

**PLEASE FAX COMPLETED FORM TO
(02) 9993 4502**

- I am interested in speaking to someone about participating in AuSCR
- I am interested in obtaining more information about AuSCR
- I am interested in linking my project with AuSCR

Title _____

Name _____

Position _____

Organisation/
Hospital _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Mobile _____



CONTACT DETAILS

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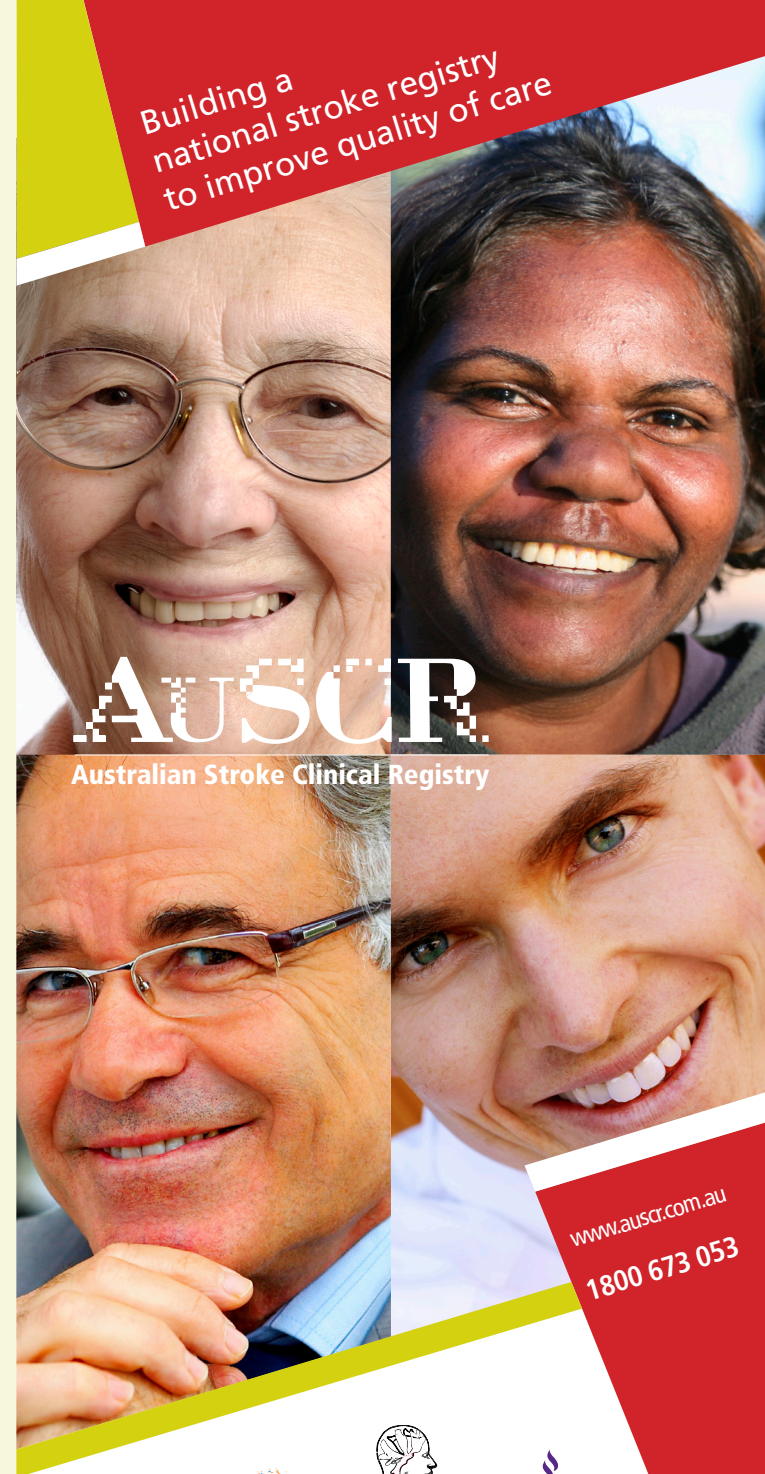
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AUSCR
Australian Stroke Clinical Registry

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What is AuSCR?

The Australian Stroke Clinical Registry (AuSCR) is a new, nationwide registry that records information on patients with a stroke or transient ischaemic attack (TIA, or 'mini-stroke') due to blockage of blood flow ('ischaemic stroke') or bleeding ('haemorrhagic stroke') who are admitted to any of the different hospitals in Australia. A web database is used by medical staff to record the required information on patients during the acute phase of their illness. The pattern of recovery and health needs of patients a few months later will be recorded by telephone contact with a specially trained person or mail-out questionnaire from a central office.

What are the aims of AuSCR?

Stroke affects more than 50,000 people in Australia every year. By determining the patterns of treatments and health care, the aims are to:

- ensure that patients and their families affected by stroke receive the best possible care;
- improve stroke care and rehabilitation;
- improve treatment for stroke in hospitals;
- ensure that stroke can be better prevented from occurring; and
- improve the chances of recovery from stroke.

What information is collected?

Every hospital – public/private or rural/metropolitan - in Australia is invited to participate. Only a minimal amount of personal (identifiable) information about patients is collected to ensure that data related to their hospital stay, subsequent

rehabilitation, follow-up and outcomes, can be accurately linked. Some of the information collected includes:

- was the patient able to walk on admission to hospital?
- did the patient show any evidence of previous strokes?
- did the patient receive thrombolysis (clot-busting) with a special drug (tPA)?
- was the patient treated in a Stroke Unit?
- did the patient receive a care plan on discharge from hospital?
- was the patient discharged on blood pressure lowering ('antihypertensive') treatment?

What will the information collected in AuSCR be used for?

The information collected can be used for quality improvement, to attract resources or even save on some current resources that are not necessary. The data is ideal for hospital-based quality improvement strategies, to advance medical knowledge and expertise in the community. Hospitals who participate have access to their own data for internal use and receive an annual report of clinical indicators with national comparisons.

How is the information kept secure?

The data collected is transmitted to the central AuSCR registry repository via a web-based system. A highly secure internet connection (known as Secure Sockets Layer) is used to protect against the loss, misuse and alteration of any information received from the participating hospitals. Data security for the AuSCR registry includes encryption of data and access to the system only after authentication is provided.

Who can access the information collected in AuSCR?

The AuSCR registry is coordinated by The George Institute for International Health of the University of Sydney in association with representatives of the National Stroke Research Institute for the University of Melbourne, the Stroke Society of Australasia, and the National Stroke Foundation. Third parties wishing to use the data for analysis and the publication of reports need to obtain approval from the AuSCR Steering Committee and any relevant Ethics Committees.

Where can I get more information about AuSCR?

If you would like to participate or find out more about the AuSCR registry, please contact the Project Coordinator or fill in the attached registration of interest form.

How can I support AuSCR?

The AuSCR registry was developed by a grant from the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care. The pharmaceutical company Allergan Australia also supported the set-up phase of the registry by providing an unconditional educational grant. The AuSCR Management Committee is actively seeking on-going financial support to ensure the expansion and maintenance of the AuSCR registry to benefit all Australians.

If you would like to support the AuSCR registry please contact the Project Coordinator.