

British Spinal Registry

Caldicott Guardian Approval

Dear Caldicott Guardian,

Re: The British Spinal 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 British Spinal Registry in order to be able to manage and monitor the outcomes of my patients and also my own performance.

The Registry

The British Spinal Registry Committee, 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 British Spinal Registry was established in May 2012 with the aim to improve patient safety and monitor the results of spinal surgery. It has been designed by UK surgeons primarily for the benefit of our patients.

The Registry automatically collects outcome data for patients undergoing spinal surgery, 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. Amplitude successfully manages 11 registries both nationally and internationally. Amplitude is acting as the Data Processor for the British Spinal Registry.

All Amplitude registry software is hosted (in the UK) with an ISO27001 accredited data centre and Amplitude have also been certified by Mitigate Cyber that our software is robust and secure.

The British Spinal Registry Committee will act as the Data Controller and is registered as such with the ICO (ZA229831). The British Spinal Registry User Agreement (attached) defines the usage of the Registry and the methods required to adhere to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018.

Data collection

Collection of data for the British Spinal 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 collected electronically by the Amplitude software at first contact with the patient. The consent form includes fair processing of data and abides by regulations set out by the UK Data Protection Act 2018 and GDPR 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 customer.support@amplitude-clinical.com. Any non-consenting patient will have their data anonymised, after reasonable efforts have been made by the clinical team, to gain consent.

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 without their explicit written permission is granted.

The British Spinal Registry is run by a Committee 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 British Spinal Registry is identified as the source of the data.

We request that all Consultant Neuro / Orthopaedic Surgeons in our Trust be allowed to enter data onto the British Spinal 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 British Spinal Registry [here](#): If you should have any further questions please contact the registry lead at customer.support@amplitude-clinical.com.

Yours sincerely,