

Communiqué

September 2021



Photo: NetworkZ training simulation

Highlights

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Welcome to Dr David Knight



Dr David Knight is an Intensive Care Specialist from Christchurch. He completed his ICU training in 2006 with an extended clinical and research period at one of the largest trauma hospitals in the UK. During his specialist career he has developed an interest in neurocritical care, education and development of robust multispecialty collaboration. He has a passion for sustainable improvement and ensuring that our critical care systems can deliver when faced with even the greatest challenges. He is relishing the opportunity to work on a national collaborative tasked with identifying and delivering tangible benefits to patients suffering from brain injury throughout New Zealand.

David is always keen to listen and understand the real reasons behind an opinion. He is particularly receptive if you are paddling next to him in a racing kayak.

Traumatic Brain Injury project commences

We are excited to announce the launch of our new quality improvement project focussing on TBI. Until September 10, we will be seeking expressions of interest for members of an Expert Advisory Group. Your participation will ensure TBIs identified rapidly, managed by the right team in the right facility and have seamless transitions into appropriate rehabilitation....**read more** (link to website EOI package)

Starship paediatric trauma education

The annual Starship Trauma Evening was held in July with over 160 attendees in person and a further estimated 170 virtually. Topics ranges from long term outcomes of trauma in children, dog bites, predictors of childhood injury, pain management, and burns. The presentations are recorded and are available through the www.majortrauma.nz website.

Covidagain!

The latest outbreak has impacted several trauma events. The National Trauma Symposium, the Trauma Nurses Day, and the Reference Group meetings have been deferred to December.



Key dates

- 8 December (morning) Reference Group
- 8 December (afternoon) TNCs
- 9 December National Trauma Symposium

[See more upcoming conferences and training](#)

Patient Reported Outcome Measures

The Patient Reported Outcomes work is progressing well with 83% participation rates for the 6-month interviews, and very low withdrawal rates for the 12 month interviews which have recently started. We are looking forward to the results over the next 2 – 3 years to understand the cohort of patients whose functional return declines post-injury and any variation in outcomes across the country. This is an important component of the national system of care as it provides more granularity to outcomes post-injury. 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.

Rehab collaborative learning session two – July 2021

A mihi to everyone who took part in the second learning session! Teams across Aotearoa shared how their projects were progressing, problem analysis, challenges, and the early stages of data collection. Projects are focused on improving care and recovery for trauma patients. Special thanks to Dr Melanie Cheung, from [Te Puna Ora o Mataatua](#) for sharing her teams work. Read more about the rehab collaborative programme [here](#).



Trauma Networkz programme

This courses are progressing apace with approximately 30% completed. The feedback on this high-fidelity simulation course is excellent and in most cases is resulting to changes to processes and communication in the Emergency Departments.



National Trauma Registry and NMDS

The new national registry continues to work well. The five years historical data has been migrated in and is available for the key performance measures. The data extract function means DHBs can export their own data easily.

There has been a slight amendment to clarify the exclusion criteria for elderly. View the NMDS at www.majortrauma.nz for more detail.

Injury on NZ roads

Ian and Siobhan had the opportunity to meet with Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister for Transport, in August. We spoke about the goals of the Network to reduce deaths, improve the outcomes for those that survive, and system efficiencies. He shared our concern about the changing patterns of road trauma, particularly for vulnerable road users such as pedestrians and cyclists. He also indicated his support for the Study of Road Trauma Evidence and Data (SORTED) which is currently underway and provides a more comprehensive view of road trauma than we currently have.

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