

# Communiqué

April 2020



After nearly five weeks of lockdown we trust you and your whānau are safe and well. For those of you who have been redeployed, we hope you are back to your trauma positions as while caseload has decreased, trauma patients need our care and support more than ever.

This communiqué highlights the work which has been going on in the background for to continue our collective efforts to achieve a contemporary trauma system in New Zealand.

## New registry

July 1<sup>st</sup> marks the date where we will be shifting over to the new Trauma Registry. This will be a simplified registry hosted by Dendrite, a UK company managing over 175 registries and clinical systems including the NZ Breast Cancer Foundation registry and the National Cardiac register. While data entry in the new registry is mostly intuitive, like any computer program it is better to be given instruction on how to use it rather than the less efficient trial and error approach. We have planned a training session in late June and the format for this will wait until developments in the COVID-19 response plan. If a face to face meeting is not possible, a webinar training will be arranged.

## Long-term trauma patient reported outcomes

This initiative involves interviewing trauma patients (or their proxy) at 6, 12 and 24 months post injury and is an important aspect to our

understanding of the long-term outcomes of trauma patients after injury. It is based on the work started in Victoria which has shown variability in outcomes for different injuries and levels of support. We aim to interview people who were injured 1 July 2020 onwards, under the leadership of Prof Belinda Gabbe who was instrumental in setting up the Victorian work. We will provide further information on this important initiative in due course.

## Latest in trauma research

- Variation in volumes and characteristics of trauma during COVID-19. [Read here](#)
- Survey of major trauma centre preparedness for mass casualty incidents in Australia, Canada, England and New Zealand. [Read here](#)

## Quality improvement (QI) programme

In view of COVID-19 and consequential demands on our health system and trauma teams, the Commission and Network have decided to defer several activities in the QI workstream for the upcoming months. This includes wider external engagement and the trauma quality improvement facilitator (QIF) course. In the meantime we will continue to progress what we can and we will be in touch with you all to update you on progress and engage/consult as soon as we are able

## Trauma rehabilitation project

The Commission and the Network are excited to welcome onboard Kathryn Quick as the lead for the rehabilitation project, supporting scoping this project over the next 6 months.

Kat is a physiotherapist with over 16 years of experience in rehabilitation both within New Zealand and in the NHS. She has a special interest in rehabilitation following major trauma, neurosurgery and traumatic brain injury. Kat's clinical experience ranges across the patient pathway from acute into community settings. She is passionate about providing the highest standards of patient centred care and optimising outcomes for our patients.

Kathryn's initial work on trauma rehabilitation will be focussed on understanding what is currently done, the variation in rehabilitation across the country, and the issues and opportunities. Collaboration with a wide range of clinicians, patients, providers will be key to developing a nationally consistent view of trauma.

Kat can be contacted by email on: [kat.quick@majortrauma.nz](mailto:kat.quick@majortrauma.nz)

