VCOR
VICTORIAN CARDIAC OUTCOMES REGISTRY

VCOR Newsletter

October 2014 — Issue #7

More than 10,500 PCI cases registered!

VCOR Project News

Welcome to issue seven of the Victorian Cardiac Outcomes Registry (VCOR) newsletter!

It has been another busy quarter for the VCOR Project Team, with the recent publication of the inaugural Annual Report for 2013 data. VCOR is pleased to announce that this report was officially launched by The Hon. David Davis MLC, Minister for Health on 30 October 2014. The report is now publically available online at vcor.org.au. We would like to take this opportunity to once again thank the participating VCOR Data Managers for their efforts contributing to the quality and completeness of the 2013 dataset, which has been very well received.

The registry continues to expand with more than 10,500 PCI patients registered (representing more than 9,300 procedures).

At present, 21 sites are contributing the PCI module; 6 regional sites contribute to the Management of Acute STEMI module; and 8 sites participated in the Heart Failure Snapshot Pilot Project, which has now concluded.

The registry continues to seek feedback and improve the quarterly site reporting format to add value to the VCOR participation process.

Case reconciliation audits have been undertaken recently at a number of sites with this activity to re-commence early in 2015.

We are continuing to communicate with sites with a data manager feedback session scheduled for PCI Data Managers in late November. Additionally, updated and relevant FAQ's will be available online soon.

Data Access, Research & Publications Committee Membership

The VCOR Data Access, Research & Publications committee (DRP) convened for the first time on 14 October. The DRP will be responsible for reviewing requests for access to use VCOR cohort data for research, related policies and overseeing the publication of subsequent abstracts and manuscripts. Membership is listed below:

VCOR Coordinating PI
Prof Chris Reid

VCOR Clinical Director
A/Prof Jeff Lefkovits

VCOR Management Committee
Ms Angela Brennan

Hospital Representatives
Dr Stephen Duffy
Dr David Clark
Dr Voltaire Nadurata
A/Prof Nick Cox

Victorian Cardiac Clinical Network
Prof Richard Harper

VCOR Statistician
Dr Nick Andrianopoulos

Update from the VCOR Clinical Director, A/Prof Lefkovits

VCOR achieved a major milestone on 30 October when the Minister for Health, Hon. David Davis, MLC, officially launched the registry and released of the inaugural Annual Report. The report outlines the establishment and makeup of VCOR and highlights several key findings relating to the performance of PCI services across Victoria. In his address, the Minister underscored the importance of clinical quality registries and it was pleasing to have our efforts and purpose acknowledged so enthusiastically.

We continue to fine-tune the format and usability of the PCI site reports, and welcome feedback from hospitals about the information provided. While still a new process, reporting is the most important aspect of the registry and we aim to be responsive to the needs of participating sites. We also look forward to the release of the first report on the Management of Acute STEMI in Regional Victoria module before the year's end.

We would like to welcome two new sites to the PCI data collection module: St John of God Bendigo and St John of God Ballarat. As we continue to recruit private PCI hospitals, we hope to have all PCI hospitals participating in VCOR in 2015.

Finally, as a successful year draws to a close, I wish to reiterate our gratitude to participating sites for their ongoing effort and commitment to the project. Wishing everyone a happy and safe holiday season, we look forward to bring you more VCOR news in 2015!

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Victorian Cardiac Clinical Network

MONASH University

VICTORIAN CARDIAC OUTCOMES REGISTRY

Improving cardiovascular outcomes Victoria-wide

Engaged Sites & Local PIs

Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI)

