



# National Hip Fracture Database (NHFD)

Information for patients



## **What is the National Hip Fracture Database?**

This hospital takes part in the National Hip Fracture Database (NHFD), which has been set up to improve the care of patients who have broken a hip.

The National Hip Fracture Database (NHFD) is looking at the care of people who break a hip bone. We are collecting data from hospital based services in order to see how effective services are at providing appropriate treatment to patients across England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Hip fracture is a common injury, and caring for patients with hip fracture is an important part of the work of the NHS. We want to understand more about the care people with broken bones receive to help make services better.

Information gathered about care in hospital and about recovery afterwards enables us to measure the quality of that care and helps us to improve the services provided.

## **What do we collect?**

The National Hip Fracture Database uses care and treatment information throughout England, Wales and Northern Ireland to look at the quality of care that hospitals provide. The information collected will help to:

- Identify differences in quality of care and provision of services throughout England, Wales and Northern Ireland.
- Make recommendations to healthcare providers on the provision of services and best practice
- Identify if hospitals are following national and professional guidelines.

In order to monitor standards of care, the audit collects the following personal data items: NHS number, name, date of birth and postcode. An NHS number is a unique number which allows us to track the care a particular patient receives and link their data to other national datasets, which provide further information about their care and outcomes of care.

Information about your care that we will collect includes:

The type of fracture you have – which part of your hip you have broken

Your surgery – the type of operation you had and when you had it

How long you stay in hospital for

The type of place you were living before you broke your hip and whether you went back to the same place

Whether you have been prescribed any bone protection medication, and what type

Whether you have had any assessments or treatments to prevent future falls.



## **Keeping your information safe**

It is really important that we take good care of your information. It will be held safely by Crown Informatics, which follows best practice in data protection and security.<sup>1</sup> It will be held for the duration of the audit. Should the audit come to an end, it will be held for a further 5 years after that. Staff at Crown Informatics will only see personal details for database administration and have to follow strict confidentiality rules. Data will be supplied to the Royal College of Surgeons for analysis but this will be done so that no individual patient can be identified. Reports produced by the audit will not contain NHS numbers or any other information that could be used to identify anyone.

We sometimes get requests from hospitals, universities and other organisations who want to carry out research using the data that we collect. We always ensure that researchers that we agree to share data with have approval from the National Research Ethics Service and we will never release information that could be used to identify you as an individual.

## **What to do if you do not want to take part?**

If you do not want your information to be used then please tell the people who are treating you. Your doctor or nurse will be able to note that you do not want to participate and your data will not be used. Not taking part in the audit this will not affect your treatment in any way.

## **What is the project about?**

Hip fracture is a common injury, and caring for patients with hip fracture is an important part of the work of the NHS. This hospital takes part in the National Hip Fracture Database (NHFD), which has been set up to improve the care of patients who have broken a hip.


Information gathered about care in hospital and about recovery afterwards enables us to measure the quality of that care and helps us to improve the services we provide.

NHFD national reports show how different areas compare which helps to improve standards of care both locally and nationally. This is why the information about your care and treatment is so important, and will be collected during your hospital stay.

## **What is clinical audit?**

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<sup>1</sup> The data collected are subject to strict rules about confidentiality including those of the Data Protection Act



A clinical audit is an excellent way of improving patient care. Audits monitor the standard of care received by patients and record information on treatment. The National Hip Fracture Database is a national clinical audit which measures trust performance against national and professional standards and plans to provide regular feedback to health professionals. This information enables individual trusts to review their performance against national standards and focus on areas where they can make improvements to patient care.

## **Who runs the National Hip Fracture Database?**

The National Hip Fracture Database is managed by the Royal College of Physicians on behalf of the Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership as part of the Falls & Fragility Fracture Audit Programme. This is a multidisciplinary national clinical audit which is being carried out in partnership with a number of organisations

- Royal College of Surgeons
- British Orthopaedic Association
- British Geriatrics Society

## **Need to know more?**

[www.nhfd.co.uk](http://www.nhfd.co.uk)

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If you would like more information about the National Hip Fracture Database or would like to see copies of the audit reports, please contact us or visit our website.

## **Falls and Fragility Fracture Audit Programme**

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