

# Care of people with a broken hip in Wales – a life-changing impact on independence

## The National Hip Fracture Database (NHFD)



Hip fracture is an ideal marker with which to examine the hospital care offered to frail and older people by the NHS in Wales. Hip fractures are the most common serious injury in older people, and nearly all require urgent anaesthesia and surgery. These fractures can have life-changing impacts such as loss of independence, immobility and quality of life.

People need coordinated multidisciplinary assessment if they are to receive prompt surgery and effective rehabilitation. The NHFD collates data on every patient presenting with hip fracture and uses this to examine the quality of assessment, anaesthesia, surgery and rehabilitation, and to set this against patient outcomes (mobilisation, return home and length of stay) as well as providing mortality data to local health boards (LHBs) and the Welsh Government.

## Improving the quality of hip fracture care in Wales

Selecting the location markers on the interactive map allows you to examine performance in individual units (in bold text). These and other data are freely available to patients and the general public on the NHFD [website](#).

During 2019 Welsh Government and the Delivery Unit used these data for a programme of performance management that supported health boards; focusing local QI work on the three KPIs which each identified as priorities for improvement.

As a result, outcomes have improved markedly and in March 2020 mortality within 30 days of hip fracture was just 6.3% compared with the figure of 7.2% last year. (See mortality run-chart appendix)

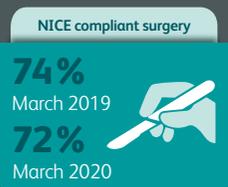
## Improving care quality

These and other data are freely available to patients and the general public on the NHFD [website](#) – designed to provide clinical teams and health board managers with a platform for local audit and quality improvement.



## KPI overview Wales

Annualised values based on 4,191 cases averaged over 12 months to the end of March 2020.



# Preventing falls among hospital inpatients

## The National Audit of Inpatient Falls (NAIF)



NAIF aims to improve inpatient falls prevention practice and post-fall management through audit and quality improvement.

In January 2019, NAIF became a continuous audit, focusing on inpatient hip and femoral fractures. Inpatient hip fractures are identified on the National Hip Fracture Database and local health board (LHB) falls leads are prompted to answer questions about post-fall management. This allows NAIF to provide LHBs with feedback on their performance in managing fall-related injuries which can then be used within quality improvement initiatives to enhance patient safety and experience. From 2020, NAIF has been collecting information about falls prevention actions in inpatients who go on to sustain a hip fracture.

The [first report](#) of the continuous National Audit of Inpatient Falls was published in March 2020. The key performance indicator for the report was participation – all of the Welsh health boards are participating in NAIF and were included in the data from 2019 that were reported. Data on compliance with [NICE QS86 standards 4, 5 and 6](#) were also collected. These standards will be key performance indicators for the audit going forward. An overview of the Welsh results for these data is given below.

## Falls in hospital

There are approximately 12,500 inpatient falls in Wales each year. These lead to:

- > over 162 hip fractures (2019 NAIF data)
- > loss of confidence and slower recovery
- > distress to families and staff
- > litigation against hospital trusts
- > overall costs to hospitals of £1.5 million per year.

**All of the Welsh health boards are participating in the NAIF**



## KPI overview Wales

Based on average figures from January to August 2019.



**Nationally:** 45% of patients were checked for signs of injury before movement from the floor

**45%**



**Wales:** 46% of patients were checked for signs of injury before movement from the floor

**46%**



**Nationally:** 20% of hospitals used flat lifting manual handling methods to move the patient from the floor

**20%**



**Wales:** 24% of hospitals used flat lifting manual handling methods to move the patient from the floor

**24%**



**Nationally:** 54% of patients had a medical assessment within 30 minutes of the fall

**54%**



**Wales:** 58% of patients had a medical assessment within 30 minutes of the fall

**58%**

# Offering effective treatment to prevent future fragility fractures

## The Fracture Liaison Service Database (FLS-DB)



The Fracture Liaison Service Database (FLS-DB) is a clinically-led web-based national audit of secondary fracture prevention in England and Wales.

The audit demonstrates that there are areas for improvement for fracture liaison services (FLSs), including developing greater effectiveness and efficiency which will lead to sustainable funding. National coverage of secondary fracture prevention using fracture liaison services is still variable. Of the 13 hospitals registered with the NHFD in Wales, three are covered by an FLS submitting data

to the FLS-DB.

Since the last State of Wales report Aneurin Bevan UHB have registered and participated in the FLS-DB.

## The impact of fracture in Wales

Most patients who suffer a fracture do not receive appropriate assessment and treatment to prevent future fractures. Having a fragility fracture approximately doubles the risk of another fracture, and these fractures are most likely to occur in the following 2 years. There are over 300,000 fragility fractures in England and Wales every year in people aged 50 years and over.

## Care quality in different local health boards

Selecting the locations (in bold text) on this interactive map allows you to examine performance in individual units. Please click on the health boards to see their figures, if they are participating in the FLS-DB.

These and other data are freely available to patients and the general public on the FLS-DB website – designed to provide clinical teams and health board managers with a platform for local quality improvement.



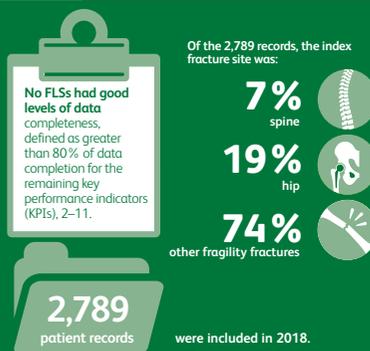
## Key messages – report at a glance

A fracture liaison service (FLS) aims to reduce the risk of subsequent fractures by systematically identifying, assessing, treating and referring to appropriate services all eligible patients aged 50 and over who have suffered a fragility fracture. Based on average figures from January to December 2018

### Demographics and data completeness

We congratulate the achievement of the three FLSs across Wales that submitted data which contributed towards this report (available at: <https://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/projects/outputs/fls-database-annual-report-2020>).

There has been an improvement in most key performance indicators (KPIs) but further work is needed for effective and efficient service delivery.



### Key findings



**Monitoring contact** – Only 20% of patients recommended anti-osteoporosis medication were contacted at 12–16 weeks post fracture.



**Identification** – 10 out of 61 FLSs are now submitting over 80% of their expected caseload and for all fragility fractures. Spine fracture identification has improved to 36% in 2018 from 29% in 2017.



**Assessment** – Despite the increased volume of patients seen, the proportion assessed by FLSs or receiving a dual energy X-ray absorptiometry scan (DXA) within 90 days has remained relatively stable.



**Quality improvement** – Quality improvement was the focus of the latest FLS-DB report where you can review overall improvement and worsening of KPIs.