

Q no.	Theme	QUESTION	Overall rank after interim prioritisation (based on total votes)	Clinician rank	Patient / carer rank
1	MATERNITY	How can <b>pain relief during childbirth</b> be improved?	43	46	44
2	MATERNITY	How do epidurals affect <b>progress and outcomes</b> of labour (childbirth), and how can <b>adverse effects</b> be minimised?	24	24	30
3	MATERNITY	How can detection and management of <b>maternal bleeding</b> during childbirth be improved?	48	37	63
4	MATERNITY	How do anaesthetic interventions during pregnancy or around the time of birth <b>affect the baby</b> ?	47	38	61
5	MATERNITY	How can anaesthesia for <b>Caesarean sections</b> be improved?	72	63	80
6	MATERNITY	What anaesthetic strategies can reduce complications and deaths in <b>higher risk pregnancies</b> ?	35	29	53
7	CHILDREN	How can we reduce <b>pain after surgery</b> in children and newborns?	50	50	51
8	CHILDREN	How can we <b>reduce anxiety</b> in children undergoing surgery?	46	47	47

9	CHILDREN	What are the effects of anaesthesia on the <b>developing brain</b> ?	7	9	4
10	CHILDREN	How can <b>pre-operative assessment</b> for children be improved?	85	77	90
11	CHILDREN	How can we improve outcomes through <b>better monitoring</b> of children around the time of surgery?	87	81	91
12	CHILDREN	What <b>intravenous fluids</b> should we give children having surgery?	63	48	77
13	CHILDREN	What are the <b>long-term effects</b> of anaesthesia in babies?	29	25	40
14	CHILDREN	What can we do to improve outcomes for <b>higher risk children</b> having surgery?	76	67	79
15	CHILDREN	What is the best way to <b>organise anaesthetic and surgical services</b> for children?	52	49	56
16	ELDERLY CARE	How can the anaesthetic team improve outcomes for <b>hip fracture patients</b> ?	34	30	48
17	ELDERLY CARE	How can we reduce the effects of anaesthesia on <b>brain function</b> , particularly in the elderly?	1	3	1
18	ELDERLY CARE	What are the consequences of <b>low blood pressure</b> around the time of surgery, particularly in the elderly?	8	8	11

19	ELDERLY CARE	How can we reduce the <b>risks</b> of anaesthesia in elderly patients?	22	21	23
20	ELDERLY CARE	How can we <b>improve recovery</b> from surgery for elderly patients?	14	19	9
21	PERIOPERATIVE CARE DELIVERY	How can protocols, guidelines, checklists and care pathways <b>improve the safety and effectiveness</b> of anaesthesia?	33	33	41
22	PERIOPERATIVE CARE DELIVERY	How can operating <b>theatre efficiency</b> be improved?	15	10	27
23	PERIOPERATIVE CARE DELIVERY	How can patient care around the time of <b>emergency surgery</b> be improved?	21	14	37
24	PERIOPERATIVE CARE DELIVERY	What is the best way to <b>organise specialist surgical services</b> ?	73	61	83
25	PERIOPERATIVE CARE DELIVERY	How can <b>patient data</b> be used to improve perioperative care?	41	35	55
26	PERIOPERATIVE CARE DELIVERY	What <b>outcomes</b> should we use to <b>measure the 'success'</b> of anaesthesia and perioperative care?	5	4	12
27	PERIOPERATIVE CARE DELIVERY	How do we decide which <b>clinicians</b> should deliver the different elements of perioperative care?	74	64	82
28	TRAINING	How can we most effectively deliver training to improve <b>quality and safety</b> in anaesthesia and perioperative care?	18	18	19

29	<b>TRAINING</b>	Should anaesthetists receive more training on caring for patients with <b>specific medical problems</b> (eg Ehlers Danlos syndrome?)	59	86	24
30	<b>TRAINING</b>	Would greater use of <b>Physician's Assistants (Anaesthesia)</b> be beneficial?	66	53	75
31	<b>TRAINING</b>	What training or resources could improve perioperative care in <b>developing countries</b> ?	67	56	71
32	<b>PAIN</b>	How can anaesthesia and pain relief be improved for patients with <b>Ehlers Danlos Syndrome</b> ?	69	91	31
33	<b>PAIN</b>	How can pain control be improved in patients with <b>longstanding medical conditions</b> ?	53	73	25
34	<b>PAIN</b>	How can we better <b>predict the severity</b> of pain immediately after surgery?	42	42	49
35	<b>PAIN</b>	How can we improve our use of <b>drugs</b> to provide better pain relief before and after surgery?	32	41	21
36	<b>PAIN</b>	How can we use <b>non-drug therapies</b> to provide better pain relief before and after surgery?	56	65	38
37	<b>PAIN</b>	How can we better <b>assess perioperative pain</b> in adults and children?	80	76	78
38	<b>PAIN</b>	What are the risk factors for developing <b>chronic pain</b> after surgery?	60	57	57

