



National Joint Registry

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Working for patients, driving forward quality

ORTHOPAEDIC CONSULTANT OUTCOMES PUBLICATION 2015

NJR Guidance for consultant
orthopaedic surgeons

www.njrsurgeonhospitalprofile.org.uk



PLEASE READ
IMPORTANT INFORMATION ENCLOSED

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1. Background to the Consultant Outcomes Programme (COP)

2013

Consultant outcomes publication (COP) was piloted in 2013 for ten specialities, as stated in NHS England's planning guidance for 2012/13 (then NHS Commissioning Board). Orthopaedics was one of the first ten specialities to publish data at individual consultant-level at www.njrurgeonhospitalprofile.org.uk and via NHS Choices.

The service was developed and completed in partnership with the British Orthopaedic Association (BOA), the British Hip Society (BHS) and the British Association for Surgery of the Knee (BASK). The [National Joint Registry's \(NJR\) Surgeon and Hospital Profile](#) system published information for more than 1,600 hip and knee consultant orthopaedic surgeons in July 2013.

What was published in 2013?

- Individual 12-month activity profiles for hip and knee Consultants in charge
- 90-day mortality (presented as a ratio through a Funnel plot display)
- Corresponding hospital profile(s)

Further background to the start of the NHS England Consultant Outcomes Programme can be found at the Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership (HQIP) website: www.hqip.org.uk/consultant-outcomes-publication. HQIP are charged with overseeing the whole COP programme delivery.

2014

NHS England extended COP in 2014 to new specialties and data publication was linked to NHS Choices as part of the myNHS offering. NHS England also mandated publication of consultant outcomes through the NHS Standard Contract. This required the existing ten specialities to repeat their data publication and extend, as a minimum, to one new quality measure.

For orthopaedics, the service was developed again in partnership with the BOA, the BHS, the BASK and following extension to ankle, elbow and shoulder surgeons, the British Foot and Ankle Society (BOFAS) and the British Elbow and Shoulder Society (BESS). The NJR and its Surgeon and Hospital Profile system published and presented the information for a second year – presenting just over 2,000 individual surgeon profiles.

HQIP also continued to oversee the whole programme delivery, working closely with NHS Choices, the Royal College of Surgeons, plus the specialist societies and clinical audit project teams for each specialty.

What was published in 2014?

- Individual 12-month activity and 36-month profiles for hip, knee, ankle, elbow and shoulder Consultants in charge
- 90-day mortality (presented as a ratio through a Funnel plot display) for hip and knee surgeons
- Proportional use of ODEP-rated (excluding no rated) hip stem and hip cup prostheses for a 12-month period
- Corresponding hospital profile(s)

2015

NHS England and HQIP continue to develop and expand the programme, again requiring the now existing thirteen specialities to repeat their data publication and extend, as a minimum, to one new quality measure for surgeon data. The data outputs will also continue to be shared with NHS Choices for use on their [main website](#) and [‘myNHS’ site](#).

Additionally, and a newer focus for the COP programme, there is also the requirement to display and publish unit-based/team-based measures as part of the publication to support surgeon profiles and enhance the information and context available to patients / public.

The NJR continues to partner with BOA, BHS, BASK, BOFAS and BESS in the development of the surgeon and hospital profiles, prior to their publication on the NJR website and simultaneous publication through NHS Choices.

What will be published in 2015?

In addition to a refresh of the existing indicators, the surgeon profiles will extend on **30 November 2015** to include:

- **Confirmed for 30 November:** inclusion of patient case-mix information covering gender, age, BMI, ASA 3+ and diagnosis other than OA for all surgeons
- **In development for 2015:** Surgeon-level NJR compliance rates for primary and revision procedures (based on NJR data submissions compared to HES data) - subject to HES data release and data verification prior to publication

Extended improvement and outcomes information at a hospital-level was published in the form of dashboards in March 2015 as part of the extension to reflect team-based measures. This information is designed to complement and support the surgeon profiles and is available through www.njrsurgeonhospitalprofile.org.uk and NHS Choices. See page 8.

The NJR Surgeon and Hospital Profile service receives a minimum of 2,000 visitors per week. The average visitor is on the site for just over 5 minutes.

