# Delphi Technique The do nots and why nots

Jeffrey Michael Franc MD, MSc, FCFP.EM, Dip Sport Med, EMDM

Clinical Professor of Emergency Medicine University of Alberta

Visiting Professor in Disaster Medicine Universita' Degli Studi del Piemonte Orientale



## Objectives

- Understand when to use the Delphi Method and when to consider other techniques
- Understand how to choose and manage the 'Expert Panel'
- Define consensus, and use this definition to determine how questions advance during the Delphi rounds



#### Part A

In which of the following scenarios would Delphi Methodology be the best choice? Indicate yes or no.

1. Y N The head of a disaster medicine research group wishes to determine the research priorities for the next 10 years.

2. Y N A researcher would like to know if the directors in the hospitals in their region are satisfied with the standard regional guidelines for CBRN preparedness.

3. Y N A technology firm would like to know what technologies are likely to be most important to disaster medicine scene response in the future.

4. Y N A disaster medicine specialist would like to know which model of N-95 mask is most likely to fit properly for health care providers working in an Ebola response center.

5. Y N A large health care region would like to develop a policy to help healthcare providers make ethical decisions in the event of a disaster.

6. Y N A researcher wishes to assess whether the number of victims of natural disasters would increase with a shift to world reliance on solar energy.

## Quiz: Part B

#### Part B

#### 1. What is the optimal number of experts for the Delphi Panel?

- A. Minimum \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Maximum \_\_\_\_\_

2. When a statement reaches consensus in the first round, but the answer is contrary to what the researcher expected, what is the next step?

- A. Drop the statement entirely from the study analysis
- B. Drop the statement from the next questionnaire, but include it in the study analysis
- C. Convert the statement to an open ended question, and include it in the next questionnaire
- D. Include the statement in the next questionnaire with the same wording

## Quiz: Part C

#### Part C

For the following scenarios, indicate TRUE if the statement has reached consensus, and FALSE if it has not.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ When asked if virtual reality was important for training in disaster medicine, 50% of respondents stated yes and 50% stated no.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ When rating the importance of Twitter for disaster response on a scale of 1 to 10, the median response was 9 with an interquartile range of 3.

3. \_\_\_\_\_ When asked if photography by drone would be useful during a MCI, experts used a 5-point Likhert scale. 100% of respondents stated "Neither agree nor disagree"

## History

- Invented by the RAND corporation to forecast the impact of technology on warfare.
- "It is primarily concerned with making the best you can of a less than perfect fund of information."
- Purpose is to achieve agreement among a group of experts on a certain issue where none previously existed

## Strength of Evidence ??



## Strength of Evidence



## Advantages of Delphi

- Addresses three main problems with focus groups:
  - Dominant personalities
  - Group pressure
  - Noise

## Disadvantages of Delphi

- Cannot produce right or wrong answers, only expert opinion
- Opinion is a belief that may or may not be actually true
- Consensus does not always mean the correct answer
- "This method is not a replacement for rigorous scientific reviews of published reports or for original research" (Keeney et al, 2011)
- Internal validity is largely unknown

## Planning a Delphi Study

- Lack of universal guidelines
- Study plan must include:
  - 1. Cover letter
  - 2. Design of the survey tool
    - 1. Pilot test
    - 2. Reliability / Validity
  - 3. Size of Expert Panel
  - 4. Implications on lack of anonymity
  - 5. Level of Consensus
- Timeline (remember Delphi is slow)
  - At least 2 weeks between rounds

## Situations to use Delphi

- Develop priorities
- Develop policy
- Forecast about the future

Useful when the research problem does not lend itself to precise analytical techniques. (Keeney 2001)

## Analysis of Delphi Studies

- Qualitative analysis
  - (Analyze results of open ended questions)
- Quantitative analysis
  - Calculate Consensus
  - Calculate ratings
  - Rank

