

Trauma programme contract extension

Te Tāhū Hauora Health Quality & Safety Commission (Te Tāhū Hauora) is continuing its work in supporting the quality improvement, research and analytics programme of the National Clinical Network. The Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC) will continue funding at previous levels until 30 June 2025 and is keen to remain a partner of the programme. Work will focus on spreading priority improvements from the traumatic brain injury (TBI) and rehabilitation collaboratives to support national consistency, exploring the opportunities for continuous improvement in rehabilitation, management of chest and complex extremity injuries as well as the initiation of a major trauma research programme for the 2024 academic year.

Publications

The article, 'The New Zealand National Trauma Registry: an essential tool for trauma quality improvement', has been published online in the *European Journal of Trauma and Emergency Surgery*. The article describes the history, function, challenges and future goals of the New Zealand National Trauma Registry. Click [here](#) to read the article.

Auckland City Hospital has published its annual trauma report, which can be found [here](#).

International Trauma Nursing Survey

The Society of Trauma Nurses (STN) International Committee is conducting an International Trauma Nursing Survey to gather valuable insights and perspectives from trauma nurses worldwide to help identify areas where further development

and support are needed. The findings will be shared with the international trauma nursing community, facilitating knowledge exchange and fostering evidence-based practices.

Click [here](#) to complete the survey, which takes approximately 10 minutes to complete. Submit your responses by **30 September 2023**.

Upcoming conferences

- [World Trauma Symposium](#): 19 September 2023, New Orleans
- [Australian Road Safety Conference](#): 19–21 September 2023, Queensland
- [Trauma 2023 Conference](#): 12–15 October 2023, Melbourne
- [THUNDER blood and resuscitation conference](#): 31 October–3 November 2023, Perth
- [International Trauma Conference](#): 2–5 November 2023, Houston, Texas
- [4th Global Conference on Emergency Nursing and Trauma Care](#): 9–11 November 2023, Gothenburg, Sweden
- [National Trauma Symposium](#): 14 November 2023, Wellington
- [International Conference on Traumatic Brain Injury](#): 2–3 December 2023, Sydney
- [SWAN Trauma, Critical Care and Emergency Surgery Conference](#): 29 February–2 March 2024, Sydney

Trauma Nurses and Allied Health Day

An in-person Trauma Nurses and Allied Health Day is scheduled to be held in Wellington on Wednesday 15 November 2023. This is the day immediately after the National Trauma Symposium. Click [here](#) to register. Registration closes on Friday 29 September.

Severe traumatic brain injury project

Work has continued towards achieving the two key goals in the TBI workstream of improving access to neuroscience centres and accurate assessment of major trauma patients for the presence of brain injury.

The severe traumatic brain injury (sTBI) action plans have been agreed upon for each region and are being implemented. Stakeholder engagement is under way via email and virtual site meetings with key services in each region. The associated audit tool has been rolled out to trauma nurses to highlight cases where patients are not transferred per the new acute pathway. Feedback on putting the action plan and audit tool into practice is welcome.

Phase 2 of the sTBI rehabilitation national collaborative ended in June, with a total of nine teams taking part in the work across both phases. The initiatives and resources developed through this project will be collated and shared nationally to improve management of TBI within those services who were unable to participate.

Rehabilitation

On 10 August 2023, Kat Quick had the exciting opportunity to present virtually on the survivorship panel at the World Trauma Congress to discuss the background of the rehabilitation work programme, key successes from the national collaborative and the future opportunities for improvement that will be a focus for the next few years.

The final two **collaborative projects** from Te Whatu Ora Nelson Marlborough and Te Whatu Ora Southern have been published on the Te Tāhū Hauora website. The Southern team used a te ao Māori approach to improve the provision of care for Māori trauma patients in the region, while the team from Nelson Marlborough looked at ways to streamline the discharge process. More information on these case studies can be found [here](#).

One-year **focus groups** have been completed with the project leads from the rehabilitation collaborative to establish whether service improvements have been sustained and quality improvement expertise has been maintained. Thematic analysis is under way, and results will be published in the coming months. Further promoting the wonderful outcomes from the rehabilitation collaborative, a poster was displayed to showcase this work at the National Allied Health Conference in Perth between 7 and 9 August.

The **regional allied health representatives'** group meets bimonthly and aims to share service improvement successes, provide clinical peer support and develop the integration of allied health further with trauma teams.

Thank you to all the trauma nurse coordinators who provided feedback on the draft early cover form. The **transitions of care working group** with ACC is using this information to focus improvements on client transition processes and recovery stream allocation and management for major trauma patients.

Quality improvement facilitator training programme

Te Tāhū Hauora is preparing a second cohort of quality improvement facilitator training beginning in February 2024. This programme aims to build the confidence and capability of trauma nurses, allied health professionals or physicians when applying quality improvement in trauma care. Participants will receive support to complete a quality improvement project of relevance to the local or regional trauma team and contribute improvements to the consistency of care across Aotearoa New Zealand. More information, including an information sheet and application form, will be circulated in the coming month.