

DECEMBER 2024, ISSUE #11

COMMUNIQUE

AUSTRALASIAN PELVIC FLOOR PROCEDURE REGISTRY (APFPR)

PURPOSE

The APFPR aims to identify and report on trends and outcomes associated with Pelvic Floor Procedures (PFPs) which treat Stress Urinary Incontinence (SUI) and Pelvic Organ Prolapse (POP), and to identify *best surgical practice* and *optimal patient health outcomes*. This knowledge will come from analysing high-quality data, over time, relating to thousands of surgical procedures.

2024 HEALTH SERVICE AWARD WINNERS

Launched in 2023, the APFPR Health Service Awards aim to recognise the essential contribution of clinicians and administrative staff to the improvement of patient care through participation in the APFPR. Three award categories are recognised in 2024, and it is with great pleasure that we announce the award winners which reflect participation over the last financial year:



Best Clinical Data: Calvary North Adelaide Hospital (SA)

Recognition of the greatest number of new *surgeries* entered into the APFPR between 1 July 2023 and 30 June 2024.



Best Site Contributor: Epworth Freemasons (VIC)

Recognition of the greatest number of *patients* registered in the APFPR at an individual site, between 1 July 2023 and 30 June 2024.



New Site Contributor: Frances Perry House (VIC)

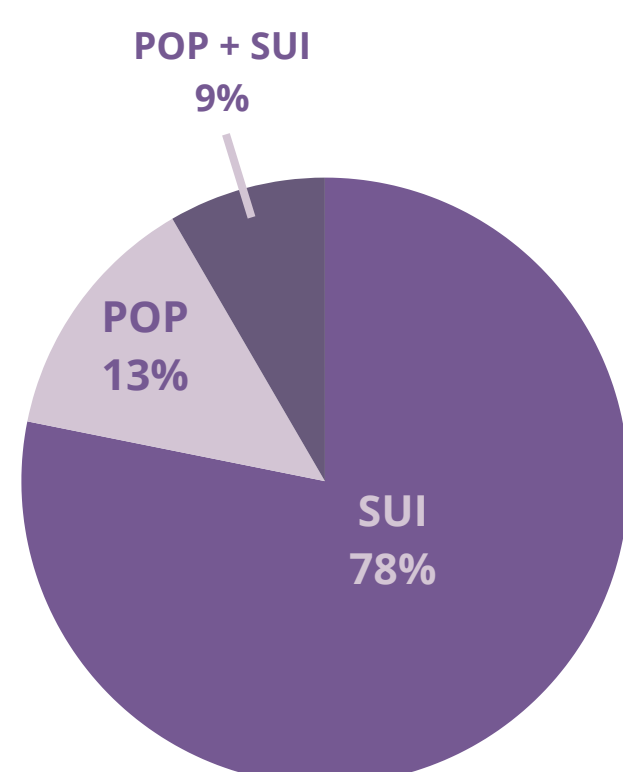
Recognition of the greatest number of patients registered in the APFPR *within 3-months* of site ethics and governance approval.

The APFPR is liaising with the winning health services regarding the presentation of their awards.

We recognise the efforts that go into participation in quality assurance activities such as the APFPR, and the challenges all health services face with resource limitations. We would like to extend a huge **thank you to all contributing sites** for your ongoing support and contributions to the registry.

DATA SNAPSHOT

As of 19th November 2024, the database has recorded a total of **1,181** pelvic floor procedures, reflecting the extensive efforts of our contributing sites. Among these, 78% are procedures addressing stress urinary incontinence (SUI), 13% are procedures addressing pelvic organ prolapse (POP), and 9% are procedures addressing SUI *and* POP.



2024 RECAPPED

ANNUAL REPORTING

The 2023 APFPR annual report was published in December 2023, and was officially launched in February 2024. The Annual Report and Annual Report Launch recording are available on the APFPR website, click [HERE](#) to view.

Analysis of 2024 data and preparation of the annual report are set to begin in early 2025, providing valuable insights into another impactful year for the APFPR.

REGISTRY ACTIVITIES

The APFPR delivered two rounds of site reports in 2024, with the second round of site reports featuring the first-time inclusion of Patient-Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs) data. This marks an important milestone in our efforts to enhance the quality and comprehensiveness of the information provided to participating sites.