# Delphi: Workflow

- 1. Check Indications
- 2. Select experts
- 3. Round 1
- 4. Qualitative Analysis
- 5. Next Round
- 6. Assess Consensus
- 7. Repeat until consensus obtained
- 8. Rank and Inference



# Delphi: Check Indications

### 1. Check Indications

- 2. Select experts
- 3. Round 1
- 4. Qualitative Analysis
- 5. Next Round
- 6. Assess Consensus
- 7. Repeat until consensus obtained
- 8. Rank and Inference



## Indications

- 1. The answer is essential and needs to be known NOW.
- 2. There is absolutely no other way to find the answer
- 3.You have lots of time or money (preferably both)

## Delphi: Select Experts

- 1. Check Indications
- 2. Select experts
- 3. Round 1
- 4. Qualitative Analysis
- 5. Next Round
- 6. Assess Consensus
- 7. Repeat until consensus obtained
- 8. Rank and Inference



## Selection of Experts

- 8-12 Experts suggested (diminishing returns if more are added)
- Requirements for Experts:
  - Knowledge and experience with the issues under investigation
  - Capacity and willingness to participate
  - Sufficient time to participate
  - Effective communication skills
- Note that many panels are not true 'experts' but rather 'informed advocates'

## Ethics

- Give at least 2 weeks for experts to decide if they will participate and to foreward any questions
- Confidentiality should be assured
- Comments should never have names mentioned

## Ethics

Table 8.1 Information to be included in a participant information sheet for a Delphi study

- 1. Study title
- 2. Invitation to take part
- 3. What is the purpose of the study?
- 4. Why have I been chosen?
- 5. Do I have to take part?
- 6. What will happen to me if I take part?
- 7. What if anything goes wrong?
- 8. Will my taking part in the study be kept confidential?
- 9. What happens when the study stops?
- 10. Who is organising and funding the research?
- 11. What are the possible benefits of taking part?
- 12. Who has reviewed the study?
- 13. Who do I contact for further information?

### From Keeney et al, 2011

## Ethics

#### Delphi participant information sheet

#### 1. Study title

A study to identify research priorities for the therapy professions

#### 2. Invitation paragraph

You are being invited to take part in a research study. Before you decide it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please read the following information carefully. Please ask us if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information and please take your time to decide whether you wish to join this study.

#### 3. What is the purpose of the study?

The therapy professions (which include Chiropody/Podiatry, Dietetics, Occupational Therapy, Orthoptics, Physiotherapy and Speech and Language Therapy) constitute a growing proportion of the public health-care workforce, playing an important and very significant role in the provision of health care. The recent shift from treatment intervention which focuses on cure, to one which focuses on the quality of life outcomes and changes in the way services are delivered, has strengthened in many ways the potential role of the therapies. More than ever, there is a need to ensure that evidence is sought and applied for the effective and efficient delivery of services at both the systems and individual level. There is a need to determine research priorities for the therapy professions in the context of needs in the wider health care arena, thereby ensuring a focused, coherent and coordinated approach for future therapy research and investment and achievement of optimal outcome from all resources.

#### 4. Why have I been chosen?

You have been asked to take part because you have been identified as an expert in this area. The research study aims to identify research priorities for Therapy services as perceived by the professions themselves, but also key stakeholders other relevant statutory, voluntary and charitable bodies and consumers.

#### 5. Do I have to take part?

It is up to you to decide whether or not to take part and there is no obligation. If you decide to take part you will be given this information sheet to keep and you will be asked to sign a consent form. If you decide to take part, and then withdraw, you are free to withdraw at any time without giving a reason. A decision to withdraw at any time, or a decision not to take part, will not affect your employment or service provision in any way.

#### 6. What will happen to me if I take part?

If you agree to take part in the study you will be asked in the first instance to complete a consent form and return this. This research will be carried out using the Delphi technique consisting of three questionnaires (known as rounds) aimed to achieve consensus. With your permission the questionnaires will be posted or e-mailed to you. After receipt of the enclosed consent form, you will shortly receive the first questionnaire. Simple and specific instructions will be provided for each questionnaire.

