



ANZSCTS Database Newsletter Issue # 4 October 2016



Welcome

Welcome to the issue 4 of the Australian and New Zealand Society
of Cardiothoracic Surgeons (ANZSCTS) Database Program

Newsletter!

[ANZSCTS Database](#) will only achieve its aim of improving the quality of care of cardiac surgery patients with your support. Therefore it is important that the information we report on, is useful to you. We welcome your feedback and contributions to the newsletter.

Data Capture

ANZSCTS Database was established in 2001. To date, 31 hospitals performing cardiothoracic surgery contribute to the Program; [23 public and 8 private](#). The database holds over 100,000 patients, capturing over 300 variables on pre-, intra- and post-operative patient outcomes. The 2015 Annual Report will be distributed in the near future.

Web System v4



To improve capture of high quality data, ANZSCTS Database released version 4 of the [Web System](#) on September 1st. This upgrade includes new data definitions ([DDMv4](#)), a new [Clinical Records Form \(CRF\)](#), upgraded web reports, and ability to download data for periods of more than one month.



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IMPORTANT DATES

Data Deadlines

Q3 Nov 25, 2016
Q4 Feb 24, 2017
Q1 May 26, 2017
Q2 Aug 25, 2017

Research Committee

Meetings

Dec 5, 2016
Feb 27, 2017
May 29, 2017
Sep TBA, 2017

Steering Committee Meetings

Two web systems will run concurrently during migration. Existing data will be migrated into the new system, with the old system becoming obsolete on December 1st 2016.

WHICH ONE DO I USE?

Admission date <September 1st 2016 - old system

- Enter all procedures and follow up data using DDM v3
- Data will be migrated into the new system by December 1st, 2016

Admission date ≥September 1st 2016 – new system

- Enter all procedures and follow up data using DDM v4

Readmitted patients – new system

- Enter patient readmitted ≥ September 1st as a new patient, using DDM v4
- Data will be merged with earlier data, by December 1st 2016

Reporting

ANZSCTS Database primary focus is to provide informative feedback to hospitals relating to Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). We are interested in how our reports are disseminated and actioned within participating hospitals.

In early 2017, we will be asking stakeholders to participate in a survey relating to our reports. We hope to gain insight on how best to feedback registry data, and what KPIs are most relevant to

Dec 12, 2016
Mar 06, 2017
Jun 05, 2017
Sep TBA, 2017

NEXT ISSUE

April 2017

EDITORS

Dr Nupur Nag
Mr Noah Solman

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surgeons and health professionals, to improve quality of service.

Your participation and feedback will be greatly appreciated and reported to the Steering Committee for consideration.

Data Security

Several Data Managers and surgeons have emailed identifiable patient information. Email is an unencrypted form of communication that is highly susceptible to compromise. Many email servers are located overseas; thus the patient data is sent and stored in another country, breaching [schedule 1 of the Privacy Act 1988](#).

ANZSCTS Database policy for transferring identifiable information through [SFTP](#), must be followed. SFTP is a secure encrypted method of file transfer of data, in which files are accessible for 48 hours. A username and password may be requested from the ANZSCTS Database staff. When a file is placed in the SFTP folder, please notify the intended recipient so that the data may be accessed prior to its removal.

Dissemination of PIS

All patients must be given the Patient Information Sheet (PIS) as a condition of the project's HREC approval. This document provides information on the ANZSCTS Database Program, data security and use, and options for patient opt –out. Please ensure the patient receives the PIS prior to discharge.

In the unfortunate event that a patient passes away prior to receiving the PIS, the Next of Kin PIS must be provided to the patient's next of kin.

Electronic copies of PIS and NOKPIS are available by contacting ANZSCTS Database staff at anzscts.sphpm@monash.edu.