39	<b>PAIN</b>	What can we do to stop patients developing <b>chronic pain</b> after surgery?	11	13	8
40	<b>PAIN</b>	What can we do to reduce the <b>side effects</b> of pain relief medications?	65	75	43
41	<b>REGIONAL ANAESTHESIA</b>	What are the risks and benefits of <b>epidural and spinal injections</b> for major abdominal surgery?	28	23	39
42	<b>REGIONAL ANAESTHESIA</b>	How can the effectiveness of <b>epidural and spinal injections</b> be improved?	68	60	64
43	<b>REGIONAL ANAESTHESIA</b>	How do we improve <b>involvement of patients</b> in decision-making about regional anaesthesia?	58	58	52
44	<b>REGIONAL ANAESTHESIA</b>	How can the <b>effectiveness</b> of regional (local) anaesthetic techniques (other than epidural and spinal injections) be improved?	64	55	66
45	<b>REGIONAL ANAESTHESIA</b>	For <b>which patients</b> does regional (local) anaesthesia give <b>better outcomes</b> than general anaesthesia?	2	1	5
46	<b>REGIONAL ANAESTHESIA</b>	How can the <b>risks and side effects</b> of regional (local) anaesthesia be minimised?	75	66	81
47	<b>COMPLEMENTARY MEDICINE</b>	How can <b>acupuncture</b> be used to improve recovery from surgery?	91	87	89
48	<b>COMPLEMENTARY MEDICINE</b>	How can <b>hypnosis</b> help control anxiety and improve recovery around the time of surgery?	83	78	87

49	<b>COMPLEMENTARY MEDICINE</b>	How can complementary medicine <b>help with recovery</b> from surgery?	86	89	74
50	<b>COMPLEMENTARY MEDICINE</b>	How can <b>psychological techniques</b> improve post-operative patient outcomes and satisfaction?	70	72	58
51	<b>COMMUNICATION</b>	How can we improve communication <b>between the teams</b> looking after patients having surgery?	17	27	10
52	<b>COMMUNICATION</b>	How could we improve communication between <b>healthcare staff and patients</b> before and after surgery?	40	62	16
53	<b>COMMUNICATION</b>	How can we promote <b>compassion and empathy</b> among staff caring for patients having surgery?	49	69	26
54	<b>COMMUNICATION</b>	What are the benefits of increased <b>patient and carer involvement</b> in perioperative care?	78	83	67
55	<b>ACCIDENTAL AWARENESS</b>	What is the best method for monitoring the <b>depth of anaesthesia</b> ?	26	22	42
56	<b>ACCIDENTAL AWARENESS</b>	How can accidental awareness under general anaesthesia be <b>detected and avoided</b> ?	39	51	29
57	<b>ACCIDENTAL AWARENESS</b>	What is the best way to <b>reduce the harm</b> caused by accidental awareness under general anaesthesia if it occurs?	82	74	84
58	<b>LONG-TERM EFFECTS</b>	How can anaesthetic technique and perioperative care help reduce the risk of <b>cancer recurrence</b> ?	19	16	28

59	<b>LONG-TERM EFFECTS</b>	What can be done to <b>speed up recovery</b> from anaesthesia?	71	71	72
60	<b>LONG-TERM EFFECTS</b>	What <b>long-term harm</b> may result from anaesthesia, in particular following <b>repeated anaesthetics</b> ?	9	12	2
61	<b>ANXIETY / STRESS</b>	How can we <b>reduce</b> anxiety and stress <b>before</b> an operation?	44	70	22
62	<b>ANXIETY / STRESS</b>	How can we <b>reduce</b> anxiety and stress <b>at the start</b> of an anaesthetic?	89	85	86
63	<b>ANXIETY / STRESS</b>	How can we <b>reduce</b> a patient's anxiety and stress immediately <b>after</b> an operation?	92	92	85
64	<b>ANXIETY / STRESS</b>	What can we do to help patients with <b>needle phobia</b> ?	88	84	88
65	<b>ANXIETY / STRESS</b>	Should patients routinely be offered <b>sedation for minor procedures</b> ?	84	90	73
66	<b>PATIENT EXPERIENCE</b>	How can the patient's experience <b>before</b> surgery be improved?	81	88	68
67	<b>PATIENT EXPERIENCE</b>	What should be <b>discussed with patients</b> before surgery, and what is the best <b>setting</b> for this discussion?	16	28	6
68	<b>PATIENT EXPERIENCE</b>	How can we better implement fasting guidelines to avoid <b>excessive pre-operative fasting</b> and improve the patient experience?	38	44	34