The amount of time necessary for completion of each questionnaire (or rounds) will vary with each panellist; but should range from approximately 15–30 minutes for Round 1, 10–20 minutes for Round 2, and 20–30 minutes for Round 3. There are no right or wrong answers to the questions. This study is seeking your expert opinion.

#### The following points are important for you to remember:

- 1. Your participation is entirely voluntary.
- 2. You may decline to withdraw from the study at any time.
- You will remain anonymous to the other participants (or experts) throughout this Delphi study and only the researchers will be able to identify your specific answers.
- 4. All records are confidential. Your name will only be recorded on the consent form; it will not be recorded on the questionnaire. All information will be handled, and stored in accordance with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 1998. This information will only be available to members of the research team. All information will be destroyed 5 years after the research is complete.
- Any information that you provide will be confidential and when the results of the study are reported, you will not be identifiable in the findings.
- Following the study information gathered will be sent for publication in a professional journal and will also be presented at conferences. All details about people who took part in the study will be kept anonymous.
- You will only have to complete the consent form once; return of completed Delphi rounds implies your consent to participate.

#### 7. What if something goes wrong?

We are not aware of any complications or risks that could arise from you taking part in this study. However, if you decide to take part in the study you will be given written information detailing the names and telephone number of the organisations to contact should you have any complaints or difficulties with any aspect of the study.

#### 8. Will my taking part in this study be kept confidential?

If you consent to take part in this study, your name will not be disclosed and would not be revealed in any reports or publications resulting from this study. Apart form your consent form, your name will not be recorded on Delphi rounds. Each participant will be allocated a unique code. You will remain anonymous to the other participants (or experts) throughout this Delphi study and only the researchers will be able to identify your specific answers. All information will be handled, and stored in accordance with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 1998. All information will be destroyed 5 years after the research is complete.

#### 9. What happens when the research study stops?

The results of this project will be used to develop future therapy research to help improve services and individual care practices. The findings may be sent for publication in a professional journal and/or may be presented at conferences.

10. Who is organising and funding the research?

The researcher should provide details here of the funder of the research study and the name of the principal investigator.

#### 11. What are the possible benefits of taking part?

We cannot promise the study will help you as an individual, but the information we obtain might help improve the future research direction for the therapy professions.

#### 12. Who has reviewed the study?

The study has been approved by insert name of Research Ethics Committee and date of approval.

13. Further Information

If you wish to contact someone for further information regarding this study you can contact:

Insert Researcher's name and contact details

Thank you for taking time to read this information.

Figure 8.1 (Continued)

# Delphi: Round 1

- 1. Check Indications
- 2. Select experts
- 3. Round 1
- 4. Qualitative Analysis
- 5. Next Round
- 6. Assess Consensus
- 7. Repeat until consensus obtained
- 8. Rank and Inference



# Round 1

- Open ended questions
- May be best to provide a limited number of questions (5 to 10)

MedStatStudio

In your opinion, what technical innovations are likely to be important for on-scene disaster management within the next ten years? This may be existing technology, or your predictions for new technology.



- Goal is Idea Generation
- Springboard for the remaining rounds

# Delphi: Qualitative Analysis

- 1. Check Indications
- 2. Select experts
- 3. Round 1
- 4. Qualitative Analysis
- 5. Next Round
- 6. Assess Consensus
- 7. Repeat until consensus obtained
- 8. Rank and Inference



## Qualitative Analysis

- Amount of information from first round can be overwhelming.
- Often ideas are worded differently by participants and need to be grouped.
- Attempt to not change wording if possible.