2. Definition of scope

Any orthopaedic consultant surgeon who has had one or more NHS-funded hip, knee, ankle, elbow or shoulder replacement procedures recorded between 1 April 2014 and 31 March 2015 in England as Consultant in charge.

3. Consent and requirements for ‘opt-in’

Surgeons within scope

Further to legal guidance issued by HQIP in 2014: the public interest clause of the Data Protection Act 1998 overrides consultant’s right to withhold consent for analysis about their practice being placed in the public domain. On this basis, consent from individual consultants practicing in England is not required for consultant outcomes publication provided that all reasonable steps are taken to:

- Communicate to eligible consultants that their data are to be published
- Ensure published data are adequate and accurate
- Ensure that support and improvement mechanisms are in place for statistical outliers
- Demonstrate that COP is necessary to achieve legitimate aims

[See the HQIP legal counsel and legitimate aims as part of the National Clinical Audit manual at www.hqip.org.uk/consultant-outcomes-publication >](http://www.hqip.org.uk/consultant-outcomes-publication)

Surgeons outside of scope

For those consultant orthopaedic surgeons who are outside of the scope of publication for 2015, there will be the option to ‘opt-in’ to publication via the [NJR Clinician Feedback service](#).

This applies to surgeons carrying out ankle, elbow and shoulder procedures as well as hip and knee replacement operations.

This functionality is available in October when the surgeon profiles will be available to preview through NJR Clinician Feedback.

4. Indicators and outcomes analysis for publication 2015

HIPS

Hip procedures by Consultant in charge 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015 and 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2015		Format
Activity	Units where a surgeon works	List
Activity	Total activity by primary and revision procedures (no breakdown by provider type) by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12-month practice profile and • 36-month practice profile 	Pie chart and table, explanatory definitions
Activity	Use of ODEP-rated prostheses (excluding no rating) as a percentage of total practice for hip cup and hip stem in primary procedures	Pie chart and table, definitions and appropriate context provided
Activity added for 2015	Patient case-mix covering gender, age, BMI, ASA 3+ and diagnosis other than OA	Thermometer display
Activity added for 2015	NJR compliance rates for primary and revision procedures (based on NJR data submissions compared to HES data) - subject to HES data release and data verification prior to publication	To be agreed
Outcomes by Consultant in charge 2003-2015		Format
	90-day risk-adjusted mortality ratio for elective procedures (trauma and metastatic cancer cases removed) recorded on the NJR	Funnel plot, definitions and appropriate context provided

Note 1: Extended improvement and outcomes information at a hospital-level was published in the form of dashboards in March 2015 as part of the extension to reflect team-based measures. This information is designed to complement and support the surgeon profiles. **Note 2:** Profiles showing less than five procedures will have numbers masked on the NJR website. This will not apply through NHS Choices. **Note 3:** An indicator showing time passed since first procedure submitted as Consultant in charge will be included on the activity profile.

KNEES

Knee procedures by Consultant in charge 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015 and 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2015		Format
Activity	Units where a surgeon works	List
Activity	Total activity by primary (for TKR, UKR and Patello-femoral) and revision procedures (no breakdown by provider type) by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12-month practice profile and • 36-month practice profile 	Pie chart and table, explanatory definitions
Activity added for 2015	Patient case-mix covering gender, age, BMI, ASA 3+ and diagnosis other than OA	Thermometer display
Activity added for 2015	NJR compliance rates for primary and revision procedures (based on NJR data submissions compared to HES data) - subject to HES data release and data verification prior to publication	To be agreed
Outcomes by Consultant in charge 2003-2015		Format
	90-day risk-adjusted mortality ratio for elective procedures recorded on the NJR	Funnel plot, definitions and appropriate context provided

Note 1: Extended improvement and outcomes information at a hospital-level was published in the form of dashboards in March 2015 as part of the extension to reflect team-based measures. This information is designed to complement and support the surgeon profiles. **Note 2:** Profiles showing less than five procedures will have numbers masked on the NJR website. This will not apply through NHS Choices. **Note 3:** An indicator showing time passed since first procedure submitted as Consultant in charge will be included on the activity profile.

