



# NATIONAL JOINT REPLACEMENT REGISTRY

## PATIENT INFORMATION

### **INTRODUCTION - *about the Registry***

You are about to have a joint replacement. This operation is very successful and most people do not require any further surgery following this procedure. However, a number of people who have a joint replacement may at some time in the future require another operation on that joint. This may occur due to a variety of reasons; the most common being that the joint replacement has worn out. Furthermore, differences between the many types of artificial joints available may affect the time at which they wear out and require replacing. In order to improve the success of this surgery, the Australian Orthopaedic Association has set up a National Joint Replacement Registry so that joint replacement and prostheses can be monitored.

The purpose of the Registry is to assess the performance of all joint replacement. If a joint replacement is identified as having a problem, the Registry can assist hospitals to locate those people that may be affected. To do this it is important to record information on every person having a joint replacement. More than 90,000 people have joint replacement surgery each year in Australia. It is also important to record details on any subsequent operations and the reason the surgery was performed. By analysing this information it will be possible to identify the cause of any problems as well as determine which types of joint replacement have the best results. To be successful, the Registry needs to gather information on as many people having joint replacement surgery as possible. We are asking you to participate in the Registry, by allowing us to document information relevant to your operation.

### **Your Involvement - *the information we need***

The information we require includes your name, date of birth, address, Medicare number, hospital identity number, the name of the hospital and the reason you are having a joint replacement. This information is necessary to accurately link you to the artificial joint inserted as well as linking any following joint surgery you may have, to your previous records. We will also record the day of the operation, which joint was operated on and the type of artificial joint used. No other personal information is recorded. Hospitals and Government will from time to time provide information that enables the Registry to check the accuracy of its data.

### **Information - *how we will keep your information confidential***

Your personal information is confidential and cannot be used outside the Registry. Procedures are in place to protect your information and to keep it confidential. When your details have been entered into the Registry your record will be given a specific Registry number. In addition, you cannot be identified in any reports produced by the Registry.

### **How we will collect the information**

Although we are asking to record your operation details in the Registry you are not required to do anything. Your surgeon and/or theatre staff will complete the form that contains your personal details at the time of your operation and send it to us. The information will be entered into the Registry computer.

### **Risks and Benefits - *to you***

There are no risks to you by having your details in the Registry. Your information is protected and we are not allowed to identify you by law. The Registry produces general reports on a variety of factors that influence the success of joint replacement surgery. This will improve the quality of future joint replacement surgery.

### **What to do if you don't want to be in the Registry**

We understand that not everyone is comfortable about having his or her personal details documented in a registry. If you feel this way and do not want your details recorded please contact Ms Cynthia Turner, Manager, on 1800 068 419 (*freecall*) as well as making your decision known to hospital staff. A decision on whether or not you wish to be involved in the Registry does not affect your treatment in any way. If you have any questions, concerns or require further information on the National Joint Replacement Registry please do not hesitate to contact Ms Cindy Turner.