Developing Targets for Treatment of Fractured Neck of Femur in Australia

Abstract:
Targets for outcomes of rehabilitation do not currently exist in Australia. The Australasian Rehabilitation Outcomes Centre (AROC,) whose members comprise the majority of private and public hospitals across Australia, have started hosting benchmarking workshops aiming to develop such targets.

The first clinical area to be addressed was treatment following a unilateral hip fracture (Neck of Femur, #NOF), which comprise approximately 6% of all rehabilitation episodes in Australia. An inaugural benchmarking workshop was held in Sydney in October 2007 with the ultimate objective being the development of targets for outcomes of treatment following #NOF.

Hospitals across Australia were invited to attend. Selection was determined through preliminary data analysis of those facilities treating significant volume of #NOF episodes. Results of average length of stay (ALOS) and FIM change identified the “leaders” in this clinical area and a sample of both private and public hospitals were invited. Participants were asked to complete a survey looking at their operational, descriptive and quality assurance systems before the workshop, aiming to optimise information exchange.

Participants met to review and discuss the results of #NOF data analysis over the last three years. Data was presented and reviewed in relation to ALOS, FIM change, FIM efficiency and discharge destination. Analysis was completed using the AN-SNAP version 2 classification system at a national and sector level.

Bringing these clinical “leaders” together generated discussion of their processes and systems used to achieve outcomes. Information exchange led to a set of “draft” targets for time since surgery to rehabilitation (days), ALOS, FIM change and discharge destination. Prior to finalisation of targets a consultation process will be undertaken across the entire rehabilitation sector. The final agreed targets and the process for reaching these will be presented.

AROC acknowledges the contributions of the participating hospitals –, War Memorial Hospital, Royal Perth Hospital, Port Kembla Hospital, McKellar Centre, Coledale Hospital, Canossa Private Hospital, Calvary College Grove Rehabilitation Hospital, Braeside Hospital