Suggested dissemination of PIS:

Elective patients:

- Pre-admission pack

Urgent, emergency and salvage patients:

- Discharge pack
- On the ward either pre- or post- surgery

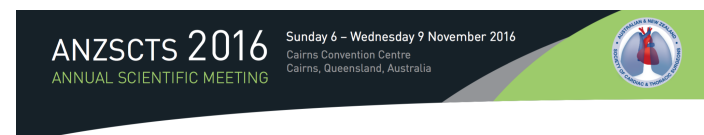
Avoid:

- Verbal explanations of the PIS
- Mailing the PIS after the patient has been discharged

Unit Personnel Change and/or Leave

If you know of any personnel changes and/or leave within your unit, whether it be the HOD or Data Manager, please inform ANZSCTS Database staff by email anzscts.sphpm@monash.edu, as soon as possible. This allows us time to foster good relationships with new staff, train them in the use of the Database, and provide a smooth transition to avoid any gaps in data collection.

ANZSCTS ASM



The [ANZSCTS ASM](#) will be held in Cairns Convention Centre from November 6th-9th. ANZSCTS Database will host a booth at the meeting, and also give a short presentation about the Program on Monday November 7th at 10:45am.

We hope to see you in Cairns!

Publications

To date, ANZSCTS Database has produced over 50 publications through collaborative research work. A complete list may be found at www.anzscts-database.org.

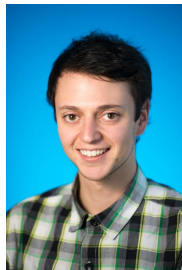
ANZSCTS Database Team

Congratulations!

ANZSCTS Database team would like to congratulate Dr Lavinia Tran on the arrival of Zachary Tran. Lavinia commenced maternity leave in July 2016; her role being filled by Dr Nupur Nag.

We would also like to congratulate Mrs Nicole Marrow on the arrival of Elijah Marrow. Nicole commenced maternity leave in August 2016; her role being filled by Ms Alisa Turbic.

New staff members!



[Noah Solman](#) completed his Bachelor of Bio-medicine, from RMIT. He has been a Research Assistant at Monash University for 3 years. His expertise is in clinical data management from data entry/cleaning stage to report writing come second to none. Noah joined ANZSCTS Database team as a Research Assistant in

February, 2016. He likes Battlestar Galactica and long walks on the beach.



Dr Nupur Nag completed her PhD in Anatomy and Neuroscience, from the University of Melbourne. She has over 15 years of international experience in research and development, teaching, project and data management, translational science, and communications. Nupur joined Monash University in 2014 as a Program Manager for the [Prostate Cancer Outcomes Registry - Australia and New Zealand \(PCOR-ANZ\)](#), and in June 2016 joined the ANZSCTS Database as Program Manager and Research Fellow. In her free time Nupur enjoys photography, blogging, exercising, and exploring the world.



Ms Alisa Turbic completed her Bachelor of Applied Science (Honours) degree from RMIT University. She has over 15 years of experience in scientific research, with expertise in examination of signalling mechanisms that may be exploited to promote repair of the nervous system. Alisa joined ANZSCTS Database team as a Research Assistant in October, 2016, bringing skills in project and data management, research support and communication. She enjoys travelling, mindfulness meditation, spending time on the beach and painting (acrylics).

Profiling Data Managers

Name: Mr Shane Scaysbrook

Unit: [John Hunter Hospital](#)

State: NSW

Sector: Public



Contributing since: 2008

How long have you been in your role?

I have been in the cardiac database manager role since 2009.

What did you do before you were a Data Manager?

I was an Endorsed Enrolled Nurse who worked solely on the ward. I was “headhunted” by the previous Data Manager for this role as I had previously covered the Vascular Surgery Database Manager role so she thought that I would do a good job with the ANZSCTS Database. Since then I've become a Registered Nurse and stepped up to the role of Clinical Nurse Specialist. I work half my shifts on the ward and half as Data Manager.

Most challenging aspect of data management?

Chasing missing data to finalise cases. Sometimes the forms aren't completely filled out, and sometimes not filled in not at all! So it is difficult to gather that information. Also there is no relief for my role when I go on leave, so it's hard to play catch up.

Most enjoyable aspect of data management?

Preparing monthly audits for the surgeons, and delving into the complications that occur.

My favourite thing to do on a day off is...

I love going for a relaxing coffee with my wife. I also enjoy watching my kids play soccer, my wife play soccer, and play soccer myself.

Pepsi or Coke ... or a cold pressed organic kale extraction?

Well, I'm a fence sitter! I like coke zero, but I also like pepsi max!

But I love a good caramel latte or a XXXX summer lager (a bit too much!)



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