

CALDICOTT GUARDIAN APPROVAL

National Ligament Registry

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Dear Caldicott Guardian,

Re: The National Ligament Registry

With the introduction of revalidation for medical practitioners there has been a desire to measure surgeons' outcomes. This will enable any surgeon to measure his or her performance against his or her peers.

I am requesting permission to add patient data from this Trust on to the National Ligament Registry in order to be able to manage and monitor the outcomes of my patients and also my own performance.

The Registry

The National Ligament Registry Steering Group, comprising of consultant orthopaedic surgeons, has worked with Amplitude Clinical to develop an online Registry that will be used to gather patient outcome data for the purposes stated above and to be used for research. The registry is funded by industry.

The National Ligament Registry is the UK's first web based registry dedicated to ACL reconstruction. It has been designed by UK surgeons primarily for the benefit of our patients.

The Registry automatically collects outcome data for patients undergoing ACL reconstruction, giving surgeons instant access to their patients' results. Data collected will be used to provide better insight, knowledge and understanding to aid the continuous improvement of surgical outcomes. Particular research will focus on a deeper understanding of the nature of injury, the identification of trends in practice, tracking and monitoring new developments and detecting techniques that may have suboptimal outcome at the earliest opportunity.

For surgeon users, the Registry provides a tool for us to monitor patient outcomes effectively and to create reports for our appraisal and revalidation purposes. The overall analysis of the collected data will be organised through the appointed steering group.

Software

Amplitude is a company that specifically creates safe and robust registries for clinical outcome assessment. It is the outcomes division of a larger company, Bluespier, focussed on IT in healthcare.

It has successfully managed six orthopaedic registries since 2012. Amplitude is acting as the Data Processor for the National Ligament Registry.

All Amplitude registry software is hosted (in the UK) with an ISO27001 accredited data centre and Amplitude have also been certified by Nettitude [http://www.nettitude.com] that our software is robust and secure.

The National Ligament Registry Steering Group will act as the Data Controller and is registered as such with the ICO (ZA026145). The National Ligament Registry User Agreement (attached) defines the usage of the Registry and the methods required to adhere to the Data Protection Act.

Data collection

Collection of data for the National Ligament Registry will require the collection of personal data to prevent duplication and to ensure that we may contact patients in the future to assess outcome measures which will be patient-recorded and surgeon-recorded. We shall therefore require consent from the patients and / or their parents when relevant for paediatric cases.

The consent is collated electronically by the Amplitude software at first contact with the patient. The consent form includes fair processing of data and Schedules 2 and 3 for consent for storage of sensitive personal data. Each patient will be able to request his or her own data or ask for it to be removed from the registry at any time. Should you require to see the consent form electronically, please send a request to the **Registry Account Manager** at support@uknlr.co.uk

Each surgeon will be able to create a report that will compare his or her performance to literature standards and to the registry as a whole. This will be done with all data anonymised. No surgeon will have access to any other surgeon's data.

The National Ligament Registry is run by a Steering Group to oversee the use of the Registry and to assess requests for data. The Data Policy is attached. Anonymised data may be provided for the purposes of research but only if certain conditions are met and the National Ligament Registry is identified as the source of the data.

We request that all Consultant Orthopaedic Knee Surgeons in our Trust be allowed to enter data onto the National Ligament Registry. We believe that the Caldicott principles have been followed and will continue to dictate the use of the Registry.

You can read more about the National Ligament Registry here: www.uknlr.co.uk. If you should have any further questions please contact the registry lead at support@uknlr.co.uk.

Yours sincerely,