

## The American Spine Registry Opens Enrollment

The American Spine Registry (ASR) is now open to new sites.

### WHAT?

The American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) and the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS) have united to create the ASR with a commitment to improve quality and delivery of patient care.

Through the ASR, these highly regarded surgical societies aim to:

- Utilize data to establish benchmarks to test clinical performance and the validity of various quality measures, which are efforts critical to a value-based health care system;
- Provide feedback to providers that allows them to continuously improve their practice and health care outcomes using methods applicable to all practice settings;
- Reduce data reporting burdens on physicians and allow reuse of data for regulatory requirements and continuous quality improvement programs; and
- Help inform gaps in knowledge and define areas for further education and research.

### WHY NOW?

Degenerative spine disease is one of the most prevalent and costly disease states worldwide with common surgeries including spinal fusion and decompression or discectomy surgery. According to the National Center for Health Statistics, more than 1.2 million spinal surgeries are performed nationally each year. An evidence-based registry, like the ASR, will help surgeons understand what procedures work best in what patients.

### HOW CAN SITES OR SURGEONS ENROLL?

The ASR is open to spine clinical centers, including neurosurgeons, orthopaedic surgeons, hospitals, health systems, ambulatory surgical centers, and private practices. Enrollment and registry implementation is easy with five simple steps:

1. **Identify registry implementation leadership** – Select surgeon or staff champion to facilitate the process;
2. **Review Data Specifications** – Review the data collection and submission requirements;
3. **Execute the appropriate agreements** – Complete the appropriate ASR participation agreements;
4. **Submit Your Data** – Set up your site's data submission structure and submit on a monthly basis;
5. **Access Your Data for Quality Improvement** – Learn how to maximize your data use through webinars and one-on-one instruction; utilize personalized dashboards and national benchmarks; reuse data for requirements in accreditation, certification, and value-based reimbursement; participate in the Registry User Group.

Visit [www.AmericanSpineRegistry.org](http://www.AmericanSpineRegistry.org) for more information.

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