



The latest news on hip, knee, ankle, elbow and shoulder joint replacements from the National Joint Registry

Welcome from the National Joint Registry

For the NJR the summer months have marked a number of new beginnings. We've recently launched a national programme aimed at assessing data completeness and quality within the registry. Following a trial phase we are now rolling out the audit across the country with the assistance of nominated clinical leads and audit leads at each hospital. We are confident that with the assistance of our hospital-based peers this will benefit hospitals, surgeons and the registry alike and we look forward to reporting advancements in the strength and accuracy of our data.



We are also delighted to welcome two new orthopaedic surgeon members to our Steering Committee (see page 3.) We are extremely proud of the expertise and knowledge held within our committee especially as it is integral in leading the strategic direction of the NJR. So we welcome the appointment of two more leading clinicians to the team.

As you may know, the NJR is committed to ensuring easy accessibility to our data for everyone who uses our service. At the end of March we updated the Surgeon and Hospital Profile site to allow patients to make easy searches and comparisons of even more detailed hospital information in the form of 'dashboards'. We're delighted that on 30 November we will not just be refreshing the information on the site but also sharing the data with NHS Choices to broaden its reach. Keep an eye on the NJR website for more information.

Ultimately our aim is to assist in developing understanding in the joint replacement sector through the provision of robust evidence and we are delighted that our many ongoing projects continue to drive this.

With best wishes,

Elaine Young

Director of operations - NJR

Data completeness and quality audit launch

The NJR has begun to roll out a national programme of local data completeness and accuracy audits, following the development of an audit toolkit during a six-hospital pilot phase.



Six units trialled the process, which starts with a patient administration system data extract for the financial year 14/15, after which the NJR works to identify sets of 'matched' and 'unmatched' records for the unit.

As part of the new scheme the NJR will be working with a nominated clinical lead and audit lead at each hospital in order to facilitate and support the audit process that will help identify what data, if any, is missing from the registry over the 2014/15 time period and whether all the records have been submitted without error.

In anticipation of the launch, the NJR has now approached the CEO of every NHS Trust and Health Board for their support and hopes to have the full weight of the sector behind it. The programme coincides with the launch of the NJR Quality Data Provider certificate scheme and will help eligible organisations to achieve such status. Those that are not currently eligible, due to their poorer compliance with the NJR, will be able to use the process to identify how certification can be achieved.

Here is an overview of the data completeness and quality audit process stage by stage >>



The full toolkit is available as well as videos to introduce what the NJR will be asking hospitals and surgeons to get involved in. Visit: www.njrcentre.org.uk

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The data completeness and quality audit process

stage by stage

Stage 1: Data extraction

1. Units will be asked to provide the NJR with a list (generated from the Patient Administration System or equivalent for independent hospitals) of all patients undergoing hip and knee procedures included in the NJR, using the codes provided by NJR
 - a. NHS.net addresses to be used and/or data to be sent in password protected files
 - b. Dates of extract for 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015 for hips and knees
 - c. The list will include:
 - Local hospital patient identifier
 - Date of operation
 - Procedure type
 - Consultant in charge
 2. The NJR will generate reports for comparison
 3. Lists will be compared and the results will be returned to the unit in an Excel workbook with sheets showing:
 - a. Tables containing numbers of procedures the unit has coded compared to numbers submitted to the NJR
 - b. Unit records with NO matching NJR records
 - c. Matched records (showing all details)
 - d. NJR records with NO matching unit records
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Stage 2: Data checking

4. Units will be expected to check their data using the lists provided by the NJR and carry out the following tasks:
 - a. Submit any missing hips or knee procedures as a priority
 - b. Amend inaccurate data
 - c. Ask Consultants to check data recorded in their name against their own records
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Stage 3: Data completion/submission

5. Complete the audit tool and return to the NJR in order that any records that need amending can be put back in to the NJR system edit stack. Plus, ensure the front sheet of the excel workbook is also complete as a record of action taken.
 - a. Amend records which have been returned to the edit stack and fully submit (this will be monitored by the NJR)
 - b. Fully submit all procedures to the NJR by the mutually agreed date.



Isle of Man joins NJR

The National Joint Registry is delighted to welcome the Isle of Man and extend its data collection, reporting and information services to Noble's Hospital.

Noble's Hospital currently carries out hip and knee replacements across a population of more than 85,000. Their participation in the registry sees the Isle of Man join England, Wales and Northern Ireland in providing clinical evidence to surgeons and the wider healthcare community in order to protect patient safety and improve patient care.

Recording operation details, along with patient information by consent, gives the NJR the ability to monitor implant, hospital and surgeon performance and highlight areas of poor and best practice. The NJR now holds nearly 2 million records and is the largest of its type in the world.

NJR Director of Operations Elaine Young said: *"This is great news for patients in the Isle of Man. Through Noble's Hospital's contribution to the registry, we can ensure that operation and patient information is being used to measure and monitor the quality of implants and care being provided in joint replacement surgery. We are extremely pleased the Isle of Man has joined the NJR and we look forward to working with them."*

Mr Ian Wright, Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon and Clinical Director was very pleased with the news:

"The orthopaedic department are extremely pleased to start contributing to this world leading national arthroplasty registry, which in the long term will undoubtedly lead to benefits for patients requiring joint replacements on the Isle of Man."