The APFPR captured data for 562 surgeries performed in 2024, further strengthening our commitment to improving the quality of care and outcomes for patients across Australasia.

CONSUMER REFERENCE GROUP UPDATES

Throughout 2024, APFPR Consumer Reference Group met to review and decide on resources for women undergoing pelvic floor procedures, focusing on developing a comprehensive consumer resource guide that provides accessible, clear information on pelvic floor health, procedures, and recovery. This resource centre aims to empower women with the knowledge needed to make informed decisions about their care, and shall be made available on the APFPR website. Additionally, the APFPR hosted a Consumer Webinar in May 2024, inviting consumers, patients, and their families to join and learn about health outcome data for pelvic floor procedures. A recording of the webinar is available on the APFPR website, click [HERE](#) to view.

NEW DATABASE (V2) LAUNCH

In 2024, the APFPR launched its improved database following a comprehensive review conducted in 2023 to reduce the data collection burden and enhance user experience. Thanks to valuable clinician feedback, the updated database went live in February 2024. Key improvements included shorter data entry forms, streamlined workflows, and only two data entry timepoints; at surgery and post-operative follow-up. The list of POP procedures was expanded, 'recurrence' entries were introduced, and two new SUI native tissue procedures (burch colposuspension and autologous fascial Sling) were added.

SURGEON SURVEY PUBLICATION

In September 2024, the Australian and New Zealand Continence Journal (Volume 30, Number 3) featured the APFPR surgeon survey paper, titled *Impact and Implications of Changing Practice in Pelvic Floor Procedures: Results from a Registry Survey*. The paper offers valuable insights into evolving clinical practices and their implications for the registry, reflecting the changing landscape of pelvic floor procedures.

REGISTRY GOVERNANCE

RESIGNATION OF DR JEROME MELON

Dr Jerome Melon, one of the registry's urogynaecological representatives, has stepped down from his role on the APFPR Steering Committee. We extend our gratitude to Dr Melon for his valuable contributions and dedication during his tenure. The APFPR is currently in communication with the Urogynaecological Society of Australasia (UGSA) to seek expressions of interest for a new urogynaecological representative.

CONSUMER REPRESENTATION

The APFPR is currently seeking expressions of interest (EOIs) for the recruitment of a Consumer Representative to join the APFPR Steering Committee, as well as for the APFPR Consumer Reference Group. These roles are vital in ensuring the registry reflects the perspectives and priorities of those impacted by pelvic floor procedures.

RESEARCH AND DATA SHARING (RaDS) SUB-COMMITTEE

The APFPR recently invited expressions of interest for its newly formed Research and Data Sharing (RaDS) sub-committee, and it's not too late to apply! Reporting directly to the Steering Committee, the RaDS sub-committee will play a crucial role in ensuring APFPR data are utilised to produce research and outputs of the highest quality. Selection Criteria:

- Consultant in urogynaecology, urology, or gynaecology surgery with a clinical interest in pelvic floor procedures.
- Demonstrated track record of relevant research experience.
- Current participation in the APFPR through the contribution of patient data.

Interested candidates are encouraged to apply soon by providing a brief cover letter and CV to apfpr@monash.edu

APPROVED HOSPITALS

Victoria

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

South Australia

Calvary North Adelaide Hospital
Calvary Adelaide Hospital
Royal Adelaide Hospital
The Queen Elizabeth Hospital
Flinders Medical Centre
St Andrews Hospital
Lyell McEwin Hospital
Modbury Hospital

Western Australia

Hollywood Private Hospital
King Edward Memorial Hospital
St John of God Subiaco Hospital

New South Wales

Concord Hospital
John Hunter Hospital
Nepean Hospital
Royal Hospital for Women
St George Hospital
St George Private Hospital
Sutherland Hospital
Westmead Hospital
Westmead Private Hospital
Royal Prince Alfred Hospital
North Shore Private Hospital
Port Macquarie Private Hospital
Dudley Private Hospital
Lingard Private Hospital
Port Macquarie Base Hospital
Orange Hospital

