

- Does the BSR collect **online** data or rely on **hard copy** forms?

From mid-2015 an on-line database will be available for submission of data. Hard copy forms can still be sent by those who prefer this method.

- What is the difference between the **pink** and **blue** forms?

The **pink** forms collect the data about the patient undergoing bariatric surgery and the procedure details. The **blue** forms are data from follow up appointments. These will be sent to you.

- **When** should I submit the forms?

Ideally every 2 weeks to every month.

- **How** do I submit my data?

To our Data Manager, Margaret Anderson via our secure fax number 03 9903 0717 or via email med.bsr@monash.edu

- How do I order **more forms** or brochures?

Forms can be downloaded from the website or contact our Administration Assistant, charity.bowen@monash.edu, or med.bsr@monash.edu. Please note; you may photocopy the pink and blue forms. They do not need to be in colour.

- The **timing of our appointments** are not at 30 days after surgery, is that ok?

Surgeons have different regimes for post operative follow up so we allow any visit between 20 days and 90 days from the date of the procedure to be used as the 30 day follow up.

- What about timing of **annual follow up**?

For primary patients, the first annual follow up will be from 3 months after the date of surgery to 15 months. If the follow up occurs after 15 months from surgery, it will be considered their 2 year visit.

- How will follow up be handled in the situation of a patient having **multiple operations**?

30-day follow up for all procedures unless the patient has had a subsequent surgery within that 30 day time frame. In that situation the 30-day follow up will occur 30 days following the subsequent procedure. Annual follow up will always occur 12 months from the primary procedure if the BSR has captured this event.

- If a patient has their first surgery by surgeon X and after several months the patient has subsequent surgery by surgeon Y. Who is responsible for the patient's annual follow up?

Annual follow up will remain with surgeon X (primary surgeon) unless surgeon Y (subsequent surgeon) indicates they will be providing continuing care when they submit their information about the subsequent procedure. 30-day follow up of the subsequent procedure will always be with the surgeon who has performed the procedure.

- How are unexpected hospital admissions and/ or returns to surgery treated within the BSR?

Our aim is to capture all information about patient's unexpected hospital admissions either through surgeons providing the procedure data or through the follow up process.

Contact Us:

Email: med-bsr@monash.edu
Telephone: 03 9903 0725

The Bariatric Surgery Registry

Level 6, The Alfred Centre
99 Commercial Road
Melbourne VIC 3004



FAQ

Recording Data

- Are you collecting data on **intra-gastric balloons** or any other **intraluminal devices**?

No

- Do you collect data on **bariatric reversals** / (band) **removals**?

Yes but not removal of intraluminal devices.

- Do you collect data when a band is removed and there has been **no replacement band fitted**?

Yes

- **Who** completes the forms?

It's up to each surgeon to decide whether they delegate it to their staff or they fill it in themselves.

- Do you collect **retrospective cases**?

No, we only collect patient data from and after the date of ethics approval.

- Should I complete data forms for my patients that have had Bariatric Procedure in my **private rooms**?

No, we can only accept patient data procedures at ethics approved hospital sites not private rooms.

BSR's Handling of Data:

- **Who owns the data?**

The Registry owns the data and it is currently housed with our Custodian, Monash University.

- **How is the data protected?**

Data is housed with the highest level of security which is compliant with ISO27001 standards.

- **Will the online database be hackable?**

Our online platform will have ISO27001 security standards – the same level of security as banks.

- **Will the Government or anybody else have access to the data?**

Data access is strictly controlled by the Steering Committee and includes protocols that are constantly reviewed ensuring the highest levels of privacy.

General reports will only contain de-identified data.

In the future surgeons will receive reports specific to their data, however this data may not be used for commercial and marketing purposes.

Researchers can apply to the Steering Committee for access to the database.

BSR staff and Steering Committee members who have access to identifiable data will all sign confidentiality agreements to ensure privacy is maintained.

For a full explanation of the policy please go to:

(<http://www.med.monash.edu.au/sphpm/depts-centres-units/bariatric/policies-procedures.html>)

- **How will Registry data be cited in publications?**

Researchers who gain approval from the Steering Committee to use the data will acknowledge the BSR as the source of data, but they won't list all contributing surgeons.

Participation in the BSR:

- **Do I have to be a member of OSSANZ to participate in the BSR?**

No. We want to include all surgeons performing bariatric surgery not just OSSANZ members.

- **How do I inform patients that I will be submitting their data to the BSR?**

Ideally the BSR will be mentioned to your patients pre-operatively. We provide flyers and a poster for your rooms to facilitate this.

Patients will also receive an explanatory statement from the BSR in the weeks following their surgery informing them about the Registry and their options to opt-off.

- **I have a patient who wants to opt off, what do they need to do?**

Patients may **opt-off at any time** via the free call 1800 998 722 number. Their choice to opt-off will not affect their relationship with their treating surgeon or the care they receive. The opt-off option reflects the voluntary nature of the BSR.

- **What happens to patient data after they opt off?**

Once patients have followed the opt-off procedure, clinical data will be destroyed. We will retain identifying data such as the patient's name and their date of birth to ensure the patient is not contacted again in the future. The BSR will not send follow up requests for these patients and will inform surgeons if they attempt to input subsequent procedures for these patients.

- **Does participation in the BSR contribute to my Continuing Professional Development (CPD) points through RACS?**

Yes, participation in the Registry has been approved for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) points by Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) in the Audit section.

- **How long does ethics take to get approved?**

It really depends on the ethics committee. Most hospital sites usually get approved between 1 and 3 months.

- **How will I know when another site I work at is approved for ethics?**

The BSR will inform all surgeons that a site has gained ethics approval regardless of whether the surgeon is already contributing to the BSR or not.

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