ANKLES, ELBOWS, SHOULDERS – ACTIVITY ONLY

Procedures by Consultant in charge 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015 and 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2015	Format
Units where a surgeon works Total activity by primary and revision procedure (no breakdown by provider type) by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12-month practice profile and • 36-month practice profile (where applicable) Patient case-mix covering gender, age, BMI, ASA 3+ and diagnosis other than OA NJR compliance rates for primary and revision procedures (based on NJR data submissions compared to HES data) - subject to HES data release and data verification prior to publication	List Pie chart and table, explanatory definitions Thermometer display To be agreed

Note 1: Extended improvement and outcomes information at a hospital-level was published in the form of dashboards in March 2015 as part of the extension to reflect team-based measures. This information is designed to complement and support the surgeon profiles. **Note 2:** Profiles showing less than five procedures will have numbers masked on the NJR website. This will not apply through NHS Choices. **Note 3:** An indicator showing time passed since first procedure submitted as Consultant in charge will be included on the activity profile.

UNIT-LEVEL ACTIVITY

Extended unit-level activity and outcomes for corresponding hospital profiles will, through a dashboard format, show:

- Consultants in charge recorded as working at the units
- 12-month practice profile including unit-level NJR compliance
- 36-month practice profile including unit-level NJR compliance
- Use of ODEP-rated prostheses (excluding no rating) as a percentage of total practice for hip cup and hip stem in primary procedures
- Patient outcomes including 90-day risk-adjusted mortality ratio for elective hip and knee procedures 2003-2014 and risk-adjusted revision ratio for elective hip and knee procedures over all NJR data and the most recent five year period
- Patient reported improvement measures including Oxford score, EQ-VAS, EQ-5D
- Quality of information submitted to the NJR including Trust-level compliance, patient consent and record linkability rates as well as time taken to enter data

5. Data verification and deadlines

Mortality – hip and knee only (deadline Friday 14 August 2015)

NJR data will be processed for COP after **Friday 14 August 2015** and any data submissions after this date will not be included in the data processing for this iteration.

A minimum of eight weeks is needed to process the data and carry out the mortality analysis as well as undertake additional quality checks on the surgeon-level information in advance of publication on the [NJR website](#).

There is also a requirement to provide the assured data to NHS Choices a minimum of four weeks in advance of publication. This is to allow time for the processing and testing of the data in the Choices format before it goes live through [Choices 'myNHS' website](#).

For further information, this cut of data also informs the latest round of outcomes analysis for the **separate** implant performance and surgeon and unit monitoring (activities related to potential outlier identification) and as a result there is a limited amount of flexibility in the overall programme of activity. The NJR cuts its data for these purposes twice a year, once in February and once in August.

Procedure volumes – all joints (deadline Wednesday 30 September 2015)

For all surgeons, please contact your NJR Regional Coordinator (see attachment A) to discuss how to access the clinical activity and patient case-mix data relating to the format of the surgeon profiles due to be published under the consultant outcomes programme. Volumes associated with your clinical activity can be checked and amended up to **30 September 2015**.

6. How to verify data

Importantly, surgeons are able to verify and check their NJR data, **at any time**, through a number of NJR services including:

For hip and knee

NJR Clinician Feedback

NJR Clinician Feedback is a secure website designed to provide surgeons with direct access to their NJR data. It was launched in 2008.

If you are not already registered please call the NJR Service Desk on **0845 345 9991** or email enquiries@njrcentre.org.uk using a hospital email address.

You may wish to contact your NJR Regional Coordinator and their details can be found at the end of this guidance. It is also worth noting that once you have a user name and password to NJR Clinician Feedback you will also have access to the user manual.

Individual Consultant Level Reports (via Clinician Feedback for hip and knee surgeons)

This individual consultant-level report is published for every hip and knee surgeon with more than five procedures recorded 2014/15. It is available via NJR Clinician Feedback.

Not all of the data in this individual report is relevant to Consultant Outcomes Publication (e.g. revision). However, it will provide the most up to date reflection of your practice as recorded in the NJR over 12 and 36 months as well as recorded mortality events.

