

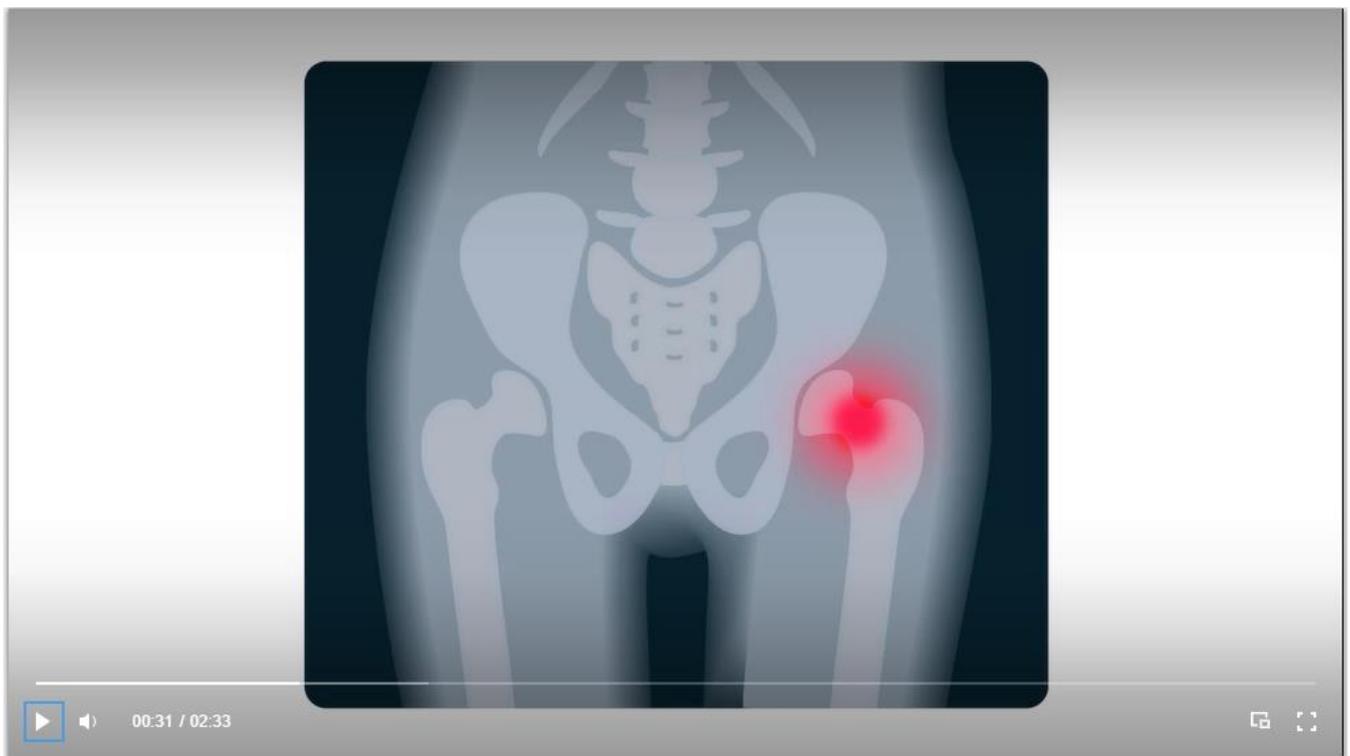


Fracture Alliance

Making the first break the last

Newsletter #5 - August 2019

SOSFA release new video on Osteoporosis and Refracture Prevention in Australia



As part of our work advocating for improved secondary fracture prevention, the SOSFA has commissioned an infographic video on “Osteoporosis and Refracture Prevention in Australia”.

The video describes the negative effects that fragility fractures have on the lives of thousands of Australians and the easy steps that can be taken to prevent further fractures.

This video is an accessible, flexible and free resource for all Alliance Members to use to raise awareness of this issue in Australia. We encourage everyone to share the video through their networks.

The video can be found on our website at sosfracturealliance.org.au/osteoporosis-in-australia, along with some useful information about Osteoporosis. If any Members require a direct copy of the video to embed into their own resources, please contact James Ansell at james.ansell@sosfracturealliance.org.au



For more information visit our website www.sosfracturealliance.org.au.
Alternatively email the Alliance at contact@sosfracturealliance.org.au.

SOS Fracture Alliance Activities

In the first half of 2019, members of the Alliance Governing Committee have been advancing the projects outlined in our Strategic Plan, corresponding with numerous key organisations and meeting with relevant groups and individuals to advocate for improved secondary fracture prevention.

NLP Project Update

The NLP project has progressed well after overcoming some hurdles regarding IT infrastructure, intricacies of privacy law and staffing. Both NLP tools are now on servers at Royal Northshore and Concord Hospitals with data being collected and analyzed.

Following review meetings in April, May, July and September, the project has progressed into Stage 2 and is expected to conclude by early 2020. Based on results so far, it is estimated that the identification of fracture patients using NLP may result in a quadrupling of potential SFP cases.

