

Communiqué

January 2022

Highlights

In this edition:

- NTN Strategic Plan 2023-27
- National Trauma Symposium 2021
- Critical haemorrhage site surveys
- Serious traumatic brain injury project
- Rehabilitation collaborative

NTN Strategic Plan 2023-27

We are over three years in a five-year business case, and planning has started with the strategic plan for 2023-27. This plan is important to articulate what the sector prioritises as the most important aspects to focus on and to inform investment decisions.

The draft plan has been consulted broadly across the sector, including the Transition Unit of Health NZ, and is currently being reviewed by the Governance Group. A finalised plan is expected early 2023.

National Trauma Symposium 2021

After two deferrals due to Covid, the NTS went virtual in early December with over 300 delegates. The four sessions had a focus on traumatic brain and spinal injury, trauma systems and quality improvement, and rehabilitation.

Five international speakers from Norway, the United States, Scotland and Australia gave us an excellent insight into international advances in trauma care, and three local invited speakers spoke on progress in New Zealand. It was exciting to see the calibre of the 14 selected free papers talk on the innovations happening in hospitals around New Zealand.

Our international speakers



Belinda Gabbe



Daniel Holena



Kathleen D Martin



Lisa Robinson



Kjetil Søreide



Critical haemorrhage

A site survey is being conducted on how the national best practice critical bleeding bundle of care has been used in practice and what changes have been made to services to manage the care of critically haemorrhaging trauma patient. The results will be used to identify the areas that might benefit from additional support from the National Trauma Network and the Health Quality & Safety Commission to implement quality improvement and evidence-based change.



Serious Traumatic Brain Injury project

Health Quality & Safety Commission is working with stakeholders to scope opportunities for improvement in management of care for serious Traumatic Brain Injury (sTBI). Two workstreams have been identified to focus on Pre-hospital to acute care and Acute care through to community rehabilitation.

The population we are trying to support improvements in care for are those that experience the most variation in care across New Zealand. We are working with TBI Network, ABI, ACC and various DHB teams who are exploring local improvements for assessing and managing TBI. We are working towards a concrete work plan that the expert advisory groups can support in the New Year.



Rehabilitation Collaborative

A mihi to everyone who took part in the third learning session on 19th October. Teams across the country shared their project progress, measures dashboard, baseline data and ongoing data collection in form of run charts, the summary of PDSA cycles and their outcomes. Several projects are showing real potential for making a big difference to patients and Whānau. We look forward to sharing more of these in the future.

Special thanks to Sean Gray, CEO of Peke Waihanga - Artificial Limb Service, who shared their work on developing initiatives to improve client outcomes and sustaining positive change.

Read more about the rehab collaborative programme [here](#).

AIS coding

The article 'Accuracy of coding in a trauma registry' was published in Trauma following the audit of AIS coding in six New Zealand hospitals.

A new format for the regular AIS coding exercises was trailed and involved sharing real cases with coders, followed by a collaborative discussion on the correct codes and some of the reason why other codes are not correct. Feedback on the new format was positive as it was need as more collegial and less punitive, and the discussion was valued. This approach will be adopted in the future.

A refresher was held virtually in December with 8 participants.

A full AIS course is planned early 2022.

*Have a story to share, or a colleague to celebrate? **Contact us***