69	<b>PATIENT EXPERIENCE</b>	How can better information improve patients' <b>expectations of pain</b> after surgery?	62	68	50
70	<b>PREPARING FOR SURGERY</b>	What <b>fasting guidelines</b> should patients follow before surgery?	57	45	65
71	<b>PREPARING FOR SURGERY</b>	How can we improve medical assessment to determine the <b>risk of harm</b> after surgery?	45	36	59
72	<b>PREPARING FOR SURGERY</b>	How can <b>pre-operative assessment</b> for adults be improved?	23	20	35
73	<b>PREPARING FOR SURGERY</b>	How can <b>patient education programmes</b> improve outcomes after surgery?	61	59	60
74	<b>PREPARING FOR SURGERY</b>	How can <b>weight loss programmes</b> improve outcomes after surgery?	55	39	69
75	<b>PREPARING FOR SURGERY</b>	How can preoperative <b>nutritional modifications</b> improve outcomes after surgery?	51	40	62
76	<b>PREPARING FOR SURGERY</b>	How can preoperative <b>exercise or fitness training</b> , including physiotherapy, improve outcomes after surgery?	3	5	3
77	<b>PREPARING FOR SURGERY</b>	Does treating <b>pre-operative anaemia</b> improve outcomes after surgery?	27	26	36
78	<b>PREPARING FOR SURGERY</b>	How should a patient's <b>existing drug regime</b> be modified before and after surgery?	37	31	46



79	<b>ANAESTHETIC PRACTICE</b>	How can we minimise the <b>risk of physical injury</b> in patients undergoing anaesthetic?	77	79	70
80	<b>ANAESTHETIC PRACTICE</b>	How can the anaesthetist help reduce the risk of <b>complications after surgery</b> ?	12	11	17
81	<b>ANAESTHETIC PRACTICE</b>	What is the best choice of <b>intravenous fluids</b> to improve outcomes after surgery?	20	15	32
82	<b>ANAESTHETIC PRACTICE</b>	How can we better detect and treat <b>major bleeding</b> ?	54	52	54
83	<b>ANAESTHETIC PRACTICE</b>	Does <b>cardiac output monitoring</b> improve outcomes after surgery? How can we improve cardiac output monitoring?	10	6	33
84	<b>ANAESTHETIC PRACTICE</b>	How can we make <b>airway management</b> safer?	36	32	45
85	<b>RECOVERING FROM SURGERY</b>	What causes <b>nausea and vomiting</b> after surgery?	79	80	76
86	<b>RECOVERING FROM SURGERY</b>	How can we <b>prevent nausea and vomiting</b> after surgery? What is the <b>best treatment</b> if it occurs?	30	43	20
87	<b>RECOVERING FROM SURGERY</b>	What is the <b>impact of nausea and vomiting</b> after surgery on a patient's overall recovery?	90	82	92
88	<b>RECOVERING FROM SURGERY</b>	How can we <b>reduce complications</b> (adverse events) after surgery?	13	17	13

89	<b>RECOVERING FROM SURGERY</b>	Does post-operative <b>intensive care</b> improve outcomes in <b>higher risk patients</b> having major surgery?	6	7	7
90	<b>RECOVERING FROM SURGERY</b>	How should we <b>plan discharge</b> from hospital after surgery, and what would help patients recover at home after discharge?	31	54	15
91	<b>RECOVERING FROM SURGERY</b>	How can we <b>improve patient recovery</b> from surgery?	25	34	18
92	<b>RECOVERING FROM SURGERY</b>	Do <b>enhanced recovery programmes</b> (fast track surgery to speed up patient recovery) improve short and long-term outcomes?	4	2	14