

Communiqué

May 2022



Highlights

In this edition:

- Annual report and strategic plan
- SORTED
- Severe Traumatic Brain Injury Project
- Māori Experiences of Major Trauma
- Patient Reported Outcome Measures

Annual Report

We are delighted to share with you the National trauma Network's 2020-2021 annual report. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the report and your continued work.

Report available [online now](#).

Strategic Plan 2023/27

The current business case will be completed by 30 June 2023. Excellent progress has been made to reducing mortality, improving the outcomes for those that survive, and cost effectiveness for the health system. We are now looking to the next five years and following stakeholder engagement the Strategic Plan for 2023-27 has been finalised. The plan is available [here](#).

Māori experiences of Major Trauma Care and Rehabilitation

The Māori experiences of Major Trauma Care and Rehabilitation report has been published which also includes recommendations and subsequent actions. Report available [online now](#). Also published a summary of the project and key resources that can support teams to begin actions around relationship building, whakawhānaungatanga between patients, clinical teams and whānau.

Next steps are to engage with various groups across the country to support improving the experiences of whānau Māori in trauma rehabilitation.

New Quality Improvement Advisor: Katrina Hutching

We are delighted to welcome Katrina Hutching to the team, she will be supporting the Commission's quality improvement workstream while Jessica Lockett is away on her maternity leave.

Katrina is a registered nurse and been a clinical nurse advisor in Paediatric ICU at Starship Children's hospital and has taken step towards health leadership focussing on patient safety and quality. She has experience with air ambulance retrievals and knows the interhospital transfer system well.

Katrina can be contacted by email at Katrina.Hutching@hqsc.govt.nz



Severe Traumatic Brain Injury project

The sTBI working group had identified two key goals in the first phase of project.

- All patients with a potentially survivable sTBI should be managed within a neuroscience center.
- All patients admitted to hospital following trauma should undergo an assessment for the presence of TBI.

Number of guidelines have been discussed with neurosurgeons, neuro intensivists, trauma surgeons and senior hospital managers within the major neuroscience centres in all four regions of New Zealand. We are heading out to our large regional centres to discuss observed variation in outcomes and glean perspectives on the proposed guidelines. All so we can facilitate national adoption of guideline over the coming year.

Also, conducted a survey of national trauma nurse coordinators to define current status of post traumatic amnesia assessments throughout the country. We are receiving expressions of interest from OTs throughout the country to act as local project liaisons.

SORTED

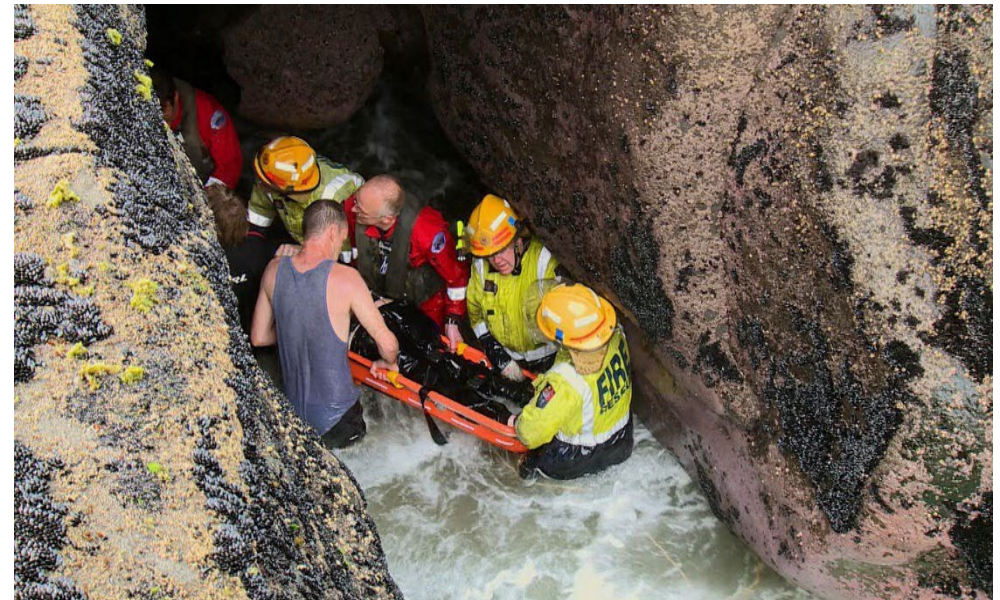
The Study of Road Trauma Evidence and Data (SORTED) has been finalised for two years data 2017/18 - 2018/19. This will shortly be released on the Ministry of Transport website. The summary results show: Approximately 44,000 people are injured on NZ roads each year. Nearly half (46%) are taken to hospital, and of these 11,400 are admitted with moderate injury and 1,000 with major trauma. The highest rates of moderate and serious road injury are observed in the 16-34 age group and males, Māori, and those who live in the more economically deprived areas.

Variation in injury rates between regions is also observed. Those who live rurally are more likely to be injured by car or motorcycle than urban counterparts. Police investigated less than half hospitalized cycle (19%) and motorcycle (38%) injuries. Each year 17.5% of people injured will have repeat road trauma within the next 24-months, and the direct health costs total \$1.03 billion. Geospatial mapping is done on police and ambulance data.

Patient Reported Outcome Measures

The Patient Reported Outcomes work is progressing well with 89% (870 people) participation rates for the 6-month interviews, and very low withdrawal rates. Of the 89%, 13% (115 people) identified as Māori. 93% (608 people) of 12-month interviews are completed out of which 12% (75 people) identified as Māori.

We are looking forward to the results over the next 12 months to understand the cohort of patients whose functional return declines post-injury and any variation in outcomes across the country. The interviews give patients in the three participating regions (Northern, Central and South Island) the opportunity to share their journey and contribute to shaping the future trauma system that achieves optimal outcomes.



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