



Australian Government
Department of Health and Ageing

National Joint Replacement Registry – increased data collection

Why is this important?

- The National Joint Replacement Registry (NJRR) provides the best available evidence about the effectiveness of joint replacement operations in the Australian clinical setting.
- Surgeons will be able to make better clinical choices for joint replacements using data from the NJRR. This improves the quality of care and reduces the risk of people being readmitted into hospital in order to have their joint replacement surgery redone.
- In addition to collecting data on hips and knees, the NJRR will be expanded to collect data on wrists, ankles, shoulders and spinal discs.

Who will benefit?

- Up to 70,000 people are expected to have joint replacement surgery in 2007-08. Patients receiving replacement wrists, ankles, shoulders and spinal discs will benefit from better information about the most appropriate prosthesis and best surgical procedures to use. This will also result in reduced costs to the health system.

What funding is the Government committing to the initiative?

- The Government has committed additional funding of \$0.8 million over four years for the expansion of the NJRR.

What have we done in the past?

- The Government has funded the NJRR since 1998. Its base funding is \$5.3 million over four years.

When will the initiative conclude?

- Funding for this initiative is ongoing.