

The AJRR is a national, not-for-profit organization with the goal of optimizing patient outcomes through the collection of data on all primary and revision total joint replacement procedures in the U.S.

First Round of Data Collection set to Begin in October

The AJRR Hospital/Surgeon Participation Workgroup has selected 15 pilot sites that will begin collecting Level One Data this year. The AJRR staff will, in tandem, assess the diversity of systems in place and discover the best methods of transmitting secure data. To date, we have two distinct goals: 1. Collect Level One Data and 2. Identify and explore the best method(s) for collecting data nationally. The AJRR team expects to begin data acquisition in Q3/Q4 of 2010.

AJRR Mention in the New York Times

The AJRR was recently mentioned in the New York Times article promoting the merits of a national, independent registry that reduces failure rates. Check out the mention in paragraph seven on page B5 of the July 3rd copy.

http://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/03/health/03patient.html?_r=2

RUSH Site Visit, Chicago

The AJRR had the opportunity to visit the RUSH orthopaedics facility in Chicago and meet with surgeons and hospital champions who have a robust system of data collection and tracking. The new facility took our breath away and spans the size of an entire football field. Staff champion, Laura Quigley, was able to demonstrate how the RUSH registry can track down a specific implant over time and who, where, and when revisions occurred. AJRR staff was truly impressed with the levels of data being collected and the intricate workflow process that Ms. Quigley's team has perfected over the years.



**Laura Quigley, APRN
Systems Administrator
RUSH Total Joint
Registry**

**Volume 1, Issue 1, August
2010**



**Susan Clay Mehle, Research
Director, Research and
Education
HealthEast Care System**

Site Spotlight: HealthEast Joint Registry in St. Paul, Minnesota

The HealthEast Joint Registry uses data on total hip and knee replacements to lower costs, manage quality, perform research, and manage device recalls. They have three acute care hospitals, all of which send data to the HEJR. The HealthEast Joint Registry began in 1992 with a focus on saving money. Now, the focus is using their streamlined system to track revisions and manage recalls in a practical way by using a specific device classification system, which is an integral part of their registry.

Industry & Government Corner

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has developed two new quality measures for patients who elect to have total hip and total knee replacement. The two measures will most likely use Medicare Part A inpatient administrative claims data. The goal is to publicly report the data through Medicare's pay-for-reporting program.

For more information visit:

www.ajrr.net

AJRR Examines the Merits of MGH Custom Software

The Massachusetts General Hospital registry was computerized in 1999 and has been continually updated to meet the evolving needs of the orthopedic community. The registry has over 15,000 surgeries recorded and over 100,000 radiology images. MGH currently collects records from 15-20 cases per week. Since MGH allows private privileges, some cases, approximately 20%, are not included in the database as the physicians are not willing to participate or keep their own records. The AJRR learned a great deal from its visit.



Dr. Henrik Malchau of Massachusetts General Hospital

Questions or comments? Email us at info@ajrr.net