

ANZSCTS Database Newsletter Issue # 7 April 2020



Welcome

Welcome to 2020, and the 7th issue of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Cardiothoracic Surgeons (ANZSCTS) Database Program newsletter!

We want to make this an informative, relevant, and useful brief summary of activities by ANZSCTS Database. If you have any feedback or wish to see anything in the next newsletter, please contact the ANZSCTS Database Team.

Data Capture

The ANZSCTS Database now contains information for over 150,000 cases, increasing at a rate of 14,000 cases per year. The Database is also officially bi-national, with Auckland City Hospital's contribution.



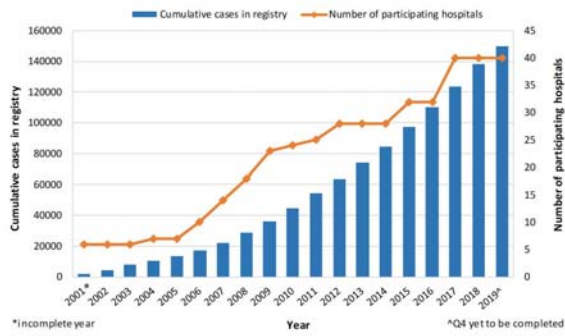
TABLE OF CONTENTS

- [Welcome](#)
- [Data Capture](#)
- [ANZSCTS Opt Off Process](#)
- [Data Manager](#)
- [Representatives - Q & A](#)
- [Data Collection Form Process](#)
- [Data Security](#)
- [Web System Functions](#)
- [Unit Personnel Change or Leave](#)
- [COVID-19](#)
- [ANZSCTS Database Team](#)

IMPORTANT DATES

Data Deadlines

Q1 May 15, 2020



We now have 41 hospitals participating in the Database. We are excited to announce further hospitals joining us in 2020 as we welcome Healthscope, Royal Hobart Hospital and St Vincent's Private Victoria to the registry, with further interest from many other private hospitals.

With each unit's inclusion the quality of our bench-marking process improves.

ANZSCTS Database Opt-off Process

There has been a recent change to our opt-off process for patients who would like their identifying data removed from the Database.

If the patient contacts the ANZSCTS Database team expressing they would like to be opted off prior to their 30 day follow-up being completed, the Data Manager at that hospital will now be informed via phone call and advised not to complete their 30 day follow up (unless it is otherwise standard hospital process).

If the patient opts-off after the 30 day follow-up, the ANZSCTS Database team will remove identifiers and not inform the Data Manager.

If Data Managers notice a patient missing identifiers, they are welcome to contact the ANZSCTS Database Team and confirm that the patient has decided to opt-off. Please do not re-enter the missing details.

Patients wishing to opt-off are still required to contact the ANZSCTS Database team on the 1800 number provided on the patient information sheet.

Data Manager Representatives - Q & A

The ANZSCTS Database Program Steering Committee is not only comprised of surgical and clinical representatives, but two Data

Q2 August 21, 2020
 Q3 November 20, 2020
 Q4 February 19, 2021

Research Committee Meetings

May 11, 2020
 August 10, 2020
 November 9, 2020
 February 8, 2021

Steering Committee Meetings

June 15, 2020
 September 14, 2020
 December 7, 2020
 March 15, 2021

NEXT ISSUE
 September 2020

EDITORS

Nicole Marrow
 Noah Solman
 Jenna McLaren
 Jenni Williams-Spence

Subscribe

Manager representatives.

In 2019 Michelle Cole (Peninsula Private, VIC) and Chris Bragg (St Vincent's Hospital, NSW) accepted these roles. Michelle submits her Hospital's data via web system, whereas Chris submits his data via a data export extracted from an in-hospital database, that is then uploaded into our Database.

Their role is to ensure that Data Managers have a voice on the Steering Committee, and raise any issues they (or other Data Managers) may be facing.

We asked Chris and Michelle some questions about their role.

How long have you been a Data Manager with ANZSCTS?

C: Only since Jan 2019, but I submitted on behalf of St Vincent's and the incumbent Data Manager a couple of times prior to that in 2018. At that point we were job sharing.

M: I have been a Data Manager with ANZSCTS since March 2018.

Why did you apply for the role as Data Manager Representative?

C: At the time I was Data Manager for the Intensive Care Unit and had been tasked with helping the Cardiothoracic Surgical Database at St Vincent's, so it was a logical progression.

M: In order to better understand the process and procedures of the Database. To be a contact point for all other Data Managers with any issues.

Do you have any tips as a Data Manager that, since implementing, have made your job easier?