New orthopaedic surgeon members to support the registry's future development

The NJR is delighted to welcome two new orthopaedic surgeon members to its Steering Committee. The Committee is responsible for the work and strategic direction of the world's largest joint replacement registry.

Professor Amar Rangan, an elbow and shoulder consultant at South Tees NHS Hospitals Trust, joined the NHS England Committee of Experts from 1 June 2015. He takes up the post in the stead of long-standing surgeon member Mr Keith Tucker for a three-year term.

Mr Hussain Kazi, a newly appointed hip and knee consultant at Mid Cheshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, also joins the committee this month as a co-opted member for a two-year term.

NJR Chairman Laurel Powers-Freeling said: *"I look forward to working with Amar and Hussain over the coming years. Having practising surgeons, with different but complementary areas of experience as part of our committee is of real benefit. None more so as orthopaedic surgery and its provision undergoes significant change at a time of unprecedented challenge in the health sector as a whole. It is the committee's role to ensure that the NJR achieves its vision; working to protect patient safety and to drive forward quality in joint replacement surgery."*

The Committee comprises the following stakeholders:

- **Orthopaedic surgeons**
- **Patients**
- **NHS and independent healthcare providers**
- **Allied health professionals**
- **Public health/Epidemiology**
- **Industry (orthopaedic implant suppliers)**

"I would also like to take this opportunity to thank outgoing surgeon member Keith Tucker for his contribution over seven years, particularly in his Chairmanship of the Implant Performance Sub-committee. We look forward to retaining his support through his ongoing leadership through the Orthopaedic Data Evaluation Panel and Beyond Compliance initiative."

NJR Regional events 2015/16 – North West and Wales

Book your place at the next free-to-attend NJR Regional Event which will be held at the Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust (WN6 9EP) on 21 October 2015. The event will have an overarching data quality theme so come along if you're keen to find out more about the NJR's recently launched data completeness and quality audit programme. Please email inez.dunn@northgate-is.com to express your interest and take advantage of this learning and networking opportunity.

Can't come? Then why not get in touch with carol.maskrey@northgate-is.com about the first 2016 regional event which will be held in Cardiff on Wednesday 10 February.

Plus, the NJR will have a presence at the following events so why not come and join us?

European Orthopaedic Research Society (EORS) European Research event, University of Bristol – eors2015.org

2-4 September

Aims of the EORS meetings include providing an environment in which clinicians, basic scientists and industry can get together and collaborate on the spectrum of disciplines that are essential for facing the challenges of musculoskeletal disease and disability and advance knowledge for the next generation of musculoskeletal researchers.

RCN Society of Orthopaedic and Trauma Nursing International conference and exhibition – The craft of orthopaedic care – Nottingham Conference Centre, Burton Street – www.rcn.org.uk

10-11 September

The 28th annual conference celebrates the craft of orthopaedic care. Orthopaedic care demands specialist knowledge and complex practical skills, and this two day conference will explore these areas as well as allow you to keep up to date within your field of orthopaedic practice.

British Orthopaedic Association Congress – Professionalism & Responsibility – ACC Liverpool – congress.boa.ac.uk

15-18 September

The BOA 2015 Congress is back with the traditional four day programme designed to discuss, debate and shape ideas and best practice in order to ensure that orthopaedic surgeons continue to raise standards, and encourage the highest levels of Professionalism and Responsibility.

Pre-operative Association conference, EMCC Nottingham – www.pre-op.org

5 November

The Pre-operative Association conference is visiting the East Midlands this year with session titles on the programme including: Pre-Operative Optimisation in Primary Care and Anaesthetist and Geriatrician – “Who is best placed to be the perioperative physician.”

About the NJR

The role of the National Joint Registry is to drive better care for joint replacement patients. Our registry helps to improve patient safety by monitoring the performance of artificial joints (implants) and the results of different types of surgery.

If you are a hip, knee, ankle, elbow or shoulder replacement patient you will be asked during your treatment for consent to store your personal details alongside the medical details of your operation. This combination of information means the NJR can:

- Help surgeons choose the best artificial joints (implants)
- Improve patient safety by checking how well artificial joints, surgeons and hospitals perform
- When implant problems are found, help surgeons decide quickly whether patients need to return to hospital
- Give hospitals and implant manufacturers feedback so they can improve their patient care

Patients' personal data are treated as confidential at all times.

Procedures are in place to secure the information and to keep it confidential. Data collected via the NJR may be used for medical research, but only if it has passed ethical review and if the outcomes are expected to provide significant benefits to the healthcare of patients.

In accordance with the Data Protection Act (1998), patients can request a copy of the personal information that the NJR holds about them at any time. Please visit www.njrcentre.org.uk for more information or call 0845 345 9991.



NJR eBulletin

The NJR has established an email news bulletin to share its latest updates. If you would like to subscribe please sign up at the NJR homepage www.njrcentre.org.uk.



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