Queensland

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

Australian Capital Territory

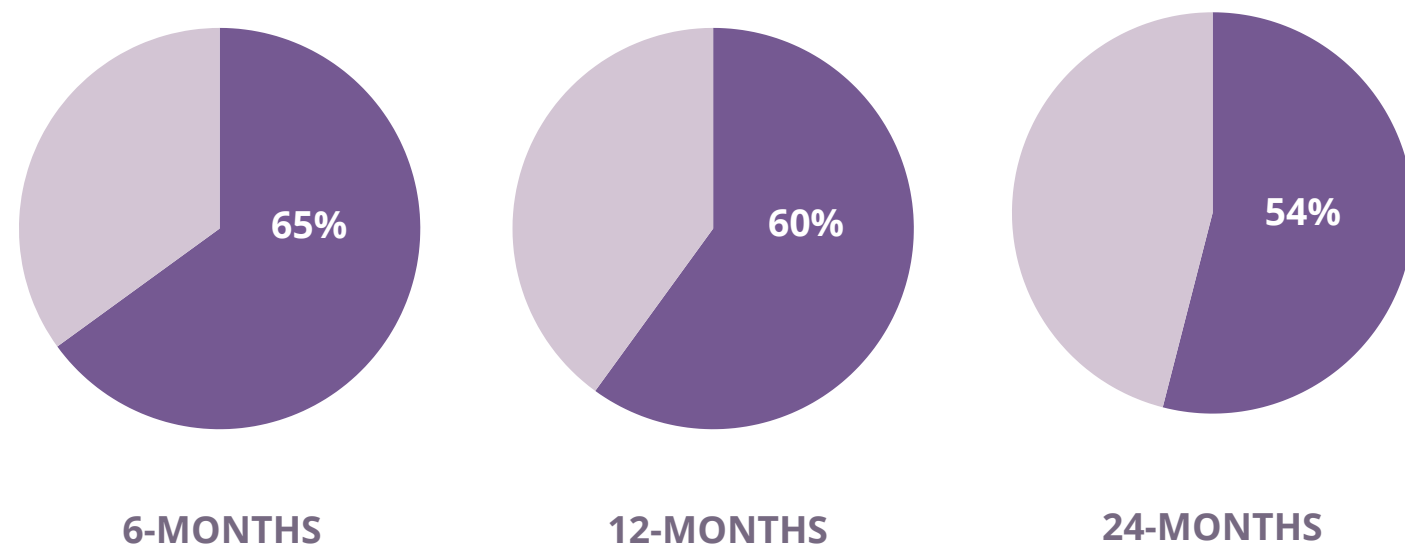
Calvary John James Hospital
Canberra Private Hospital
Canberra Public Hospital

Tasmania

Royal Hobart Hospital

PROMs UPDATE

Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs) are captured through questionnaires, where patients provide their own perspectives on how they feel after a procedure, as opposed to any assessment by clinicians. These are captured by the APFPR at 6, 12, and 24-months after surgery. PROMs are collected by post, phone call, SMS. Response rates for PROMs vary across time-points. PROMs response rates as of 18th November 2024 are below. In early 2025, the Steering Committee will review the PROMs results over the 3 time-points to consider whether there should be any change to the PROMs methodology.



APFPR Patient Report Outcome Measures (PROMs) response rates (as of 18th November 2024).

CONFERENCE PRESENCE

Conference attendances and presentations are a key focus for the APFPR as it enables face-to-face contact with eligible clinicians and those that are already contributing to the registry. We provide updates on the APFPR's progress, to continue to raise the profile of the registry and keep our stakeholders engaged.

In November 2024, the Urological Society of Australia and New Zealand (USANZ) held its South Australia and Northern Territory Section Meeting in Adelaide. Dr Samantha Pillay presented on behalf of the APFPR. Also in November, Jessica Yin presented on behalf of the APFPR at the USANZ Western Australia Section Meeting.

The ACTA 2024 Clinical Trials and Registries Symposium was held in December 2024. The APFPR was one of many registries showcasing their work.

The Continence Foundation of Australia invites you to the 33rd National Conference on Incontinence, taking place in Hobart from 7-10 May 2025.

NCO125 promises an incredible line-up of sessions, engaging speakers, and innovative workshops designed to inspire and connect professionals in the field. Be part of the program by providing an abstract submission by 15 January. The Continence Foundation of Australia has generously offered the APFPR a booth at the upcoming NCO125, we look forward to seeing you there.

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