Welcome to 2008—traditionally January is a more quite month after the holidays and there is a chance to ease into and plan the year. 2008 has chosen to break with tradition and has come at us head on at full speed, our feet haven't touched the ground and three months have already passed.

Welcome back also to Tara who is back from maternity leave, we're all so very happy to have her back.

AROC Update

AROC has been asked to present at a number of conferences during the course of this year. We look forward to meeting up with any of our members that also attend these conferences. After the event, copies of the presentations made will be accessible through the AROC website: http://chsd.uow.edu.au/aroc/presentations.html

- Australian Association of Gerontology: Getting on With Life – Rehabilitation and Chronic Illness in Old Age, Wollongong, 1-2 April 2008
- Australian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine Annual Scientific Congress: People at Work, Managing Complexity, Adelaide, 6-8 May 2008
- Australasian Rehabilitation Nurses Association NSW Conference, Sydney, 25 July 2008
- Australian Private Hospitals Association 28th National Congress, Adelaide, 21-23 October 2007

FIM™ Credentialing Audit

As is usual, when an AROC Benchmarking Report is released, we also make available a FIM™ Credentialing Report for each member facility. The release of the Calendar Year 2007 Benchmarking Report is imminent and it is the FIM™ Credentialing Report that will accompany this report that will form the basis of the FIM™ Credentialing Audit that AROC will be undertaking. AROC has the Australian territory license for the FIM™. The ability to officially use the FIM™ under this license requires a user to be trained in its use by a current credentialed FIM™ Facility Trainer or FIM™ Master Trainer, AND to maintain a current credentialing status. AROC will shortly be undertaking an audit of the credentialing status of FIM™ users to ensure we are meeting our obligations under this license.
ACHS Rehabilitation Medicine Clinical Indicators – data collection & submission

As many of you would be aware v3 of the AROC inpatient dataset now includes all data items necessary for the collection and calculation of the new version of the ACHS Rehabilitation Medicine clinical indicators.

AROC has programmed an additional report for inclusion in the SNAPshot suite of standard reports – this report will calculate the numerator and denominator for each of the six Rehabilitation Medicine Clinical Indicators. These numbers are then ready for you to enter into the ACHS PIRT software.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Numerator</th>
<th>Denominator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Timely assessment of function on admission</td>
<td>Total number of patients admitted to a rehabilitation unit/facility for whom there is documented evidence of a functional assessment within 72 hours of patient admission</td>
<td>Total number of patients admitted to the rehabilitation unit/facility with a minimum length of stay of 72 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Assessment of function prior to episode end</td>
<td>Total number of inpatients for whom there is documented evidence of a functional assessment within 72 hours of cessation of an inpatient rehabilitation program (excluding deaths and those cases where a suspension of rehabilitation treatment leads to a care type change to acute care)</td>
<td>Total number of inpatients who cease an inpatient rehabilitation program (excluding deaths and those cases where a suspension of rehabilitation treatment leads to a care type change to acute care)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Timely establishment of a multi-disciplinary team rehabilitation plan</td>
<td>Total number of patients admitted to a rehabilitation unit/facility for whom there is a documented established multi-disciplinary rehabilitation plan within 7 days of patient admission</td>
<td>Total number of patients admitted to a rehabilitation unit/facility with a minimum length of stay of 7 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Discharge plan prior to patient separation</td>
<td>Total number of separations for which there is an appropriate discharge plan for a patient (excluding deaths and those cases with a suspension of rehabilitation treatment leads to a care type change to acute care)</td>
<td>Total number of separations (excluding deaths and those cases with a suspension of rehabilitation treatment leads to a care type change to acute care)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Functional gain achieved by rehabilitation program</td>
<td>Total number of patients who have completed a rehabilitation program and for whom there is documented evidence of functional gain</td>
<td>Total number of patients who have completed a rehabilitation program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Destination after discharge from rehabilitation program</td>
<td>Total number of patients who have completed a rehabilitation program and been discharged to their pre-episode form of accommodation, or a form of accommodation that allows for greater independence</td>
<td>Total number of patients who have completed a rehabilitation program and been discharged</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If your facility collects the AROC dataset completely and appropriately you will no longer need a separate process to collect rehabilitation medicine clinical indicator data. This separate data collection process may be currently undertaken outside your unit, perhaps by your facilities Quality Coordinator. If you intend using the AROC dataset collection to undertake this process going forward, it is important you liaise with the current owner of this process, so that appropriate process modifications can be made. The official ACHS date for implementation of this new version of the indicators is 1 January 2008. Facilities will be required to report against these indicators for all episodes commencing on or after this date.
**Benchmarking Workshops**

**Benchmarking Workshops - #NOF**

Since the last DataMatters, an explanatory document which included the draft targets developed by the workshop participants was circulated to all providers of #NOF episodes for their input and feedback. Subsequently the document has been circulated to a broader stakeholder group including health funds, state departments of health, DoHA, DVA, APHA, CHA, TAC and IAG. Feedback is due from these groups by early April. The aim is to finalise and publish the targets by mid April 2008, and for AROC to utilise the targets in our 2007/08 Benchmarking Report.

