

# FEBRUARY 2023

## COMMUNIQUE

### AUSTRALASIAN PELVIC FLOOR PROCEDURE REGISTRY

#### PURPOSE

The APFPR aims to identify and report on trends and complications associated with Pelvic Floor Procedures, specifically Stress Urinary Incontinence and Pelvic Organ Prolapse, and to identify best surgical practice and optimal patient health outcomes. This knowledge will come from analysing high-quality data, over time, covering thousands of surgical procedures.

#### PATIENT RECRUITMENT

Total patients recruited= 304\*  
(Private & Public)



\*As at 2/2/2023

#### PUBLIC REPORT 2022



In December 2022 we published our first **Public Report**. The report details the APFPR's progress since its creation in mid 2019. It includes a summary of establishment activities, up-to-date analysis of trends in clinical practice, and our first patient and procedure data.

The report is available on our publications' page on the website [apfpr.org.au](http://apfpr.org.au)

#### PROCEDURES CAPTURED

The following list shows the procedures that we capture outcomes for. We also capture whether other procedures were performed at the same time, for risk adjustment purposes only. We do not capture outcomes for them.

##### Stress Urinary Incontinence Procedures

- Stress Urinary Incontinence
- Mid urethral Sling (synthetic mesh)
- Peri-urethral Bulking agent
- Bulking agent removal
- SUI mesh revision/explantation

##### Pelvic Organ Prolapse Procedures

- Sacrocolpopexy with mesh
- Sacrohysteropexy with mesh
- Anterior repair with mesh
- Posterior repair with mesh
- POP mesh revision/explantation

#### Consumer Update

The APFPR continues to focus on deepening consumer engagement.

##### Consumer Information Sessions

Our first consumer information session was held in July 2022. It generated many questions, which are published in the **Frequently Asked Questions** on our website. Questions ranged from 'how to find a credentialed surgeon', to 'what to expect before and after an operation'. Our second consumer information session was held in December 2022. We heard from our lead Clinicians, Chairperson and operations team. They provided an update on the APFPR's progress to date. Clinicians also discussed a set of questions to ask a patient's prospective surgeon, to further understand what pelvic floor procedures entail. Both presentations are available on the website, in the Publications section.

Our consumer information sessions are advertised at least a month in advance on our website, and Twitter. We also send email alerts to consumers who have provided us their contact details. Please email us if you wish to be on our mailing list.

##### Recruitment of Lived Experience Consumer Representative

In December we interviewed a number of high calibre candidates for the role of consumer representative with lived experience. The selection panel has made a recommendation to the Steering Committee about the appointment. Watch this space for an upcoming announcement! We would like to thank Pip Brennan our serving Consumer Representative (who is a systemic health advocate) for working solo for the past few months: we deeply appreciate her efforts.

##### Consumer Reference Group Meeting

In December 2022 we also held a meeting with a group of lived experience consumers, which we refer to as a Consumer Reference Group, specifically to gauge broad feedback on the outcomes captured by the APFPR. Outcomes for Pelvic Floor Procedures include whether the patient has seen an improvement in their urinary incontinence, as an example. Terms of Reference were developed to guide the group which comprised women from all over Australia and New Zealand who have lived experience of a Pelvic Floor Procedure. We will communicate the next steps in due course.

## SITE ENGAGEMENT

Participation in registries is voluntary. The APFPR seeks expressions of interest from eligible sites and invites them to participate. We refer to this as 'recruiting'. The APFPR has recruited a total of 32 sites (as at 20th January 2023), with a further 50 potential eligible sites identified for the future.



