

12 June 2013

Dear Orthopaedic Director/Orthopaedic Surgeon

**Important message regarding individual surgeon outcomes publication and surgeon consent**

As you may have read in my previous communications, outcomes of surgery at individual consultant level will be published by the end of June 2013 for ten clinical areas, including orthopaedics based on NJR data, and a process for obtaining consent from individual surgeons is currently underway. There are 1717 orthopaedic surgeons who are within scope for the data due to be published this month, and we are trying to ensure that each of them is contacted to explain the arrangements for surgeon consent and encourage them to follow the consent process. Apologies if you have also received this information by another route, but we have felt it important to ensure that those affected are contacted.

***About the consent process***

Surgeons are being offered three consent options for their data to be released in 2013:

1. Grant consent to publication of your consultant-level activity and mortality data
2. Consent to publication of your consultant-level activity data only (not mortality)
3. Do not consent to publication of your consultant-level activity and mortality data

Please note that if no consent option is recorded within the consenting process time period, your surgeon-level indicators, including the mortality indicator, will be released under the mandate of NHS England. However, it would be preferable to have an active response from as many surgeons as possible, and I would encourage you to do so.

The deadline for receiving consent preferences has now been extended to ***midnight on the 21<sup>st</sup> June 2013***.

There are now two ways to respond. Firstly, you can do so online by logging-on to the NJR Clinician Feedback System (at <http://www.njrclinicianfeedback.org.uk>), where you are able to see your data for publication and select one of the three 'response to consent' options. Alternatively, you can now respond by email, without viewing your data, by contacting [consent@hqip.org.uk](mailto:consent@hqip.org.uk). If you wish to do so, it is important for you to include:

- Orthopaedics in the subject line
- Your name and unit(s) where you work
- GMC number
- And **one** of the following consent responses:



1. I grant consent to publication of my consultant-level activity and mortality data
2. I consent to publication of my consultant-level activity data only (*not mortality*)
3. I do not consent to publication of my consultant-level activity and mortality data

***If you completed the consent process online between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> June***

Unfortunately a technical glitch in the consent process in the first few days of its operation means that HQIP/NJR cannot rely on the information obtained in the consent option selection. All those affected are being contacted directly by NJR, but if you think you may have been one of those affected, you are advised to register again your preference.

***In conclusion***

As I mentioned at the outset, I would encourage you to follow the consent process to ensure that your data is handled in the way that you wish.

If you have any questions or concerns, please note that for issues regarding logging in to the NJR website or the data seen in the Clinician Feedback system you can phone 0845 345 9991 or email [enquiries@njrcentre.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@njrcentre.org.uk). If you have any questions or concerns that relate to the BOA and the aspects of the project that involve us, please contact Julia Trusler ([j.trusler@boa.ac.uk](mailto:j.trusler@boa.ac.uk)).

Yours sincerely



Martyn Porter  
BOA President

