steps:

- An initial gathering of research uncertainties between March and July 2021. 260 individuals submitted a total of 940 questions via an online survey
- Submitted questions were grouped into key themes and in total 112 indicative summary questions were formed. Existing evidence was then checked to determine whether these had been answered to date and overlapping questions merged, leaving a total of 59 questions for prioritisation
- These questions were then prioritised in an interim online priority setting survey, completed by 572 individuals. The top 8 questions prioritised by patients/carers and by healthcare professionals were taken forward for prioritisation, together with the top 2 questions identified by women at high risk of breast cancer
- A final consensus workshop was held on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2022 and was attended by 22 individuals (11 healthcare professionals and 11 patients from a range of backgrounds). The Top Ten research priorities were agreed.

These have been published on the ABS website and were presented at the ABS Conference in Liverpool in May 2022. A manuscript detailing the process and priorities is currently in preparation and will be submitted for publication soon. The priorities will also be publicised via our charitable partners Breast Cancer Now and the National Cancer Research Institute.

The ABS will now be working towards developing specific research questions from these priorities and will be holding a series of workshops in Autumn 2022 to progress toward this, with the aim of producing research proposals to be submitted to relevant funding bodies, including the National Institute for Health Research, who have a rolling call for proposals to address research questions identified by JLA PSPs.

[View the top ten priorities here](#)