



OVERVIEW

What is AuSCR?

- AuSCR is an online web-based register.
- Patient information and clinical data for all stroke and TIA cases are collected
- Collection of all hospital admitted cases of participating hospitals across Australia.

Purpose of AuSCR

- The overall goal of AuSCR is to provide data that can be used to improve the quality of stroke care.
- AuSCR aims to:
 - track the delivery of care for patients with stroke in acute hospitals
 - provide a mechanism to guide and monitor any improvements in the quality of stroke care
 - provide a large dataset to enable future stroke research in people with certain (rare) characteristics which might otherwise not have been possible

The AuSCR Pilot Project

- AuSCR is currently in its pilot phase.
- The minimum data set was collaboratively agreed upon by nationally representative clinicians, data managers and researchers in October 2008.
- AuSCR has been established using the Operating Principles and Technical Standards for Australian Clinical Quality Registries (Nov 2008).
- AuSCR is being piloted at select sites to ensure national scalability for public & private hospitals.

Which patients should be included?

- ALL PATIENTS diagnosed with:
 - ischaemic stroke
 - intracerebral haemorrhage
 - unspecified acute cerebrovascular events
 - transient ischaemic attack (TIA)
- AuSCR uses an opt-out consent model
 - all patients should be entered in the Registry unless they, their parent/guardian or next-of-kin ask not to be included.
 - Some or all data can be requested to be removed.

Process for Data Collection

- All stroke patients or their families must be given an **information sheet** on admission which explains the project and how they can opt-out of the Registry.
- For each individual patient, an online and/or paper-based form is used to collect data during the hospital stay and at discharge.

Hospital Data Collected in AuSCR

- Identifying information
 - including date of birth, gender, address, telephone number, Medicare number, and next-of-kin contact details
- Clinical information
 - ICD 10 discharge codes
 - Ethnic status
 - date and time of arrival to emergency department
 - date admission to hospital
 - ability to walk independently on admission
 - previous stroke
 - date of discharge and discharge destination
- Process of care measures:
 - use of intravenous thrombolysis (tPA) for an ischaemic stroke
 - access to a stroke unit
 - discharge on an hypertensive agent
 - discharge with a care plan provided

Follow-up

- Patients will be followed up by AuSCR staff **three months** after admission to hospital.
- Patients will be asked to complete questions about their current health status including quality of life.
- Hospitals do not follow up their own patients for AuSCR.

Data Security & Confidentiality

- AuSCR uses the highest secure internet connection available (known as Secure Sockets Layer) to protect against the loss, misuse, and alteration of any information.
- Access to AuSCR is username and password protected.
- All information provided to AuSCR is strictly confidential.
- All information for research and reports generated from AuSCR provided members of the public will be de-identified.
- Only aggregated data are reported.

Participation Requirements

- All hospitals in Australia admitting patients with stroke are eligible and encouraged to participate.
- Hospitals must obtain ethics approval from their local Ethics Committee.
 - Requirements may vary i.e. low risk application.
- Participation Agreement to be signed between AuSCR and the hospital
- Contact the AuSCR office for further information or to enroll your hospital.

Quality Assurance

- AuSCR database has in-built logic checks in place
- Routine data queries to identify missing data and data discrepancies.
- Cross referencing with ICD10 codes to ensure capture of eligible cases
- Random medical records audit arranged with sites.

Benefits of using AuSCR in hospital

- Data export for adhoc reporting and analyses of hospital level data by clinicians.
- Access to local and national comparison data in pre-specified downloadable 'live' reports.
- Ability to request 3 months patient outcome data.
- AuSCR Office will provide a detailed annual report with verified data that is case mix adjusted

Partners & Supporters of AuSCR

- AuSCR is a multidisciplinary collaborative project of the following organisations:
 - National Stroke Research Institute (NSRI)
 - The George Institute for International Health (TGI)
 - National Stroke Foundation (NSF)
 - Stroke Society of Australasia (SSA)
- AuSCR is also supported by:
 - the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care
 - an unrestricted educational grant for establishment of the Registry from Allergan Australia

Governance of AuSCR

- The AuSCR governance structure includes representatives of all major stakeholders.
- The Steering Committee provides oversight and governance to the Management Committee.
- The Management Committee oversees the day to day running of AuSCR.
- The George Institute is the initial data custodian.
- Four specific task groups provide advice and recommendations to the Management and Steering Committees in the areas of:
 - Research
 - Clinical Practice
 - User Feedback and Improvement
 - Health Information and Policy

AuSCR Governance Structure

Steering Committee

Chair: *Prof Sandy Middleton*

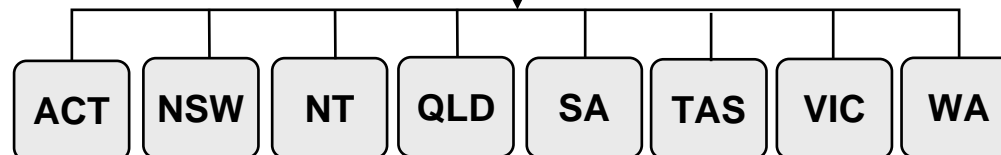
Representatives of Stakeholder Groups: **State Clinical Networks** and relevant professional colleges and associations (drawn from the ASC), Consumers, NSRI, TGI, NSF, SSA, AROC, Commercial Partners, Government



Management Committee

Chair: *Prof Craig Anderson*

Prof Geoff Donnan*
Dr Dominique Cadilhac
Dr Natasha Lannin
Assoc Prof Christopher Levi
Dr Steven Faux
Mr Chris Price



* Coordinating Institution: Pilot Project Director

Further Information

- Visit the AuSCR website:
<http://www.auscr.com.au>
- Contact the AuSCR office via:
 - Email: admin@auscr.com.au
 - Telephone: (02) 9993 4592