The Alfred Hospital
Dr Stephen Duffy

The Austin Hospital
Dr David Clark

Ballarat Base Hospital
A/Prof Ernesto Oqueli

Bendigo Hospital
Dr Voltaire Nadurata

Box Hill Hospital
A/Prof Gishel New

Cabrini Hospital
A/Prof Jeffrey Lefkovits

Epworth Hospital (Richmond & Eastern)
A/Prof Ronald Dick

Frankston Hospital
Dr Geoffrey Toogood

Geelong Hospital
Dr Chin Hiew

Geelong Private Hospital
A/Prof John Amerena

Jessie McPherson Private
Prof Ian Meredith

Knox Private Hospital
Dr Michael Rowe

Melbourne Private Hospital
A/Prof Roderic Warren

Monash Medical Centre
Prof Ian Meredith

The Northern Hospital
A/Prof William vanGaal

The Royal Melbourne Hospital
A/Prof Leeanne Grigg

St John of God (Bendigo)
Dr Tony Jackson

St Vincent's Hospital (Melb)
A/Prof Andrew MacIsaac

St Vincent's Private Hospital
A/Prof Jack Gutman

Western Hospital
A/Prof Nicholas Cox

Western Private Hospital
Dr Deepak Haikerwal

VCOR PCI Statistics & Reporting *

Case Numbers	N
Number of registered VCOR patients	8291
Number of PCI cases entered	9371

Data Completeness	%
Baseline data 'complete'	98%
Follow-up data 'complete' [†]	91%
Whole PCI case 'complete'	89%

Statistics correct as at 14 October 2014.

[†] *Due only when patient alive at discharge*

VCOR data is 'COMPLETE' when data has been verified and submitted to VCOR as 'final'

Quarter 2 2014 Clinical Quality Reporting— new site report criteria!

Twenty-one sites contributed data in Quarter 2, 2014. A total of 1732 cases were entered for this period.

Data was reviewed by the VCOR Clinical Quality Committee (CQC) on 14 October 2014.

To improve the validity of site reports, the CQC have introduced new 'eligibility criteria' for inclusion in clinical quality analyses. 'Eligibility' is based on two factors: Number of PCI cases entered, compared with an expected case load and the 'completeness' of cases that were entered (% submitted).

These new thresholds for inclusion will be introduced for Quarter 3 2014 reports.

Sites who are deemed 'ineligible' for inclusion in clinical quality analyses will still receive descriptive reports but will be omitted from KPI funnel plot outputs. VCOR will liaise with these sites prior to data submission deadlines to resolve any potential issues.
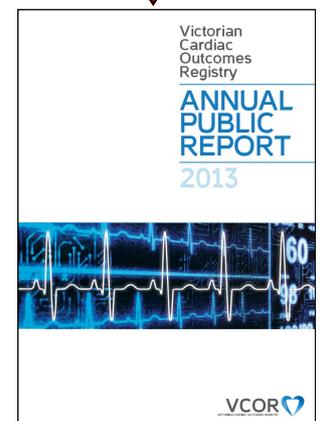
The CQC will continue to retrospectively review KPI outputs for previous quarters to ensure outlier patterns are not overlooked or under-reported.

DATA SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR Q3 2014

30 Nov 2014

2013 Public Annual Report Launch

The inaugural 2013 VCOR Annual Report was officially launch by the Hon. David Davis, Minster for Health on the 30th of October. The launch was attended by local MP's, Medibank Private and Department of Health Staff, VCOR sites and other key registry stakeholders. The event presented an opportunity for the Minister to discuss the importance of clinical quality registries in establishing best patient outcomes and improving health services, both in the cardiovascular space and beyond. The Minister also acknowledge the success of the VCOR to date and the quality of the first annual report for the registry. Congratulations to everyone involved!

An electronic copy of the annual report is available online at vcor.org.au.

Victorian Cardiac Outcomes Registry
ANNUAL PUBLIC REPORT 2013

L-R: Prof John McNeil, The Hon. David Davis MLC, A/Prof Jeff Lefkovits, Dr Andrew Wilson (Medibank Private)

L-R: Ms Jacinta Clements, A/Prof Jeff Lefkovits, Dr Diem Dinh, Prof Chris Reid, Ms Angela Brennan, Ms Rita Brien, Ms Harriet Carruthers

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VICTORIAN CARDIAC OUTCOMES REGISTRY

VCOR Newsletter (vertical sidebar text)

Improving cardiovascular outcomes Victoria-wide

Data Management Hints, Tips & Reminders!

