

National Orthopedic Registry in Malaysia - National Orthopedic Hip Fracture Database (NOHFD)

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INTRODUCTION

Hip fracture, an osteoporosis related fractures, is one of the leading causes of hospitalization for the elderly population. Many reports from developed countries have demonstrated that Osteoporosis related hip fractures are also associated with substantial increase in the mortality (12 to 20%), morbidly and health care cost.

In Malaysia, hip fractures in the elderly is not uncommon, and as our population continues to age, the number of osteoporosis-related hip fractures will increased substantially. Yet, presently we do not have a systematic and comprehensive database on hip fracture as well as its treatment and outcome.

In cognizance of this, the orthopedic surgeons in the Ministry of Health (Ortho KKM) have taken the initiative to start a database on hip fractures called the National Orthopedics Hip Fracture Database (NOHFD).

Objectives of NOHFD

The objectives of this database are to:

1. Determine the prevalence and type of hip fracture amongst those aged 50 and above who are admitted to the orthopedic wards of the Ministry of Health Hospitals.
2. Determine the demographic variables associated with hip fractures including age, sex, race, socio-economic status, pre-fracture residence, pre-fracture morbidity and mechanism of injury.
3. Record factors related to the treatment of hip fractures including length of hospital stay, percentage of patients who undergo surgery and waiting time for surgery.
4. Record the prevailing practices amongst orthopedic surgeons in MOH in the treatment of hip fractures in this group of patients including timing and type of surgery, use of antibiotic prophylaxis and prophylaxis against thrombo-embolic events.
5. Study treatment outcomes including functional capacity of patients treated for hip fracture.
6. Monitor trends in treatment.
7. And facilitate improvements in care of patients with hip fracture.

Milestones in the Development of NOHFD

The steering committee was formed in August 2007. A proposal and proforma on the NOHFD was submitted at the end of November 2007 through the Clinical Research Centre MOH for a research grant. The Department of Orthopedics, Hospital Sultanah Nurzahirah, Terengganu was designated as the coordinator of the NOHFD. In December 2007 a pilot study to validate the Case Report Form (CRF) of the database was carried out. As with the development of more recent registries, the NOHFD will be web based and a meeting to organize this was held in February 2008. In compliance with current guidelines, the database will be registered with the National Medical Research Register (NMRR). It is anticipated that the database will be rolled out in June/July 2008.

Participating Hospitals

The Department of Orthopedics in all MOH hospitals where there are also CRC units will participate in NOHFD. An exception is the Department of Orthopedics in Hospital Sultan Ismail, Johor Bahru. This is to facilitate the smooth running of the database in its initial years.

CONCLUSION

Hip fracture amongst the older population in the country is not uncommon and its incidence is expected to rise with increasing proportion of the elderly. Unfortunately little is known of the various factors that impact on and influence outcomes in this condition including treatment variables. The Orthopedic surgeons in the Ministry of Health have taken an initiative to start a database on this clinical condition called the National Orthopedic Hip Fracture Database.