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The Queensland Trauma Registry

Abstract:

Objectives:

The Queensland Trauma Registry (QTR) was established as a statewide registry in January 2002 and currently collects data from 20 Queensland public hospitals. A central feature of the QTR is to support the quality assurance process of all phases of acute injury treatment (from pre-hospital to discharge or death). This is achieved through facilitation of clinical review and recommendations for changes in trauma management in Queensland, through established multidisciplinary Trauma Review Committees, who conduct systematic review of all trauma cases where care has varied from predefined standards of trauma management or where trauma patients die during hospitalisation.

This presentation provides a brief history of the establishment of the QTR and describes the purpose of the data collection, which incorporates ICD-10-AM (external cause, place and activity) and Abbreviated Injury Scale (1990) coding. A snapshot of trauma occurring in Queensland in 2008, including focus on the aged care and Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander populations, will be presented.

Methods:

The QTR captures all patients who are admitted to a Registry hospital site for ≥ 24 hours with injuries codeable to an ICD-10-AM category from S00 – S99, T00 – T35, T63, T66 – T71 & T75.

The QTR database is populated through retrospective chart audit by on-site QTR Nurses and Health Information Managers accredited in Abbreviated Injury Scale coding.

Results:

In 2008, 14,888 patients were included on the QTR. Males comprised 66% of all injury admissions, with the leading cause of all injury being falls (41%), followed by road traffic crashes (24%). Fractures were the most common type of injury (57%).

Conclusions:

The QTR fosters best practice in data collection, clinical review and scientific research through the collection and systematic review of data on serious injury in Queensland, which is used to monitor injury epidemiology and contribute to improving trauma management.