## Goal of Qualitative Analysis

- Identify statements that are similar and group
- Retain unique statements
- Use these to create closed (ranking) questions

## Qualitative Analysis

### Affinity Diagram

A standardized but customizable organizational structure (84%) COMMENT: It is imperative that the code NOT: a cookie cutter orange template be NOT: Detailed info to template such as code modifiable. Otherwise it specific areas. Provincial red, purple and white that will work very well for plan should provide is NOT really large and medium sized overall standards and customizable. our plan sites. The small rural guidelines but that currently works well sites that are frequently operationalizing those would have to change overlooked (often it is standards should be zone NEED: Proper DRAMATICALLY to fit the identifying vests forn EMS Command not conceivable to have specific. provincial template. The sites with only 3 staff to traffic flow and people in NEED: The provincial respond to 20 patients) charge would need to be code orange plan should have vastly different customizable be customizable (77%) needs than most templates are written yet. Tools for Envelope for System would be helpful - as long as templates, checklists, NEED: A rural plan etc. can be tailored for versus what happens in small sites. Calgary and Edmonton. UNKS TO 2 NEED: The provincial code orange template should be based on Incident Command. (71%) NOT: Generic will not do and in most saces would cater to urban centres. NOT: The ability to customize should not be NEED: • We presently do not have too available. Although areas have idiosyncrasies any code orange each has many supplies, however we commonalities. If there is are working with a thought to standardizing disaster services to then that is how it should obtain those supplies be, which will be most and finalize our code helpful for staff who move orange plan around or service/work out of multiple sites and reas.

## Qualitative Analysis

### Fishbone Diagram

![](_page_27_Figure_2.jpeg)

## Software Solutions

### • Nvivo

- Helps to structure qualitative data
- Classify, sort, and arrange information
- Variety of statistical tests
- Likely unnecessary for small group size

![](_page_28_Picture_6.jpeg)

## Text Mining

![](_page_29_Figure_1.jpeg)

Classification of twitter data from the 2012 Emilia-Romagna earthquake by machine learning: comparison of k-nearest neighbours, kernel support vector machine, and string kernel methods

> Jeffrey Michael Franc<sup>\*§</sup> Pier Luigi Ingrassia<sup>§</sup> Ester Boniolo<sup>§</sup> Luca Carenzo<sup>§</sup> Francesco Della Corte<sup>§</sup>

\*Department of Emergency Medicine, The University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

\$Department of Translational Medicine, Università degli Studi del Piemonte Orientale "A. Avogadro", Novara, Italy.

![](_page_30_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_30_Picture_5.jpeg)

### Rule of Parsimony

Use a complicated methodology only when it is clear by demonstration that nothing else will do

# Delphi: Round 2

- 1. Check Indications
- 2. Select experts
- 3. Round 1
- 4. Qualitative Analysis
- 5. Next Round
- 6. Assess Consensus
- 7. Repeat until consensus obtained
- 8. Rank and Inference

![](_page_32_Figure_9.jpeg)

## Classical Delphi Round 2

- Closed ended questions are formed from information of round 1
- Participants rank importance / agreement of answers from First Round
- Generally yes/no or rating scales

![](_page_33_Picture_4.jpeg)

The following is a list of technologies that respondents of the first round have listed as potentially important within the next ten years.

Please rate your impression of the importance of each of the following will take for on-scene disaster management in the next 10 years using the following scale.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 ^ Not at all Very Important Important

Please circle your response

A.	Ultrasound	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
в.	Internet Access	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
c.	Heads up Display	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
D.	Smart Phones	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Е.	Personal Robots	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

## Delphi: Assess Consensus

- 1. Check Indications
- 2. Select experts
- 3. Round 1
- 4. Qualitative Analysis
- 5. Next Round
- 6. Assess Consensus
- 7. Repeat until consensus obtained
- 8. Rank and Inference

![](_page_34_Figure_9.jpeg)

### What is consensus

Indicates whether the expert panel agree with one another. NOT whether they agree or disagree with the statement.

Example: If all experts disagree with a statement, this is consensus

## Quantitative: Consensus

- There is no universal agreement of what is sufficient consensus in a Delphi study.
  - Recommendation vary from 51% to 80%
- This MUST be decided before any data is obtained.
- Stability between rounds may be a better indicator.

