

Research Priorities of the Oncology Nursing Society: 2024–2027

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PROBLEM STATEMENT: To define the Oncology Nursing Society Research Agenda for 2024–2027.

DESIGN: An iterative, multiple data sources consolidation through the Research Agenda Project Team.

DATA SOURCES: Previous research priorities, literature review, stakeholder survey, and research priorities from other cancer care organizations and funding agencies.

FINDINGS: 10 evergreen statements articulated foundational values for oncology nurse scientists, and 5 topics emerged as research priorities for the upcoming three years: Advance patient-centric, precision symptom science; provide evidence for safe and effective cancer care delivery models and support of the oncology nursing workforce; describe the impact of the environment on cancer care outcomes; integrate patient navigation into cancer care across the trajectory; and advance the use of innovative methodologies in oncology nursing research.

IMPLICATIONS FOR NURSING: The Oncology Nursing Society Research Agenda is an effective resource for directing the organization's research vision. This foundational document directs funding awards and requests, mentorship, and policy initiatives.

KEYWORDS research priorities; precision symptom science; workforce; environment; methodology

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The Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) is dedicated to advancing excellence in oncology nursing and ensuring the delivery of quality patient care. Recognizing the pivotal role that research plays in achieving these objectives, ONS has been at the forefront of promoting and defining oncology nursing research. ONS initiated its first research priority survey in 1980, with the first formally published document in 2001. This commitment to delineating research priorities has continued through subsequent years with the creation of serial research priority documents (Knobf et al., 2015; ONS, 2004; Ropka et al., 2002; 2009–2013 ONS Research Agenda Team, 2009; Von Ah et al., 2019).

These evolving priorities reflect current and emerging issues and concerns within oncology nursing and cancer care (Given, 2009). In the fall of 2023, an expert panel of 14 volunteers, reflecting diversity in years of oncology nursing experience, racial and ethnic backgrounds, geography of practice sites, and type of oncology research participation, continued this important tradition by developing ONS's 2024–2027 Research Priorities through an iterative process formulated from multiple data sources.

Research priorities for any organization are foundational and important for many reasons (Grill, 2021). The research priorities help to define an organization, reflecting the organization's values, mission, and goals. The research priorities can also serve as a guidepost document for the funding mission of the organization. For ONS, the research priorities are foundational across the ONS Enterprise, inclusive of the member organization (ONS), the philanthropic corporation (Oncology Nursing Foundation), and the credentialing corporation (Oncology Nursing