

International Registries Meeting

Minutes

National Joint Replacement Registries meeting held during the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons Annual Meeting.

Date: Wednesday, March 10, 2004

Time: 5:30pm – 6:30pm

Location: Mezzanine Level
Rooms 270-276 (see map)
The Moscone Center
San Francisco

Present: Professor Otto Robertson (Sweden), Professor Peter Herberts (Sweden), Dr. Alma Pederson (Denmark), Professor Stephen Graves (Australia), Dr Richard deSteiger (Australia), Ms Lisa Ingerson (Australia), Professor Bob Bourne (Canada), Professor Cec Rorabeck (Canada), Dr Richard Coutts (USA), Dr Bill Maloney (USA), Mr Joel Vengco (USA), Dr Paul Gertman (USA), Dr Ian Alexander (USA).

Apologies: Prof Lars Lidgren (Sweden), Prof Thorbjorn Pehrsson (Sweden), Prof Leif Havelin (Norway), Prof Lars Engeseter (Norway), Prof Ove furnes (Norway), Prof Bjarne Lund (Denmark), Prof Ulf Lucht (Denmark), Dr Timo Puolakka (Finland), Prof Alastair Rothwell (New Zealand), Prof Paul Gregg (United Kingdom), Mr David Carter (United Kingdom), Dr Andrew Tan (Singapore), Dr David Lewallen (USA),

The following points were discussed at the meeting.

1. Importance of an International Society of Registries?
2. Collaborations and expectations?
3. Aims and objectives?
4. Meetings, how often and where?

1. Importance of an International Society of Registries?

Following a general discussion it was agreed that it was important to further evaluate the potential for establishing an International Society of Registries. There was a clear emphasis that individuality of the different registries was important and should be maintained and the purpose of an International Society would be to progress mutual interests at the international level. It was generally felt that the Society could provide a tool to define and progress the development of those interests. Additionally it would be a potential mechanism for supporting new and developing registries.

During the discussion possible areas that could be addressed included:

- Defining the minimum data set required for a registry
- Exploring the benefits of standardising definitions and methods and approaches to data analysis
- Acting as a collective force in discussions with companies concerning such issues as standardisation of bar codes and the provision of data such as generic descriptions of size, materials, and descriptors. Such information could be shared between Registries rather than each individually collecting this type of data.

2. Collaborations and expectations?

The goal of arthroplasty registries is to improve outcomes of joint replacement surgery. The focus of collaboration must be to enhance the effectiveness of registries to achieve that goal. It was evident from the discussion that there was the potential to obtain significant benefits from collaboration. The ability to undertake meaningful international comparisons through the use of similar and/or shared methodologies was one area of focus. It was felt that the ability to compare issues such as service delivery, resource allocation for arthroplasty, surgical techniques, prosthesis utilisation and prosthesis specific outcomes is likely to provide significant advantages and add a new dimension to individual registries.

3. Aims and objectives?

It was agreed that it was important to develop aims and objectives of the Society and to have these in a document form. Professor Stephen Graves was nominated to prepare a discussion document and to circulate this before the next meeting.

4. Meetings, how often and where?

It was suggested that there might be two to three meetings a year. A variety of different formats were discussed for the next meeting. The most favoured option was a working seminar of 1-2 days so that the group could work through the relevant issues related to establishing an International Society. It was thought that it would be best to link this to a prominent international meeting and have the seminar immediately prior or perhaps following completion of the meeting.

It was agreed that the next meeting should be in association with the 11th Meeting of the Combined Orthopaedic Associations, Sydney, Australia, October 24th to the 29th, 2004. The timing and venue will be organised by Prof Graves.