Access to VCOR Online & Sharing Login Details

- *Please remember NEVER to share your username and/or password with ANYONE.* Sharing your login details with another person is a breach of the security and privacy regulations that VCOR is bound by. If you are going to be away for a period, VCOR can set up temporary online access for nominated staff at your site.

Data Management Feedback Session (PCI) #4

- *The next PCI module feedback meeting will be held on 25 November 2014 at 11am.* We encourage ALL Data Managers to attend. We will discuss the outcome of the ongoing data audits; common data queries; using the online data extracts and reporting system for maximum benefit; and other issues and concerns.

Patient Information Sheets

- *Please ensure you are using the latest version of the VCOR Patient Information Sheet (PIS).* The latest version of the PIS has been approved at all HRECs and <u>translated into 14 different languages</u>. Please ensure that your site is using the current version (PCI module: v1.4 / v2.1 for MIG sites; STEMI module: v1.0).

Common PCI data queries (PCI module)

VCOR would like to thank all the Data Managers for their ongoing assistance to date with resolving a range of data queries. Of note, common data queries that have emerged across several sites are noted below:

- *Peri-procedural Fibrinolytic Therapy*: When coding 'yes' for peri-procedural lysis, please ensure the patient received the lytic therapy within 7 days prior to the index PCI. If the patient received thrombolytics *after* the procedure (e.g. for post-procedural stroke) then peri-procedural fibrinolytic therapy should be coded as 'no'. Refer to item 3.4.1 in VCOR Data Definitions Manual v 1.3.

- *Date of Previous PCI*: Please ensure that the date of previous PCI is the date of the MOST RECENT PCI. In cases where the patient underwent more than 1 PCI at your hospital, please ensure that for subsequent procedures, the previous PCI date corresponds with the most recent PCI procedure date.

New FAQs Coming Soon!

- New, up to date Data Management FAQs will be published at the end of November (for both STEMI and PCI modules). Please refer to these FAQs regularly to stay atop of relevant VCOR data management queries.

Data Audits

Incomplete or Missing Data

While the data quality audits have yielded excellent results to date, one specific issue was worth noting:

- Registry data shows that **left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF)** test results are poorly completed across some sites. While VCOR are aware that sometimes these test results are difficult to find, or indeed are unavailable, it is a crucial variable in the **VCOR mortality risk adjustment model** that has been developed and validated. In 25% of registry cases, LVEF test is coded as "not done" when site audit results show that in some cases an EF was in the record and could have been reported to the registry. VCOR will continue to review this and will liaise with site Principal Investigators and Data Managers to hopefully see an improvement in the reporting of EF.

Case Ascertainment Reconciliation

Recently the focus of VCOR site based audits has been on case ascertainment (i.e. ensuring all relevant cases are included in the registry). VCOR visited 11 sites, undertaking record counts and matching local databases and logbooks against case numbers in VCOR. Results have been informative and very positive. Reports have been provided back to audited sites. VCOR will continue to undertake data quality audits, re-commencing early in 2015. Case reconciliation audits will continue to be a focus and will be undertaken at least once every 6-12 months at all sites.

Meet KIM NOLAN
VCOR Data Manager

This month's featured Data Manager is **Kim Nolan,** Cardiac Technician at Bendigo Hospital.

Kim has been a part of the Cardiology team at Bendigo Health for 6 years.

Twelve months ago, Kim commenced her role as a Data Manager for the PCI module in VCOR. She also managed Bendigo Health's involvement in VCOR's Heart Failure Pilot Project.

The most challenging aspect of the data manager role:

"Patient follow up, especially those patients who seem to have just disappeared….But I love the challenge of employing my own detective skills in order to track them down. Triple checking all that data—Phew!".