### Approved Hospitals



#### Victoria

Mercy Hospital for Women  
St John of God Geelong Hospital  
St John of God Bendigo Hospital  
Epworth HealthCare Richmond  
Epworth HealthCare Freemasons  
Epworth HealthCare Geelong  
Epworth HealthCare Eastern  
St Vincent's Private Hospital Melbourne  
Monash Health  
Cabrini Health  
Bendigo Health  
Western Health  
Waverley Private Hospital

#### Queensland

Gold Coast University Hospital  
Robina Hospital  
Varsity Lakes Day Hospital  
Sunshine Coast University Hospital  
Buderim Private Hospital

#### New South Wales

St George Hospital  
St George Private Hospital  
Westmead Hospital  
Westmead Private Hospital  
Nepean Hospital

#### South Australia

Royal Adelaide Hospital  
The Queen Elizabeth Hospital  
Flinders Medical Centre  
Calvary North Adelaide Hospital

#### ACT

Canberra Public Hospital  
Calvary John James Hospital  
Canberra Private Hospital

#### Tasmania

Royal Hobart Hospital

#### Western Australia

Hollywood Private Hospital

## COLLEGE & SOCIETIES NEWS

### College and Society Meetings

Part of our engagement strategy with participating surgeons, is to keep in touch with our relevant Medical Colleges and Societies. We held progress meetings with:

#### The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG)

We would like to thank Dr Benjamin Bopp (President), Vase Jovanoska (CEO), Associate Professor Emmanuel Karantanis (APFPR Urogynaecology representative) and Dr Oliver Daly (APFPR Clinical Data Lead) for their engagement.

#### Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS)

In December the APFPR had approval from the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) to provide CPD (Continuing Professional Development) points for active RACS members. The College is committed to excellence in clinical care and all surgeons are expected to be involved in regular surgical audit, peer review and quality assurance activities, such as the APFPR. One hour of participation will amount to one CPD point. The APFPR will provide the information to RACS directly and notify surgeons on their CPD balance achieved through APFPR participation. To initiate this, clinicians are invited to contact us on [apfpr@monash.edu](mailto:apfpr@monash.edu). We would like to thank our colleagues at RACS for their efforts to make this happen.

#### The Urological Society of Australia and New Zealand (USANZ)

We would like to thank Associate Professor Prem Rashid (President), CEO Michael Nugara, Dr Eva Fong, and the APFPR Urology Lead Professor Helen O'Connell for their engagement.

## ANNOUNCING SITE VISIT PROGRAM

Site visits involve an in person visit by a highly qualified APFPR team member to participating hospitals. We show sites how to enter details in the database, show the collection tools and answer any questions. In December 2022 we conducted our first site visit to the St John of God Bendigo, in Regional Victoria. We would like to thank them for their time and attention given to us. We are currently developing our 2023 Site Visit Program. Any participating sites who would like a visit may email us at [apfpr@monash.edu](mailto:apfpr@monash.edu)

## COMING UP

- In 2023 we are working hard to meet the 1,000 patient milestone. This is usually an important milestone for any registry, and will mark our transition to a consolidated development phase
- February 2023 - Appointment of second Consumer Representative (Lived Experience)
- February 2023 - Professor Helen O'Connell (APFPR Urology Lead) will formally take over the reigns as President of the Urological Society of Australia and New Zealand (USANZ)
- March 2023 - Steering Committee Meeting

We would like to acknowledge the efforts of **Professor Stephen Graves**, who has stepped down from the APFPR Steering Committee. Professor Graves assisted in his capacity as a Device Registry Representative and was instrumental in providing advice when the Registry was being set up. We wish him all the best and offer our sincere thanks.

## PROMS

The APFPR adopts a **systematic approach** to developing and managing Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs). PROMs capture a person's perception of their own health through questionnaires. They enable patients to report on their quality of life, daily functioning, symptoms, and other aspects of their health and well-being, in accordance with recommendations from the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care.

### PROMs Pilot Project

In mid 2022, the APFPR commenced collection of patient-reported outcome measures (PROMs) via the Australian Pelvic Floor Questionnaire for patients having both SUI and POP procedures pre-operatively and at 6 months after surgery. The aim of the pilot is to determine the most effective and efficient methods of PROMs collection (via email, mail, mobile phone or in-clinic). The results of the pilot will be evaluated in April - May, as well as development of a plan of reporting PROMs to sites, clinicians and in the APFPR reports.

### CONTACT US

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