SOSFA Election 2020 & Constitution Update

On August 1st 2019, a Member Update was sent to all Alliance Members detailing plans for the Governing Committee Elections in 2020 and giving notice for intended changes to the SOSFA Constitution to facilitate the electoral process. If you did not receive this member Update please contact SOSFA's Executive Officer, James Ansell, at james.ansell@sosfracturealliance.org.au and he will provide you the information.

Meetings with State Government and Opposition Members

Prior to the Federal Election in May, SOSFA Chair Prof. Markus Seibel met with several members of State Parliaments across Australia to raise awareness of the issue of secondary fractures and gain support for implementing improving fracture liaison services in each State. In particular, Health and Shadow Health Ministers were approached, including SA Shadow Minister for Health & Wellbeing, Chris Picton MP, ACT Shadow Minister for Health, Vikki Dunne MLA, VIC Shadow Minister for Health & Ambulance Services, Georgie Crozier MP and upon the request of the NSW Health Minister, Brad Hazard MP, the Chief Executive of the NSW Agency for Clinical Innovation, Dr Jean-Frederic Levesque.

In addition to this, correspondence was exchanged between SOSFA and the following Ministers:

- The Hon Tanya Davies MP, NSW Minister for mental health, Women and Ageing
- The Hon Natasha Fyles MLA, NT Minister for Health
- The Hon Roger Cook MLA, WA Minister for Health
- Sarah Lovell MLC, Tasmanian Shadow Minister for Health and Preventative Health
- The Hon Stephen Wade MLC, SA Minister for Health and Wellbeing

The SOSFA Website has had a facelift! It is now mobile friendly and has an array of useful resources about Osteoporosis and Secondary Fracture Prevention.

Check it out at sosfracturealliance.org.au!

SOSFA appoints Communications Officer

In May 2019 SOSFA appointed its inaugural Communications Officer, Ms. Isobel Hymer. Isobel completed a Bachelor of Biomedicine at the University of Melbourne in 2017 and currently studies Medicine at Griffith University, QLD. Isobel is involved in osteoporosis-related research at Gold Coast University Hospital and has a keen interest in working to improve fragility fracture outcomes in the Australian population. We are extremely happy having such an enthusiastic and capable member on our team!



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Membership Update

Since January 2019 three more organisations have joined the Alliance. We would like to extend a warm welcome to them all and thank them for joining us to advocate for improving this healthcare issue in Australia.

[NSW Nurses and Midwives Association](#)



The New South Wales Nurses and Midwives' Association (NSWNMA) is the registered union for all nurses and midwives in New South Wales.

The Association represents the industrial interests of nurses and midwives employed in NSW in the public, private, aged care and disability sectors. Our role is to protect the interests of nurses, midwives and the nursing and midwifery professions.

[Queensland Country Women's Association](#)



Since 1922, the QCWA has been about women from all over Queensland coming together for many different reasons, whether it is about meeting new people, making new friends, learning new skills or getting involved in the community. Our vision is

simple: for the women of Queensland to come together to support communities, while celebrating their interests and forging friendships in a respectful and caring environment. This is achieved by advocating and providing opportunities for women centering around education, health and community throughout every phase of a woman's life.

[Country Women's Association of Western Australia](#)



We are a proud and active women's organisation, working to improve the welfare and well-being of people everywhere, especially in country and regional areas. Our organisation provides community service, support networks, welfare in times of need,

educational opportunities, friendship, fun, and a great deal more. CWA of WA encompasses the entire State, with branches throughout Western Australia, both in metropolitan and rural areas.

From the Members

[Why Ratios Matter- NSW Nurses & Midwives' 2019 Aged Care Survey Report released](#)

In early 2019 the NSW Nurses and Midwives' Association surveyed 1608 of its members working to complete a survey about their experiences of the aged care sector in NSW.

The findings of their Aged Care Survey showed 94% of aged care workers had transferred a resident to hospital following a fall in the past year. From the ANZHFR 2018 report, it is known that Concord Hospital receives the highest number of hip fractures originating from RACFs in Australia, accounting for 45% of all patients presenting with hip fracture there. Wollongong, St George Illawarra and Coffs Harbour are also among the top 10 Australian hospitals with the highest incidence of hip fractures occurring in RACFs, with between 30–40% of patients admitted for a hip fracture residing in RACFs.

The NSWNMA estimate this would set the cost of treating these residents in NSW hospitals in excess of \$3 million in the past year, putting a significant burden on the public health system. The figure is likely to be much higher if transport, post-surgical complications and rehabilitation costs are considered.

The survey showed the incidence of referrals to hospital for falls was reduced for those workers employed on a ratio of one Registered Nurse to 0-50 residents or patients, and further reduced where ratios of one to 30 were usual. This suggests the risk of falls is reduced as ratios of Registered Nurses to residents increase, providing evidence in support of mandating safe staffing ratios and skills mix to reduce incidence of potentially avoidable falls and hip fractures in NSW RACFs.

[Find the full report here.](#)

Does your organization have any news around Secondary Fracture Prevention Services? Have you seen a recent publication in the area that might be of interest?

If so, let us know about it! Email the Alliance at contact@sosfracturealliance.com.au and we'll let all our Members know!



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SOS FRACTURE ALLIANCE: MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

Representing over 3,000,000 individual members across Australia



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