AAOS
AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEONS

THE AMERICAN JOINT REPLACEMENT REGISTRY

Enhancing patient care is the ultimate priority of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons and our members. The American Joint Replacement Registry (AJRR) is a national, independent, not-for-profit organization with the goal of optimizing patient outcomes through the collection of data on all primary and revision total joint replacement procedures in the U.S. The mission of the registry is to improve patient safety, improve quality of care and reduce the cost of care.

Information. Performance. Outcomes.

BY THE NUMBERS

In 2006, there were more than **1 million** hip and knee replacements in the U.S. Of these, approximately 7.5% were revisions, resulting in **77,000** procedures at a cost of more than **$3.2 billion**. Registries in Sweden, Great Britain, Canada, and Australia have seen up to a **10% reduction** in revision rates. A modest 2% decrease in the U.S. revision rate would yield a savings of **$65.2 million in one year.** Based on the projected growth of these procedures through 2030, the potential savings could exceed **$1.3 billion over 20 years.**

SHORT-TERM GOALS

- Establish an infrastructure and a uniform system for the collecting device information and monitoring outcomes of TJR throughout the U.S.
- Identify patients who may need follow-up evaluation thereby increasing patient safety

LONG-TERM GOALS

- Create a real-time feedback mechanism in order to detect suboptimal performance
- Establish a uniform system that can be used to expand our understanding of TJR for outcomes research to improve

PATIENTS

We do not know all of the factors that influence the success of a total joint replacement. The AJRR will include all patient types, not just Medicare. With an estimated 90 percent capture rate, the registry will **provide more comprehensive orthopaedic knowledge** by identifying problems before they are discovered by public health agencies. What we learn from the registry will enable patients, in consultation with their surgeons, to make better choices about the timing of their total joint procedure, the device they receive, and their rehabilitation to optimize their outcome.

COSTS

Information from operating registries in other countries and from AAOS research shows an average cost of $20-25 US to run an orthopaedic device registry—**approximately $20-25 million US per year.** Other registry proposals currently being offered provide no cost estimate or their burden on taxpayers. **The AJRR will be funded through stakeholder partnerships—no taxpayer support required.**

PARTNERSHIPS

AAOS envisions a registry developed, implemented, and operated by various stakeholders, including orthopedic surgeons with expertise in joint replacement, patient advocates, industry, hospitals, and government agencies. We believe that early and ongoing communication with stakeholders will lead to productive collaborations that will benefit our patients.

TRANSPARENCY

The AAOS believes that transparency is the key to public trust in the AJRR. The AJRR includes stakeholders from the entire orthopaedic community—payers, government agencies, patients, surgeons and manufacturers. Together, these stakeholders will oversee the collection and reporting of registry information. The AJRR is just one example of the benefits to patients from ethical cooperation between physicians and industry.

For more information, contact Jeanie Kennedy in the Office of Government Relations at 202-546-4430 or Katherine Sale in the Department of Research and Scientific Affairs at 847-384-4327