## Consensus

- For Categorical Variables:
  - Between 51% to 100% agreement
- For Continuous Variable:
  - Rankin, 1994: (For 3 point scale)
    - IQR<= 1.0
  - Rayens and Hahn 2000: (For 4 point scale)
    - IQR<1.0 OR
    - IQR=1.0 and >60% of respondents are generally positive or negative.

# Delphi: Round 3

- 1. Check Indications
- 2. Select experts
- 3. Round 1
- 4. Qualitative Analysis
- 5. Next Round
- 6. Assess Consensus
- 7. Repeat until consensus obtained
- 8. Rank and Inference

![](_page_38_Figure_9.jpeg)

# Round 3

- Inform participants of the results of previous round
- Remind participants what they indicated
- Allow them a chance to revise
- If there is a large number of statements, remove those that already have consensus in previous round (controversial)

![](_page_39_Picture_5.jpeg)

Below is a prioritized list that respondents in the second round rated as most important. The mean response from the previous round is indicated, as is your choice from the second round.

In this round you are given a chance to reconsider your response based on the responses of others.

Please rate your impression of the importance of each of the following will take for on-scene disaster management in the next 10 years using the following scale.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
^								^	
Not at	all						Ţ	Very	
Importa	nt						II	nport	ant

#### Please circle your response

		Your Response	Group Mean	Yo	Your rev:			evised Respons			e	
		Round 2	Response									
A	Smart Phone	8	8.3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
в	GPS Location Tags	9	8.1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
С	Ultrasound	1	6.7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
D	Internet Access	9	3.4	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Е	Personal Robots	9	1.2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

## Classical Delphi Subsequent Rounds

- Rounds continue until "consensus" is obtained.
- At least 70% response rate needed to maintain rigor
- REMINDER: Criteria for consensus is established BEFORE the survey is administered

## Delphi: Rank and Inference

- 1. Check Indications
- 2. Select experts
- 3. Round 1
- 4. Qualitative Analysis
- 5. Next Round
- 6. Assess Consensus
- 7. Repeat until consensus obtained
- 8. Rank and Inference

![](_page_41_Figure_9.jpeg)

# Ranking

- Normally those statements that have consensus are then ranked from highest to lowest
- Generally median if categories are descriptive (Likhert).
- Mean if ranking is ratio (1-9)

## Inference

- Friendomization is common
- Remember experts are NOT a random sample. Cannot infer about the general population.
- Use of confidence intervals and pvalues is questionable

![](_page_44_Picture_0.jpeg)

## Questions??

## Delphi Example

"I want to run a Delphi study on the use of social media in disaster management / crisis intelligence. Basically it's about trying to find consensus from disaster experts on the actual proper use of social media should be as a standard in response organizations. I feel like I'm on the fringe of what has been deemed as science and just general assumptions, so I believe a Delphi can give a nice push in this direction."

Barry Lynam, EMDM 2014

## Criteria to Use Delphi

- 1.The answer is essential and needs
   to be known NOW. ✓
- 2.There is absolutely no other way to find the answer
- 3.You have lots of time or money (preferably both) 🖌

## Methodology

Due to financial / time restraints
 the study was limited to two
 rounds. (Modified Delphi).

## Modified Delphi

- Sometimes first round of open ended questions is skipped.
- The first round is replaced by a focus group or face-to-face interviews. (or guessing)
  - Initial interviews may increase compliance

## Survey Intro

### Use of Social Media Technology in Disaster Management

Dear EXPERT:

Thank you for taking part in this survey!

As an expert in this field you are asked for your own personal academic opinions on the following statements. Each block of statements includes a space to note down further ideas that you might think are important to ask other experts in the next round. It is recommended, for the sake of advancement of this science, that you do expose those ideas, as they will be seriously considered, might be inquired to other experts and could be included in the final policy recommendations report.

