

# Monitoring what happens after joint replacement surgery

A leaflet about how the National Joint Registry helps patients

The NJR records and analyses joint replacement data for patient safety and to help provide better care







# How does the NJR help patients?

The National Joint Registry for England, Wales, Northern Ireland and the Isle of Man (NJR) records details of joint replacement operations in order to monitor the results of joint replacement surgery and protect patient safety. We provide information and evidence to:

- Help surgeons to choose the best artificial joints (implants) for patients
- Empower patients by enabling them find out more about the implants available to them
- Improve patient safety by showing how well implants, surgeons and hospitals perform and to take action where it is needed
- Give hospitals, surgeons and implant manufacturers feedback about their performance to help them improve patient care
- Help surgeons quickly decide whether patients need to return to hospital if there are any reported problems with specific implants

# What information is collected?

Your hospital will input specific details of your operation into the NJR. These details include the type of implant you received, which surgical technique was used, which

Giving your consent is voluntary but more **than 9 out of 10** patients agree to have their details added to the NJR side of your body the implant went into, as well as your name, date of birth, gender, postcode and NHS number.

The NJR asks all patients to give their permission (consent) to have their personal details confidentially recorded with their operation details – this enables the NJR to be more effective in its role.

You should be asked by your hospital if you would like to give your consent and be shown an NJR patient consent form

# How the NJR is run

The NJR is hosted by the Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership (HQIP) and overseen by a Steering Committee (NJRSC), which is designated as an NHS England (NHS E) 'Expert Committee'. The NJRSC Chairman reports directly to the NHS E Medical Director.

NJR core services are managed under two contracts held with: Northgate Public Services: for collection and management of data and technology and the University of Bristol: for provision of statistical support and analysis of data, to support NJR outcome monitoring, research activity and publications.

The NJR management team based at HQIP, is responsible for overall operational and contract management of the NJR and for supporting the work of the NJRSC and its sub-committees.

# NJR data and other healthcare information

Operation and patient information in the NJR is used to link to other healthcare information, including data held by NHS Digital and the NHS Wales Informatics Service (see box on right to see what datasets your NJR information may be linked with). It is also analysed and made available to surgeons, hospitals and manufacturers – without any of your personal details – as part of our feedback services.

Doing this improves the NJR's ability to monitor patient safety and patient outcomes. It also means that people and organisations involved in improving joint replacement surgery can better understand and develop improved or more cost-effective medical treatments.

You can take a look at our Joint Approach newsletters or find out more about the NJR at www.njrcentre.org.uk

# What information does the NJR provide for patients?

The NJR publishes a Public and Patient Guide to its main Annual Report every year. The main Annual Report contains analysis of the information that the registry collects for example, results on how well different types of implants are performing.

The Public and Patient Guide aims to make that data more readable and practical for patients, carers, family and friends. You can now choose to read a guide for each of the joint replacements recorded in the NJR on our website.

# What datasets your information may be linked with

Hospital Episode Statistics, Patient Episode Data for Wales, Patient Recorded Outcome Measures, Office for National Statistics Registration Data

# Medical research

Operation and patient information in the NJR may be used for medical research and service evaluation to improve our understanding and treatment of joint problems.

The majority of our research uses only anonymised information which means it is impossible to identify individuals.

Occasionally researchers may ask us if they can contact you to get involved, we will ask you first and all data is subject to very strict controls on storage, release and use. You can say no to participation and this won't affect your care.

You can find examples of how we use data for research at **www.njrcentre.org.uk**.

We take your privacy very seriously.
You can see our privacy policy at
www.njrcentre.org.uk/njrcentre/
AbouttheNJR/PrivacyPolicyGDPR/
tabid/1517/Default.aspx

# Further resources: the NJR's Public and Patient Guides to joint replacement



Available at: www.njrreports.org.uk/patient-guide

# More information

Your healthcare team (GP, consultant surgeon, anaesthetist, nurse, physiotherapist, occupational therapist) will be able to answer questions about your individual care.

There are lots of organisations that provide general information to inform and support patients undergoing joint replacement surgery. Here are just some you might like to consider:

### **Arthritis Care**

www.arthritiscare.org.uk/home

### **Arthritis Research UK**

www.arthritisresearchuk.org/arthritis-information

# Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Alliance (ARMA)

www.arma.uk.net

### **BoneSmart**

www.bonesmart.org

### **NHS Choices**

www.nhs.uk

The NJR also provides information about surgeons and hospitals who carry out joint replacement surgery at www.njrsurgeonhospitalprofile.org.uk

# To find out more about the NJR:

Visit our website at www.njrcentre.org.uk

f /nationaljointregistry

@jointregistry

Call the NJR helpline on 0845 345 9991

Send an email to: enquiries@njrcentre.org.uk

Write to:

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