For mortality events, an NJR reference is given and this can assist you in locating the NJR record at the hospital. However, if required, your local NJR Regional Coordinator can be approached to assist in providing relevant information in order to facilitate the identification of deceased patients.

Direct reports requested through the NJR Regional Coordinators. Please see the contact list for the NJR Regional Coordinators at the back of this guidance document.

For ankle, elbow and shoulder

Ankle, elbow and shoulder surgeons can register on NJR Clinician Feedback for the purpose of seeing their previous surgeon profiles (in October) or 'opting-in' to data publication if they practice solely in Wales, Northern Ireland or in the independent sector. However, no other NJR data is available via this web portal at present.

Instead, there are a number of ways that those who carry out these replacement procedures can gain reports on their NJR recorded practice. These reports can then be used for the purpose of local audit and data validation:

ReportsOnline (using the NJR data entry system) and StatsOnline can be used as well as **direct reports requested through the NJR Regional Coordinators.** Please see the contact list for the NJR Regional Coordinators at the back of this guidance document.

7. Preview of surgeon profiles before publication

Surgeons' public facing profiles will be available to preview through NJR Clinician Feedback by the end of October 2015, prior to release on the publication date Monday 30 November 2015.

At this time, consultants will be able to add the additional information about specialty practice and professional membership(s) as well as a photograph should they wish. Surgeons outside of scope will also be able to opt-in to publication at this time and add additional, optional profile information. For any Consultant wishing to see how this displays, please visit www.njrsurgeonhospitalprofile.org.uk and review the profile of [NJR Medical Director Mr Martyn Porter](#).

Please sign up to receive the [NJR eBulletin](#) for regular updates or visit the NJR website at www.njrcentre.org.uk. Updates will also be available at www.boa.ac.uk.

8. Identifying data to be amended/submitted

Carry out a local audit

Please contact your NJR Regional Coordinator. They will be able to run a report for you to show the procedures that have been submitted under your name as Consultant in charge. This list can then be checked against the local theatre system, local performance management systems or your own surgeon log book (if kept).

By following this local audit process, any record needing to be amended would need to be put into edit stack on the NJR data entry system for the hospital data clerk (administrator or manager) to amend and re-submit.

Find out if procedures already carried out are yet to be submitted

Speak to your local hospital data clerk (administrator or manager) to find out which of your records are in the edit stack already i.e. not yet submitted to the NJR. Your NJR Regional Coordinator can also run a report to show those records (these are usually those records with a blank 'completed date' on the system).

Your Regional Coordinator will also be able to advise you how to get involved with ongoing data verification – completeness and quality checks – that are currently in progress and separate to COP but part of a wider, overall data quality in the NJR programme.

9. Local support: your NJR Regional Coordinator

County	Regional Coordinator	Email address	Phone number
Avon	Carol Maskrey	carol.maskrey@northgate-is.com	07931 168335
Bedfordshire	Lorna Watson	lorna.watson@northgate-is.com	07951 693523
Berkshire	Marian Gibson/Anita Cannon	marian.gibson@northgate-is.com anita.cannon@northgate-is.com	07983 457785/07951 629101
Buckinghamshire	Marian Gibson	marian.gibson@northgate-is.com	07983 457785
Cambridgeshire	Lorna Watson	lorna.watson@northgate-is.com	07951 693523
Cheshire	Inez Dunn	inez.dunn@northgate-is.com	07951 693529
Cleveland	Maggie Tate	maggie.tate@northgate-is.com	07508 055651
Cornwall	Carol Maskrey	carol.maskrey@northgate-is.com	07931 168335
Cumbria	Maggie Tate	maggie.tate@northgate-is.com	07508 055651
Derbyshire	Lorna Watson	lorna.watson@northgate-is.com	07951 693523
Devon	Carol Maskrey	carol.maskrey@northgate-is.com	07931 168335
Dorset	Carol Maskrey	carol.maskrey@northgate-is.com	07931 168335
Durham	Maggie Tate	maggie.tate@northgate-is.com	07508 055651
East Sussex	Anita Cannon	anita.cannon@northgate-is.com	07951 629101
East Yorkshire	Maggie Tate	maggie.tate@northgate-is.com	07508 055651
Essex	Sue Campey	sue.campey@northgate-is.com	07983 457808
Gloucestershire	Carol Maskrey	carol.maskrey@northgate-is.com	07931 168335
Hampshire	Anita Cannon	anita.cannon@northgate-is.com	07951 629101
Herefordshire	Chris Hipkiss	chris.hipkiss@northgate-is.com	07931 661337
Hertfordshire	Lorna Watson/Marian Gibson	lorna.watson@northgate-is.com marian.gibson@northgate-is.com	07951693523/ 07983 457785