C: Yes, many tips, but I'm not sure they have made my job easier. I have implemented many changes to increase the accuracy and completeness of our data for submission to ANZSCTS, but moreover for hospital research and assessment purposes. Sadly, this has made my workload greater!

M: To be organised. To be able to prioritise. To be efficient in data entry and have a good understanding of the procedures, and interpret from patients histories.

What is your favourite Disney movie?

C: There are so many.. I guess more recently 'Wall-E'

M: Mary Poppins

If you could do anything for a job (and money and degrees/training were not an issue), what would it be?

C: A creative writer

M: A coroner or forensic scientist

If you have any questions or concerns you would like raised at the Steering Committee, please feel free to contact us, or one of our Data Manager representatives.

Michelle Cole: ColeM@ramsayhealth.com.au

Chris Bragg: Christopher.Bragg@svha.org.au

Data Collection Form Process

When it comes to collecting and entering data there are many ways to do it and there is no perfect method. We recognise that all units are different and what may work at one unit may not work at another. To ensure accountability and accuracy of data the ANZSCTS Database has established some guidelines that can help inform your unit's data collection/entry process.

For a copy of our guidelines please contact the ANZSCTS Database

Data Security

Please be reminded of the sensitive nature of the data stored in the Database. As a Data Manager or surgeon, you have the ability to download identifiable information, which can be valuable for research or audits. Once the data has been removed from the Database, you have responsibility for the handling of the data and should ensure that you comply with the Privacy Act (1988), the Health Records Act (2010) and your own hospital's information dissemination policy.

Additionally, please note that a Data Manager or surgeon's username and password should not be shared for any reason. Sharing an account can compromise data quality and security for a variety of reasons. If you are sharing a single username and password, please let us know and we will organise separate logins and training in system use, if required.

If there is ever any doubt about who should have access to your unit's data, to the web system or what level of access they should have, please contact the ANZSCTS Database Team ASAP and we can give guidance on the matter. We're happy to discuss your hospital's specific access needs anytime.

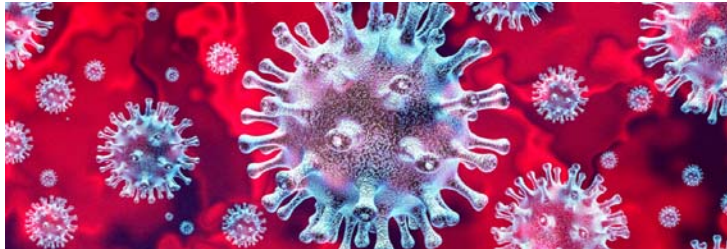
Web System Functions

As a reminder, Data Managers have the ability to run their own site or summary report, and comparative reports. Surgeons are also able to run their own reports, which can include data from all or some of the hospitals they operate at.

Some sites may not be able to access these due to contractual reasons. If this is the case and if this is something you would like, please have your HOD contact the ANZSCTS Database to discuss.

Unit Personnel Change or Leave

If you know of any personnel changes and/or leave within your unit, whether it be the HOD, Data Manager or CEO, 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. It also enables us to send reports and other important materials to the appropriate person(s).



COVID-19

With everything that is going on in the world at the moment we cannot help but mention the novel coronavirus. The ANZSCTS Database, along with our Steering Committee, are still in the process of understanding what impact our current situation will have on the Database, especially in the light of all elective surgery being postponed until further notice. Please keep us up to date on the impact COVID-19 is having on your unit's resources to help inform the Committee and assist them with making appropriate plans.

Monash University are supporting their employees to work from home where possible. In order to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and flatten the curve, all ANZSCTS Database staff are now working from home. Email is still the best way to reach the Database, however we are also still contactable on (03) 9903 0518.

ANZSCTS Database Team

The team in 2020

The ANZSCTS Database team has changed over the past few

years with the birth of a few ANZkids - we think we're funny - but we are excited to be a team of five again, with Nicole and Lavinia returning in 2019, and Jenna in 2020.

Who is who?

Dr Jenni Williams-Spence - Program manager

Dr Lavinia Tran - Program manager

Noah Solman - Program coordinator

Nicole Marrow - Program coordinator (M | Tu | W)

Jenna McLaren - Program coordinator (W | Th)

Noah, Nicole and Jenna coordinate the day to day activities of the Database and reporting, while Jenni and Lavinia manage the Database. Jenni is the primary contact for any research enquiries. Mark Lucas continues to aid our team, maintaining the ANZSCTS Database and helping us with any IT queries that arise.

The ANZSCTS Database team can be contacted on (+61 3) 9903 0518, or by anzscts.sphpm@monash.edu



MONASH University
School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine

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Our mailing address is:

Monash University · Level 4 553 St Kilda Road · Melbourne, Vic 3004 · Australia

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