Some of these statements might seem out-of-date or obvious from your own point of view. However, this is a multinational study that has within its objectives to suggest and recommend international standards. There are still a number of countries that might not have even started implementing these systems, or might not even have the infrastructure to initiate their planning.

Please assume that the statements exposed are possible when answering.

## Survey Tool: 9-Point Scale

#### PLEASE GIVE YOUR OPINION USING THE FOLLOWING SCALE:

STRONGLY DISAGREE < 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 > STRONGLY AGREE

	Different types of disasters have specific Social Media usage patterns
	The various purposes of diverse Social Media networks at particular stages of unfolding disasters should be studied to optimize the use of this Big Data resource
	Social Media must be a standard means of communication between Official Disaster Response Agencies and population
	Operations Centers within Official Disaster Response Agencies should implement robust Social Media teams (for information mining, spreading and coordination tasks)
	Social Media can help accelerate structural damage estimates and assessments even during unfolding disasters (real-time imagery and geo-tagging sent from mobile internet devices)
Other stateme	ents in mind:

## Survey Tool: Binary

- Do you use social media for personal reasons daily?
- Have you ever used social media to learn about an emergency situation?
- Do you use social media for professional reasons daily?
- Have you ever used social media to help manage an emergency situation?

## Example

Definition of Consensus:

"Consensus was concluded for items with an Interquartile range (IQR) <= 1.00 when rated on a nine point semantic differential scale."

"For binary (yes/no) questions, consensus was defined as greater than 75% agreement."

## Consensus: 9-points Scale

\$statement.igr
\$1 s2 s3 s4 s5 s6 s7 s8 s9 s10 s11 s12 s13 s14 s15 s16

3.00 1.00 2.00 1.00 1.00 2.00 2.75 2.00 2.00 2.00 2.00 3.00 2.00 4.00 2.00 2.00 s17 s18 s19 s20 s21 s22 s23 s24 s25 s26 s27 s28 s29 s30 3.00 2.00 2.00 4.00 4.00 4.00 1.00 2.00 2.00 2.00 2.00 1.00 1.75 1.00

## Consensus: 9-Point Scale

![](_page_54_Figure_1.jpeg)

Following the first round, consensus was obtained for questions #2, 4, 5, 23, 28, and 30.

## **Consensus:** Binary

### \$use.personal.table <u>n y</u> 1 10 27 <u>n y</u> 1 10 27 \$use.learning.table \$use.learning.table <u>n y</u> 1 5 32 <u>n y</u> 1 5 32 \$use.professional.table \$use.professional.table <u>n y</u> 1 12 25 <u>n y</u> 1 12 25 \$use.manage.table \$use.manage.table <u>n y</u> 1 19 18 v n

## Ranking

![](_page_56_Figure_1.jpeg)

## Inference

"Reliability of the 9-point semantic differential scale was assessed using Chronbach's Alpha to assess for internal consistency. Scores of greater than 0.8 were deemed acceptable"

11

## References

Highly recommended for anyone doing a Delphi Study

## The Delphi Technique in Nursing and Health Research

![](_page_58_Picture_3.jpeg)

