

National Vascular Registry

Patient Information Leaflet for Private Patients

Why have you received this leaflet?

The hospital at which you will have a vascular procedure is participating in a national clinical audit that is set up to improve the care of people who have this type of procedure. People who undergo vascular surgery now can expect to live longer compared to having the surgery a few years ago, and the national clinical audit has helped hospitals to make these improvements. This leaflet tells you about this national clinical audit.

What is the National Vascular Registry?

The National Vascular Registry is a clinical audit that vascular specialists use to monitor their practice. Hospitals send data to the NVR and the NVR team analyse this to provide information on their standard of clinical care and patient outcomes. This allows hospitals to know where they are doing well, as well as highlight areas that they can improve.

Private hospitals in England and Wales are participating in a pilot to collect data in the National Vascular Registry. The NVR is part of the National Clinical Audit and Patient Outcomes Programme (NCAPOP) and is commissioned by the Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership (HQIP). It is run by the Vascular Society of Great Britain and Ireland within the Clinical Effectiveness Unit of the Royal College of Surgeons of England.

What information is collected on me?

The NVR collects information about the vascular surgery you have whilst in hospital. Only information related to your surgery is collected, such as the severity of your condition, the types of investigations and treatment you receive. The NVR does not require you to have any extra appointments or clinical tests. It does not affect the care you receive and it uses only information routinely collected by hospital staff.

From July 2020, the NVR collects information on the type of implantable devices (such as a graft or stent) used for AAA repairs. This is in order to collect information on individual devices to monitor their performance and safety over time.

The Registry does not collect information on any care that does not relate to your vascular surgery.

To help the NVR provide an in-depth picture of care, the information provided by your specialist may be linked to some other national health databases. This will mean keeping details such as your NHS number, date of birth and postcode to enable the databases to be linked. However, these personal details will not be shared with anyone outside of the healthcare system.

How will your information be kept safe?

The Registry has strict data security measures to keep the information held on you confidential. We follow rules about how the data are stored in a secure environment and that it is only made available to appropriate staff. The Registry conforms to the confidentiality rules established by

the General Data Protection Regulation 2018 (GDPR), the Data Protection Act 2018, and the Health and Social Care Act 2008. Your personal data is needed under the legal basis of legitimate interest to ensure high standards of quality and safety of healthcare and will not be shared with anyone outside of the healthcare system.

How will your information be used?

The NVR only publishes information describing the care received by groups of similar patients. It does not publish information on individuals, and your personal details will not be made public.

The information collected by the National Vascular Registry is used:

- To produce information on the quality of care received by patients having vascular surgery in UK hospitals. The NVR produces reports each year that describes whether care is meeting national standards. The reports are available to the public, vascular specialists, hospital management, and commissioners.
- To share areas of good practice with all healthcare organisations.
- To provide patients with information about vascular services at different hospitals, such as the number of operations done each year, and the rates of survival after surgery.
- To help commissioners and policy makers with decisions about how vascular surgery should be organised within the UK.

De-identified patient data collected as part of this private hospitals pilot will not be shared with researchers for secondary purposes. For the data collected in the NHS, researchers may apply to the NVR Data Controller (HQIP) if they want to use it for secondary purposes, such as a clinical audit, service evaluation, or a research study. These requests undergo a stringent approvals process as outlined on the [HQIP website](#).

Patient Consent

We require your permission to hold information that can identify you. You will be given a consent form to show whether or not you want the hospital to submit your personal details. Your care will not be affected by whether or not you consent to this.

If you give consent and then change your mind, please send an email to nvr@rcseng.ac.uk and put "Request to opt-out" in the subject line. On receipt of your email, we will remove your personal details from the NVR IT system.

Alternatively, you can notify a member of your local care team that you wish to opt out. They will then ensure that your personal details are removed from the Registry.

Further information

If you would like more information about the National Vascular Registry, please ask your vascular team. You can also email nvr@rcseng.ac.uk, or visit the NVR website at: www.vsqip.org.uk