

Definition of priorities in health research for the ministry of health **Proceso para priorizar las líneas de investigación esencial de interés para el Ministerio de Salud de Chile**

Rodolfo, Armas M.

Adrián, Torres C.

Jorge, Arriagada C.

Fernando, Muñoz P.

Rodrigo, Salinas R.

Pedro, Crocco A.

Health research oriented to solve the most relevant sanitary problems in Chile must be encouraged. In 2001, the National Health Research Fund (FONIS) was created by the National Research Council of the Ministry of Health and the National Scientific Research Commission, to stimulate relevant health research that contributes to develop health care policies. In 2008 an experts meeting proposed eighty research areas. These areas were grouped in twelve thematic containers. Each of these containers were classified as having maximal, intermediate or minimal priority. The seven most important containers were grouped in three areas. Among the latter, two were selected. One is evaluation of the Ministry programs and, within this area, with the following priorities in decreasing importance: primary prevention, health care priorities, and diseases included in the Explicit Guarantees plan. The second area corresponds to diseases with high prevalence, incidence, costs or impact, including the follow