The most enjoyable part of data management:

"Pulling together of all the information into a regular report that hopefully makes sense".

"I love seeing all the information come together and be created into a useful tool for assessing the care of our cardiac patients."

"It's amazing how this information is easily obtainable and available to us at each site, we just need to find a common place to gather it all".

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Newsletter (vertical, left margin)

VCOR (vertical, left margin)

Improving cardiovascular outcomes Victoria-wide

Management of Acute STEMI in Regional Victoria Module Update

Engaged Sites & Local PIs

Management of Acute STEMI (Regional Vic)

Bairnsdale Regional Health
Dr Ka Chun Tse
Ms Trish Young

Central Gippsland Health Service
Dr Howard Connor
Ms Jenny Dennett

Latrobe Regional Hospital
Dr Alistair Wright
Dr Tony Chan

Goulburn Valley Health
Dr Tunde Ibrahim

Northeast Health (Wangaratta)
Dr Robert Krones

West Gippsland Healthcare
Dr Brett Forge

Waiver of consent for short-stay transfer patients

VCOR has submitted HREC applications seeking to extend a waiver of consent to inter-hospital transfer patients (included in the Acute Management of STEMI in Regional Victoria). This refers to STEMI patients presenting to ED who are promptly transferred to a tertiary referral centre for ongoing treatment (e.g. PCI). The consent waiver is to account for cases where it is impossible to deliver a patient a PIS during patients' very short stay at the health centre. The following sites' HRECs have approved this waiver where delivery of the PIS was not possible: Northeast Health Wangaratta; Goulburn Valley Health; West Gippsland Healthcare. *VCOR still encourages sites to make the best possible attempt to ALWAYS deliver a PIS to patients to ensure informed consent about VCOR data collection.*

STEMI Site Reports: Patient & Process Outcomes

VCOR is in the process of developing individual site reports for hospitals participating in the STEMI module. Feedback from sites will be used to shape future reporting of the patient and process outcomes.

Data Queries

Many thanks to Data Mangers for their continued support when resolving data queries in the STEMI module. Common queries that have arisen:

- *Missing data:* In some cases, VCOR can force submit cases with missing data (where it is genuinely impossible to verify or estimate values according to the data definitions—e.g. patient height or weight, time of ECG or discharge). Feedback from sites relating to patient and process outcomes that are not systematically recorded at the health service (e.g. Time of First ECG, Thrombolytic Therapy and/or Time of Transfer/Discharge) are welcome. Processes to capture these important fields differ between hospitals and we welcome discussion about this. Please email any queries to vcor@monash.edu.

- *Time of First Medical Contact:* Please note the data definition for 'Time of First Medical Contact' has been updated. Wording has been changed to clarify the parameters of first medical contact. Please refer to the memo sent in late October or item 2.3 in the newest version of the VCOR STEMI Data Definitions Manual (v1.1).

Other News ...

ISO/IEC 27001 Certification

ISO/IEC 27001 is an information security standard for which Monash is the first Australian university to achieve ISO/IEC 27001 accreditation for its information security management system (ISMS) for research databases.

On 1 October 2014, VCOR was incorporated into Monash University's ISO/IEC 27001 ISMS.

This certification ensures an internationally recognised level of security for VCOR.

Very specific security protocols are in place to protect the privacy and confidentiality of the all information in VCOR.

Access to VCOR Cohort Data

All requests for access VCOR cohort data will be considered but applications do need to comply with the VCOR Data Access Policy, available from vcor.org.au. Access to de-identified data may be granted once an HREC approved research proposal has been submitted to the Data Access, Research & Publications Committee (DRP) for consideration. VCOR cohort data access will be granted for requests that propose a unique and specific research question. Data will be provided with a caveat and conditions of use that is specific to the research outlined in the proposal. The VCOR DRP will have final say on all manuscripts using VCOR cohort data. For more information about accessing VCOR cohort data please contact The VCOR Project Manager at vcor@monash.edu.

Contact Us

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