The Quality Improvement Programme: Adult Cardiac Database and EUROMACS

Join today to improve clinical outcomes for patients.

EACTS initiated the Quality Improvement Programme in 2012 to improve clinical outcomes for patients. Since its inception, two international databases have become the highlight of the programme, with cardiothoracic centres collaborating across borders to collect data for scientific purposes and to create benchmarking tools for local quality improvement initiatives.

The Adult Cardiac Database is one of the EACTS Quality Improvement Programme’s international benchmarking databases, providing adult cardiac surgical data and a benchmarking tool for participating hospitals, enabling surgeons to access anonymous data of surgical procedures and compare their own hospital’s data with all other hospitals in the database, anonymously. It is also possible to anonymously compare data of a patient and their outcomes in a participating hospital with similar cases in the database.

2017 marks the first year for the publication of annual and bespoke reports for each contributing hospital, generated by EACTS using data from the Adult Cardiac database, which can be used by contributing centres to carry out research. With the increasing number of centres and procedures contributing to the Adult Cardiac Database, more rigorous data validation processes have been implemented, and new pages and benchmarking features have been added to the tool to improve statistical analysis and research. This includes information on how many records do not meet reasonable validation criteria, additional metrics for hospital comparison, more detailed filters and procedures, statistical controls (mean ± / – 1SD, 95% CIs and IQRs), survival curves by individual procedures or all-cases, an updated clinical support tool page and an interactive updates page for participants.

With the increasing number of centres and procedures contributing, new features have been added to the tool including more filters, more detailed procedures and better quality. With already over 70,000 procedures in the database from participating centres across 10 countries since 2015, the Adult Cardiac Database is becoming a key tool in global benchmarking for improving clinical outcomes for patients.

Go to www.eacts.org/quip to find out more or come see us at the EACTS booth in the Exhibition Hall to see a demonstration of the Adult Cardiac Database.

EUROMACS, the Mechanical Circulatory Support Database for Scientific Purposes, has continued to grow as a registry and pool of scientific research in the field of mechanical circulatory support. Since launching the EUROMACS Registry in 2012, hospitals have contributed data for patients receiving mechanical circulatory support (MCS), 3,300 implantations (including 178 in children) of long-term assist devices and 12,500 follow-up records have been registered from hospitals in 18 countries. This data has been, and are being, used for scientific research and studies. To see the list of scientific publications with data from EUROMACS please see the EUROMACS website at www.euromacs.org/downloads/scientific-articles.

Since 2016, EUROMACS has been actively part of the EACTS Quality Improvement Programme, providing the EUROMACS community with a new benchmarking platform for statistical analysis, which will be available soon.

To find out more about EUROMACS, please visit the website at www.eacts.org/quip/euromacs.

The EACTS Quality Improvement Programme’s task force is made up of 11 members to further develop all aspects of the Programme’s quality improvement initiatives. The task force presented their research and advancements in adult cardiac surgical data and discussed quality outcomes for patients in the EACTS Quality Improvement Programme’s Focus Session at this year’s 31st EACTS Annual Meeting on Sunday 8 October.

More information:
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