



National Joint Registry

[www.njrcentre.org.uk](http://www.njrcentre.org.uk)

Working for patients, driving forward quality

# Improving your experience of joint replacement

A leaflet about how the National Joint Registry helps patients



## How does the NJR help patients?

The National Joint Registry for England, Wales and Northern Ireland (NJR) records details of joint replacement operations in order to monitor the results of joint replacement surgery and protect patient safety. We provide information and evidence to:

- Help surgeons choose the best artificial joints (implants) for patients
- Empower patients by helping them find out more about the implants available to them
- Improve patient safety by showing how well implants, surgeons and hospitals perform and take action where it is needed
- Give hospitals, surgeons and implant manufacturers feedback about their performance to help them improve patient care
- Help surgeons quickly decide whether patients need to return to hospital if implant problems are found

## What information is collected?

Your hospital will input specific details of your operation into the NJR such as the type of implant you received, which surgical technique was used, which side

of your body the implant went into as well as your age and gender.

The NJR asks all patients to give their permission (consent) to have their personal details confidentially recorded with their operation details – this allows the NJR to be more effective in its role.

You should be asked by your hospital if you would like to give your consent and be shown an **NJR patient consent form**

## Research

Operation and patient information in the NJR may be used for medical research. The purpose of this research is to improve our understanding and treatment of joint problems.

The majority of our research uses only anonymised information that means it is impossible to identify individuals. From time to time researchers may wish to gather further information. In these cases we would seek your approval prior to disclosing your contact details. You do not have to take part in any research study you are invited to take part in and saying no does not affect the care you receive.

Please be reassured that the storage, release and use of this data are subject to very strict controls.

You can find examples of how we use data for research at [www.njrcentre.org.uk](http://www.njrcentre.org.uk) as part of our Research library.

Giving your consent is voluntary but more **than 9 out of 10** patients agree to have their details added to the NJR

## NJR data and other healthcare information

Operation and patient information in the NJR is used to link to other healthcare information. It is also analysed and made available to surgeons, hospitals and manufacturers – without any of your personal details – as part of our feedback services.

Doing this improves the NJR's ability to monitor patient safety and patient outcomes. It also means that people and organisations involved in improving joint replacement surgery can better understand and develop improved or more cost-effective medical treatments.

Why not take a look at our newsletter Joint Approach or find out more about the NJR at [www.njrcentre.org.uk](http://www.njrcentre.org.uk)?

## What information does the NJR provide for patients?

The NJR publishes a Public and Patient Guide to its main Annual Report every year. The main Annual Report contains analysis of the information that the registry collects for example, results on how well different types of implants are performing.

The Public and Patient Guide aims to make that data more readable and practical for patients, carers, family and friends. You can find the latest copy of this patient guide on the NJR website as well as more information about the work of the NJR.



The NJR also provides information about surgeons and hospitals who carry out joint replacement surgery at [www.njrsurgeonhospitalprofile.org.uk](http://www.njrsurgeonhospitalprofile.org.uk)

## Who else can provide me with information about joint replacement?

Your healthcare team (GP, consultant surgeon, anaesthetist, nurse, physiotherapist, occupational therapist) will be able to answer questions about your individual care.

However, there are lots of organisations that provide general information to inform and support patients undergoing joint replacement surgery.

Here are a just few you might like to consider:

### Arthritis Care

[www.arthritiscare.org.uk/home](http://www.arthritiscare.org.uk/home)

### Arthritis Research UK

[www.arthritisresearchuk.org/arthritis-information](http://www.arthritisresearchuk.org/arthritis-information)

*Both charities are members of umbrella body the Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Alliance (ARMA).*

[www.arma.uk.net](http://www.arma.uk.net)

### NHS Choices

[www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)

### NHS Improvement Enhanced Recovery

<http://www.nhs.uk/improvement-programmes/acute-care/seven-day-services/enhanced-recovery>

## To find out more about the NJR:



Visit our website at **[www.njrcentre.org.uk](http://www.njrcentre.org.uk)**



Call the NJR helpline on **0845 345 9991**



Send an email to **[enquiries@njrcentre.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@njrcentre.org.uk)**



Write to: **NJR Centre, Peoplebuilding 2, Peoplebuilding Estate  
Maylands Avenue, Hemel Hempstead HP2 4NW**



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