

Australian Spine Registry Newsletter

OUR VISION

The Australian Spine Registry aims to be a world class, state of the art clinical quality registry.

OUR MISSION

The Australian Spine Registry aims to assist spine care professionals to improve patient care through providing improved access to outcome data and facilitating research.

Spine Week 2023

The registry was very pleased to participate in Spine Week May, 2023, an international collaboration of societies working in spine health, with Melbourne playing host in 2023 to the global community. ASR Chief Investigator Michael Johnson presented two talks on the registry, as well as our Research Engineer from Queensland Children's Hospital presenting on the Paediatric Spine Registry (see below). During this week, the ASR also held its' annual Stakeholder and user group meetings which were well supported by current and interested surgeons as well as industry stakeholders.

Paediatric Spine Registry

The ASR is extremely proud to partner with Queensland University of Technology and surgeons at Queensland Children's Hospital to soon commence the first national Paediatric Spine Registry. The Paediatric registry uses the same data management system used by the adult registry with specific adaptations for children and scoliosis. This registry will commence with a pilot through Queensland Children's Hospital. The paediatric registry has been in planning and preparation for over 12 months and is expected to commence recruiting first patients in October 2023.

Further federal funding for the ASR

In May 2023, the ASR was excited to learn that it has secured four years of federal funding in addition to the two years promised in 2021. This allows the ASR to make more medium term plans for the direction of the registry and provides confidence to surgeons for participation. Some of the ASR goals include:

- Dedicated data management system personnel to assist in the daily and weekly needs of the registry and programs such as the Paediatric spine registry.
- Project to improve comorbidity data collection within the registry
- Linkage to the National Death Index on an annual basis to reduce unnecessary follow up of patients and more deeply understand links between date of surgery in relation to comorbidities, complications, complex surgery and mortality.



QUT Paediatric Research Engineer Selina Ho giving a talk at Spine Week



ASR participates in the Inaugural International Spine Registry meeting

In March 2023, ASR manager Dr Esther Apos was able to travel to England to participate in the Inaugural International meeting of Spine Registries held at the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital in Stanmore, Middlesex, UK.

Dr Apos presented an overview of the first four years of the ASR at the meeting and each international registry was able to share some of the challenges and opportunities spine registries face across the globe. This is an exciting step forward as international collaborations allow for a greater understanding of the impacts of spine surgery and challenges that each registry face with data collection.

Comorbidity data collection project

Attendance at the international registry meeting further highlighted the issues across all spine registries in relation to patient comorbidity collection by surgeons. Comorbidity collection is important data for registries however understanding how best to collect this data and what comorbidities are most common in spine surgery is not well understood.

The ASR will be exploring these questions over coming months in order to develop deeper insight into more effective comorbidity data collection.

The ASR would like to thank the patients, surgeons, practice staff and stakeholders for the ongoing interest and support of this very important work that aims to assist spine care professionals to improve patient outcomes and care.

2022 Registry Annual Report

In May, the registry was very pleased to release our 5th annual report. This has been received well and is publicly available for download on our website (see below).

Contacting the ASR

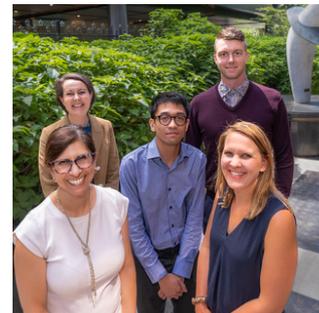
The ASR is an opt-out registry for those who are patients of a participating surgeon. Participation does not impact routine care or follow up.

If you have any questions regarding your participation or the questionnaires for completion, we would encourage you to contact us for clarification.

The registry email address is SpineRegistryAU@monash.edu

You can also contact the registry on our direct phone number 1800 998 722

Our website is www.spineregistry.org.au



The Registry team 2023