The news in brief

This third ANZHFR newsletter for 2015 describes a significant acceleration in implementation of the hip fracture registries in both Australia and New Zealand. The number of sites with ethics approval and in process of gaining ethics approval in Australia has reached 29 in total. Patient numbers in the respective national registries are increasing, with a total of 450 records in both countries as of mid-April 2015.

The orthogeriatrics team from Middlemore Hospital in Auckland provide an update on their initial experience with the registry. Professor Maria Crotty from Adelaide has contributed to this month’s President’s corner commentary, in Maria’s capacity as President of the global Fragility Fracture Network (FFN). Finally, a forthcoming meeting of The Health Roundtable on hip fracture care is highlighted.

Update on implementation in Australia

The Australian Hip Fracture Registry is now live. You can only access the site if you have completed all your ethics and governance approvals. States and Territories that have ethics approval are Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria (on a site by site basis), South Australia and Western Australia. An application for Darwin is pending but not commenced. The number of sites that have Site Specific Approval (SSA) approval are:

- **QLD**: Logan, Nambour, Prince Charles, Princess Alexandra, Townsville. In addition, Gold Coast, Ipswich and Toowoomba are at various stages of Public Health Application/SSA.
- **NSW**: John Hunter, Liverpool, Nepean, Prince of Wales, St George. In addition, Bankstown, Bowral, Campbelltown, Concord, Royal North Shore, Sutherland, Westmead and Wagga Wagga are at various stages of SSA.
- **VIC**: Dandenong and The Northern. In addition, Monash Medical Centre, Royal Melbourne and Western Footscray are at various stages in the process.
- **SA**: SSA is in process at The Royal Adelaide.
- **WA**: Sir Charles Gairdner and Fiona Stanley.

So, in Australia, 14 hospitals have all approvals completed and a further 15 hospitals are in the process of obtaining approvals. Hospitals that have entered data into the Australian Hip Fracture Registry to mid-April 2015 are:

- John Hunter Hospital
- Liverpool Hospital
- Logan Hospital
- Nambour Hospital
- Prince Charles Hospital
- Prince of Wales Hospital
- Princess Alexandra Hospital
- The Northern Hospital

To date, the Australian Hip Fracture Registry has 266 records. Fifty demonstration accounts have been set up. For hospitals where ethics and SSA has been granted, the live website can be accessed at [www.hipfracture.com.au](http://www.hipfracture.com.au).

Update on implementation in New Zealand

The New Zealand Hip Fracture Registry is being piloted in the Northern Region District Health Boards (DHBs). Hospitals that have entered data into the New Zealand Hip Fracture Registry to mid-April 2015 are:

- Auckland City Hospital
- Middlemore Hospital
- North Shore Hospital
- Whangarei Hospital

To date, the NZ Hip Fracture Registry has 184 records.
In the limelight: Middlemore Hospital, Auckland

ANZHFR data collection has had a good start at Middlemore Hospital in Counties Manukau District Health Board, Auckland, with data collection starting in early December 2014. To date, details on 79 patients have been entered into the registry. The orthogeriatric service has had some previous experience with three previous audits of hip fracture care, so was able to take up the task of the ANZHFR without much disruption.

The data collection process has been incorporated into the existing orthogeriatric nurse coordinator role for now, who is involved with the patients’ care from pre-op through to rehabilitation. This process has worked well from a time utilisation perspective as we have been able to tick the relevant boxes off as assessments and treatments are completed. The information collected has been of benefit to the service as it has highlighted areas where improvements can be made, for example, falls and osteoporosis assessments in the younger population (<65 years). With plans for the Fracture Liaison Service afoot, we hope this issue will also be addressed.

We have also identified that we will need to develop a process to complete cognitive assessments (AMTS) in the acute setting. Follow up phone calls are being undertaken, with 36 patients contacted since January 2015. Two patients have been lost to follow up due to an inability to contact them.

Overall the process has been relatively smooth so far, with the nurse coordinator constantly feeding back to the national coordinator of ANZHFR about any issues that we identify.

We look forward to the database being rolled out nationwide.

President’s corner

Professor Maria Crotty
President, Fragility Fracture Network
Professor of Rehabilitation and Aged Care
Flinders University, Adelaide

In September 2015 a group of clinicians, policy makers and researchers will gather in Rotterdam for 3 days at the 4th Fragility Fracture Network Global Congress to share practical strategies, exchange tips and learn about the most recent trials in the area.

The Fragility Fracture Network (FFN) was formed in Berlin in 2011 with a mission to work towards a world where anyone who sustained a fragility fracture could achieve optimal recovery of independence and quality of life with no further fractures. All sessions are multidisciplinary with surgeons, anesthetists, nurses, therapists and physicians presenting, so participants get to see things through different perspectives.

FFN is unique because its focus is on encouraging activism by its participants, creating international links and providing tool kits for front line clinicians to go home and make a difference. This year we will look at topics such as:

- What exercises work after hip fracture, how should they be prescribed and for how long?
- How to set up a Fracture Liaison Service in your own backyard
- How to use social media to accelerate practice change
- How to set up an audit and drive change in your area

We organise the conference around the journey of a patient after a fracture and sessions cover 6 core themes:

- Peri-operative management
- Fracture management
- Rehabilitation after fracture
- Prevention of new fractures
- Research in fragility fractures
- Changing policy

We offer prizes for the best presentations in each theme to encourage participation of younger clinicians.

Above all, FFN is a social experience and this year we meet in Rotterdam, a young dynamic city on the water with a rich collection of art and a vibrant nightlife. Come to Rotterdam this September and meet the Network!

Visit our website at www.frailtyfracturenetwork.org

The Health Roundtable: Upcoming meeting

In Sydney from 20-21 August 2015, The Health Roundtable is hosting a special meeting on improving care for patients with hip fracture. At this special Roundtable, members will share their practical experiences and resources for improving care for patients with hip fracture. ANZHFR Co-Chairs, Professor Jacqueline Close and Professor Ian Harris will be presenting on the day. See meeting code HRT1513 at: www.healthroundtable.org/AttendEvent/UpcomingMeetings.aspx