

Table 3 Assessment of research priority setting activities according to checklist items designed by researchers							
Author (Ref)	Study design, tools & techniques	Stakeholders	Transparency	Upstream documents	Appeal & publicizing	Vulnerable group	Criteria
Kolahi (56)	COHRED	Scientists managers, politicians, private sector, students, organization, community, industry	Guidelines	NA	NA	NA	Appropriateness, relevance, chance of success, impact of research result
Enami (31)	Participatory research, FGD	Community	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Karimi (4)	ENHR, workshops, interviews, literature review	Scientists, policy-makers, Health-care providers, community	Training programme	IBTO duties, IBTO core process, institutional strategic planning	Newsletter	NA	ENHR criteria
Aminomala (32)	Cross-sectional, descriptive study questionnaire, delphi method	Scientists, healthcare providers	NA	NA	NA	NA	Relevance in innovation, feasibility, magnitude etc.
Kolahi (33)	COHRED, workshop, brain storming, FGDs, Delphi	Scientists, students, healthcare providers, community	Workshop	NA	NA	NA	Relevance, appropriateness, chance of success, impact of research result.
Owlia (35)	ENHR strategy workshop	Scientists, managers, healthcare providers	Training	NA	NA	NA	Appropriateness, magnitude, prevalence, urgency, feasibility, acceptability
Kolahi (36)	COHRED Brain storming, FGD, Delphi, voting	Scientists, managers, politicians, private sector, students, community, underprivileged people, industry	NA	Deputy of research & technology strategic plan	NA	Nursing home	Relevance, appropriateness chance of success, economic justification, impact of research result
Farsar (46)	HSR, COHRED, Brain storming, FGD, Delphi, NGT, Voting	Politicians, scientists, private sector students, organizations, underprivileged people, industry, community	Workshop	Strategic plan	NA	NA	Relevance, appropriateness, chance of success, time justification and impact of research result
Kolahi (49)	COHRED, Delphi, brainstorming, FGD, NGT, voting, weighting	Scientists, mangers, community, healthcare providers	Meeting	Strategic plan	NA	NA	COHRED criteria
Fourhosseini (33)	Documentary study and content analysis method, checklist and questionnaire	Managers, scientists, representation of board of trustees	NA	Development plan, scientific plan, strategic plan	NA	NA	Relevance, applicability, appropriateness, impact of research result, ethical acceptance, political acceptance, economic justification
Damari (43)	COHRED (small module) questionnaire	Scientists, authorities, managers, community healthcare providers	NA	Strategic plan, 4th development plan, the statute of organization, main social security laws	Just mentioned	Representative of workers union	Relevance, appropriateness, chance of success, impact of research result
Tootoonchi (48)	Descriptive study, Delphi, brainstorming, workshop, questionnaires, expert panel, numerical scale	Scientists, managers, Authorities, students,	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Khadivi (40)	Participatory research, rapid appraisal, Interview, FGD, observation	Community, authorities, trustees	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Yasini (51)	COHRED questionnaire, FGD, workshop,	Community, trustees, scientists, NGOs, managers, providers	Priority setting guidelines, training	NA	NA	Contribution of elderly people, women and youth	Just mentioned that used some criteria
Majidi (52)	Action research, Likert scale, gozone, expert panel	Scientists, policy makers, health care providers	Training workshop	Globocan 2012, guidelines on management of cervical precancerous lesions	NA	NA	Importance, feasibility
Bahadori (53)	Mixed and cross-sectional study, interview and questionnaire	Managers	NA	NA	NA	NA	Time justification, align with organizational goals, feasibility, applicability
Haghdoust (54)	Brainstorm session, questionnaire	Scientists	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Sohrabi (37)	COHRED, brain storming, FGD, Delphi, NGT, voting	Scientists, healthcare providers, funders, students, community	Training workshop	Strategic plan	NA	NA	Relevance, appropriateness, chance of success, impact of research result
Bahadori (39)	AHP interview, FGD	Managers	NA	NA	NA	NA	Cost-benefit, time justification, acceptability
Raeisi (50)	Participatory research & rapid appraisal interview & FGD	Community	NA	NA	NA	Women, elderly and youth people contribution	NA
Ravaghi (41)	Delphi questionnaire, FGD	Managers, authorities, scientists	NA	World Health Organization research results	NA	NA	NA
Sohrabi (18)	Health system research brain storming, Delphi, Questionnaire, FGD, workshop	Authorities, nongovernmental organization	Workshop	NA	NA	NA	Appropriateness, relevance, chance of success, impact of research result
Nemati (42)	Descriptive & cross-sectional Delphi, questionnaire, weighting with Likert scale	Scientists, managers	Guidelines	NA	NA	NA	NA
Bahadori (5)	Qualitative, descriptive, cross-sectional, AHP needs assessment, in-depth interviews, FGD	Managers, scientists	NA	NA	NA	NA	Acceptability, time justification, and cost-benefit
Hatmi (47)	ENHR (small module), FGD	Scientists, managers	NA	NA	NA	NA	ENHR (small module)
Khambeh-bini (55)	Descriptive study	Scientists, managers, experts	Guidelines, workshop	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hakimzadeh (38)	Mixed method study interviews, FGD and Delphi	Experts and researchers	NA	NA	NA	NA	Maintaining and improving health of employees, alignment with policies and objectives, applicability
Zargham (44)	Classic weighting questionnaire, expert committees	Scientists	NA	NA	Journal, interviews every 1 or 2 years	NA	To be strategic, inclusiveness, market potential, quick impact of research result, help to self-sufficiency moving along national security
Yazdankhah Fard (45)	Descriptive-analytic, cross-sectional study Delphi, questionnaire, weighting with Likert scale	Healthcare providers	NA	NA	NA	NA	Importance, changes in public health, accessibility, availability, change to nursing practice, potential for collaboration, community orientation, supporting laws, economic justification, applicability
Majidpour (34)	Qualitative study, interviews, surveys, questionnaire, workshop	Community	Guidelines, training	NA	TV & local media	NA	Prevalence, severity urgency, consensus of stakeholders, sustainability, political acceptance, acceptability, related costs, to be modifiable, magnitude, appropriateness, relevancy, chance of success, impact of research result
Yazdanpanah (54)	Need assessment questionnaire, FGD	Community, experts, scientists, organizations	NA	NA	National TV	NA	Intensity magnitude, ability and cost of solving problem, prevalence, urgency, political acceptance, acceptability, commitment
Azizi (8)	Expert opinion, eclectic option, morphological option, weighting method	Authorities	NA	3rd national development plan	NA	NA	To be strategic, regarding national plan, maintaining and improving community health, capability, independence, innovation, relying on domestic organizations
Abachizadeh (50)	Qualitative, questionnaire, Likert scale	Scientists	NA	The National Road Map of Sciences and Technology, The International Cancer Research Portfolio (ICRP)	NA	NA	Feasibility, practicality, achievability, appropriateness
Tavana (57)	Descriptive, cross-sectional study	15 academic experts and staff	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Ghanbari (58)	Qualitative study	Nurses	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Owlia 2011 (59)	ENHR	Researchers, managers, community, policy-makers, private sector,	Guidelines & workshop	NA	Results of completed research have been presented to all stakeholders	NA	Political acceptability, executive ability, cost-effectiveness

AHP = Analytic Hierarchy Process; COHRED = Council on Health Research for Development; ENHR = Essential National Health Research; FGD = focus group discussion; HSR = health service research; IBTO = Iranian Blood Transfusion Organization; NA = not available; NGT = nominal group technique; WHO World Health Organization.