**Benchmarking Workshops - Stroke**

In February 2008, AROC hosted the second impairment specific benchmarking workshop, this time analysing outcomes of rehabilitation treatment following stroke. Representatives from 15 facilities attended, and a very productive day was had. The workshop developed a set of draft ‘target’ outcomes relating to:

- Time Since Onset to Rehab Admission
- FIM Change
- ALOS
- Discharge Destination

An explanatory document, including the draft targets developed will shortly be circulated to all providers of stroke rehabilitation in Australia for their input and feedback. Subsequent to that process it will also be circulated to a broader stakeholder group for their comment. The aim is to finalise and publish the targets by end June 2008, and for AROC to utilise the targets in our 2007/08 Benchmarking Report.

The next impairment to be ‘workshopped’ will be either Spinal Cord Injury or Brain Injury, with a Benchmarking Workshop to be scheduled for June 2008.

**The AROC Annual Report**

**The AROC Annual Report: the state of rehabilitation in Australia in 2006**

AROC is pleased to announce that the AROC ‘State of the Nation’ report describing the 2006 data has recently been published. A copy of this paper can be accessed via this link:


**Data collection periods and their submission months**

The table below indicates the data collection periods and data submission timelines associated with the AROC inpatient dataset. Please note that we are coming up to another data submission deadline … discharges up to the end March are due to be submitted by the end of April 2008.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Episodes ending up to</th>
<th>Submission month</th>
<th>Dataset Version</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 2008</td>
<td>end of April 2008</td>
<td>Version 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2008</td>
<td>end of July 2008**</td>
<td>Version 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 2008</td>
<td>end of October 2008</td>
<td>Version 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 2008</td>
<td>end of January 2009**</td>
<td>Version 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** AROC reports to be generated for your facility based on this data - please resubmit after corrections
Ambulatory Dataset and Data Collection

Now that v1 of the AROC Ambulatory Dataset has been finalised, AROC will begin the task of recruiting providers of ambulatory rehabilitation. Those current members of AROC that provide ambulatory as well as inpatient rehabilitation will be targeted first (look for a letter within the next few weeks), followed by non AROC member providers of ambulatory rehabilitation. Providers will be asked to commit to extending their data collection processes to the ambulatory setting. Once a threshold number of providers/volume of episodes has given commitment, AROC will hit the road and undertake a training roadshow to introduce the ambulatory dataset, and the outcomes tool contained within that dataset, the Australian modified Lawton’s. We are hopeful that we will be able to hit the GO button by 1 July 2008 and begin the ambulatory data collection, and thus the ambulatory rehabilitation benchmarking process.

The ambulatory dataset is to be collected for all rehabilitation patients identified as ambulatory. The definition of ambulatory rehabilitation is:

For your interest, listed below are the data items contained within the v1 AROC Ambulatory dataset:

- Establishment Identifier
- Establishment name
- Program/Unit Identifier
- Program/Unit name
- Person Identifier
- Date of birth
- Sex
- Indigenous status
- State Identifier
- Postcode
- Assessment only
- Employment status
- Date of relevant acute care
- Time since onset
- First rehabilitation program for this impairment?
- Type of usual accommodation prior to beginning of impairment
- Level of support required prior to beginning of impairment
- Begin date of this episode
- Type of accommodation during this episode of care
- Level of support received during this episode of care
- Funding source for this episode
- Health Fund/other payer
- Episode Type (same day admitted, outpatient, community, other)
- Mode of ambulatory episode start
- Sole Practitioner (only one type of care provided)
- Provider Type
- Total number of days seen
- Total number of occasions of service
- Staff type providing therapy(s) during episode of care
- Episode end date
- Mode of episode end
- Accommodation post episode end
- Level of Support provided at episode end
- AROC Impairment Code
- Episodes Start Lawton’s Score
- Telephone
- Shopping
- Food preparation
- Housekeeping
- Laundry
- Mode of transportation
- Responsibility for own medications
- Ability to handle finances
- Episode Finish Lawton’s Score
- Telephone
- Shopping
- Food preparation
- Housekeeping
- Laundry
- Mode of transportation
- Responsibility for own medications
- Ability to handle finances
- Date episode start Lawton’s assessed
- Date episode finish Lawton’s assessed
- Date rehabilitation plan established
- Optional - comment relevant to this episode of care
AROC Workshops in 2008

AROC Hosted FIM™ Training Workshops for 2008—as demand requires

AROC Facility Trainers Workshop 2008 — mid year unless demand requires one earlier

Please register your interest in one of these workshops by contacting AROC. Please note that individuals who had registered interest in 2007 and who did not respond to an invitation to attend a workshop will need to re-register if they wish to be included in the 2008 register of interest. For more information contact Julie de Clouet: Ph: 02 4221 5282 or email fim@uow.edu.au

AROC Pricing 2008

Please remember AROC has increased its charges to members for some items from 1 January 2008. Non members please contact AROC for pricing:

- FIM™ Workshops, facility based: $1,300 + gst
- FIM™ Workshops, AROC hosted: $160 + gst per participant
- SNAPshot training: $1,100 +gst
- FIM™ credentialing exam and FIM™ manual prices have not changed.

AROC team

AROC National Manager:
Frances Simmonds

AROC Clinical Director:
Ass/Professor J E (Ben) Marosszeky

AROC Data Manager:
Tara Stevermuer

AROC FIM Training Manager & Admin Support:
Julie de Clouet