## Checklist

🔴 🔴 🌑 🛛 🖗 MedStatStudio: Checklists	× +											
( ) https://www.medstatstudio.co	m/decision/checklists/index.pl		G	Q Search		☆自♥↓俞	e 🕹 🖡	=				
Save to Mendeley Add to Wish List		RSeek.org R-proje	Edmonton - Wea	Revisioni Meteo B	🐶 Thunderbird	Outlook Web Acce	voltarace	>>				
MedStatStudio												
<u>Home</u>	Simulation	Decisio	<u>n Support</u>	Research Log	<u>istics</u>	Teaching						
Checklists												
Checklists	Search Checklis	sts										
Medicine	delphi			Search Che	ocklists							
ACLS Airway Management ALTE Bacterial Meninoitis			М	edicine								
Bronchiltis Chicken Pox Congenital Heart Disease Crying Eever	Meningitis       ACLS         itis       Advanced Cardiac Life Support         Pox       Airway Management         al Heart Disease       Management of the airway including bag valve mask ventilation, endotracheal intubation, surgical airways, needle cricothyrotomy, and laryngeal mask airway											
Hand Foot and Mouth Hand Lacerations Herpes Simplex Virus Infections	outh       ALTE         Apparent Life Threatening Events among children and infants. Includes discussion of apnea.         Virus       Bacterial Meningitis											
Hyperbilirubinemia       Diagnosis and management of bacterial meningitis         Intussusception       Bronchiolitis         Kawasaki Disease       Management of acute wheezing and suspected bronchiolitis in childeren												
Pneumonia Pyloric Stenosis Shock Skull Fractures	Chicken Pox Primary varice Congenital Heart Di	lla infection.										
Status Epilepticus Tetralogy of Fallot Trauma	Emergency ma Crying Crying in infan	cy (less than 3 m	gentical heart dise onths of age)	ase in neonates a	and infants							
Urinary Tract Infection Venous Access Vertigo	Fever Workup of ped	iatric and adult pa	atients with fever a	and no obvious so	ource.							
Statistics FAQ Contact	Hand Foot and Mou <u>s</u> <u>Online L</u>	th <u>earning</u>	<u>SurgeSim</u>	Project Ma	nagement	Git	<u>Cloud</u>					

## Quiz: Part A

#### Part A

In which of the following scenarios would Delphi Methodology be the best choice? Indicate yes or no.

1. Y N The head of a disaster medicine research group wishes to determine the research priorities for the next 10 years.

2. Y N A researcher would like to know if the directors in the hospitals in their region are satisfied with the standard regional guidelines for CBRN preparedness.

3. Y N A technology firm would like to know what technologies are likely to be most important to disaster medicine scene response in the future.

4. Y N A disaster medicine specialist would like to know which model of N-95 mask is most likely to fit properly for health care providers working in an Ebola response center.

5. Y N A large health care region would like to develop a policy to help healthcare providers make ethical decisions in the event of a disaster.

6. Y N A researcher wishes to assess whether the number of victims of natural disasters would increase with a shift to world reliance on solar energy.

## Quiz: Part B

### Part B

#### 1. What is the optimal number of experts for the Delphi Panel?

- A. Minimum \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Maximum \_\_\_\_\_

2. When a statement reaches consensus in the first round, but the answer is contrary to what the researcher expected, what is the next step?

- A. Drop the statement entirely from the study analysis
- B. Drop the statement from the next questionnaire, but include it in the study analysis
- C. Convert the statement to an open ended question, and include it in the next questionnaire
- D. Include the statement in the next questionnaire with the same wording

## Quiz: Part C

#### Part C

For the following scenarios, indicate TRUE if the statement has reached consensus, and FALSE if it has not.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ When asked if virtual reality was important for training in disaster medicine, 50% of respondents stated yes and 50% stated no.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ When rating the importance of Twitter for disaster response on a scale of 1 to 10, the median response was 9 with an interquartile range of 3.

3. \_\_\_\_\_ When asked if photography by drone would be useful during a MCI, experts used a 5-point Likhert scale. 100% of respondents stated "Neither agree nor disagree"

## Objectives

- Understand when to use the Delphi Method and when to consider other techniques.
- Understand how to choose and manage the 'Expert Panel'.
- Define consensus, and use this definition to determine how questions advance during the Delphi rounds.

# Delphi Technique The do nots and why nots

Jeffrey Michael Franc MD, MSc, FCFP.EM, Dip Sport Med, EMDM

Clinical Professor of Emergency Medicine University of Alberta

Visiting Professor in Disaster Medicine Universita' Degli Studi del Piemonte Orientale

![](_page_64_Picture_4.jpeg)