Humberside	Lorna Watson/ Maggie Tate	lorna.watson@northgate-is.com / maggie.tate@northgate-is.com	07951 693523 / 07508 055651
Isle of Man	Chris Hipkiss	chris.hipkiss@northgate-is.com	07931 661337
Isle of Wight	Anita Cannon	anita.cannon@northgate-is.com	07951 629101
Kent	Anita Cannon	anita.cannon@northgate-is.com	07951 629101
Lancashire	Maggie Tate/ Inez Dunn	maggie.tate@northgate-is.com inez.dunn@northgate-is.com	07508 055651/ 07951693529
Leicestershire	Chris Hipkiss	chris.hipkiss@northgate-is.com	07931 661337
Lincolnshire	Lorna Watson	lorna.watson@northgate-is.com	07951 693523
London (NW postcodes)	Marian Gibson	marian.gibson@northgate-is.com	07983 457785
London (SW postcodes)	Sue Campey	sue.campey@northgate-is.com	07983 457808
London (N, NE, SE, central)	Sue Campey	sue.campey@northgate-is.com	07983 457808
Manchester	Inez Dunn	inez.dunn@northgate-is.com	07951 693529
Merseyside	Inez Dunn	inez.dunn@northgate-is.com	07951 693529
Mid Wales (Aberystwyth)	Carol Maskrey	carol.maskrey@northgate-is.com	07931 168335
Middlesex	Sue Campey	sue.campey@northgate-is.com	07983 457808
Norfolk	Lorna Watson	lorna.watson@northgate-is.com	07951 693523
North Yorkshire	Maggie Tate	maggie.tate@northgate-is.com	07508 055651
North Wales	Inez Dunn	inez.dunn@northgate-is.com	07952 693529
Northern Ireland	Inez Dunn	inez.dunn@northgate-is.com	07951 693529
Northamptonshire	Lorna Watson	lorna.watson@northgate-is.com	07951 693523
Northumberland	Maggie Tate	maggie.tate@northgate-is.com	07508 055651
Nottinghamshire	Lorna Watson	lorna.watson@northgate-is.com	07951 693523
Oxfordshire	Marian Gibson	marian.gibson@northgate-is.com	07983 457785
Shropshire	Chris Hipkiss	chris.hipkiss@northgate-is.com	07931 661337
Somerset	Carol Maskrey	carol.maskrey@northgate-is.com	07931 168335
South Wales	Carol Maskrey	carol.maskrey@northgate-is.com	07931 168335

South Yorkshire	Lorna Watson	lorna.watson@northgate-is.com	07951 693523
Staffordshire	Chris Hipkiss/Inez Dunn	chris.hipkiss@northgate-is.com / inez.dunn@northgate-is.com	07931 661337/ 07951693529
Suffolk	Lorna Watson	lorna.watson@northgate-is.com	07951 693523
Surrey	Anita Cannon	anita.cannon@northgate-is.com	07951 629101
Tyne and Wear	Maggie Tate	maggie.tate@northgate-is.com	07508 055651
Warwickshire	Chris Hipkiss	chris.hipkiss@northgate-is.com	07931 661337
West Sussex	Anita Cannon	anita.cannon@northgate-is.com	07951 629101
West Yorkshire	Maggie Tate	maggie.tate@northgate-is.com	07508 055651
Wiltshire	Marian Gibson/Carol Maskrey	marian.gibson@northgate-is.com / carol.maskrey@northgate-is.com	07983 457785/ 07931 168335
West Midlands	Chris Hipkiss	chris.hipkiss@northgate-is.com	07931 661337
Worcestershire	Chris Hipkiss	chris.hipkiss@northgate-is.com	07931 661337

