

AUSTRALIAN STROKE DATA TOOL (AuSDaT) INTRODUCTORY FACT SHEET

This fact sheet provides introductory information about the AuSDaT.

What is the AuSDaT?

- The AuSDaT is a web based tool which provides health services with a single data collection portal for clinical performance monitoring, providing standardised data collection for multiple quality assurance programs for patients with stroke or transient ischaemic attack in Australia.

What are the advantages of the AuSDaT?

- Data are entered once for a patient episode, and not separately for each stroke program, which reduces data entry time for health services which contribute to multiple programs where variables overlap (e.g. Stroke Foundation Acute Audit and Australian Stroke Clinical Registry).
- There is the potential to import data from existing source systems, including health service patient administrative systems. Ask us how!
- For some programs, real-time, web-based reports can be generated to monitor activity and benchmark performance against other hospitals and the national acute care stroke standards. Health services can also export their own data.

Who operates the AuSDaT?

- The AuSDaT is maintained by two organisations that share responsibilities for the tool's operation. These are the Stroke Foundation and the Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health (The Florey).
- Each program using the AuSDaT is responsible for maintaining data integrity while also abiding by the AuSDaT policies and procedures.
- Oversight and broad operational direction is provided by the AuSDaT Coordinating Committee. This committee comprises representatives of each program and project using, or which has been involved in the development of, the AuSDaT. A consumer representative is also a member of this committee.
- The AuSDaT Data Custodian is currently The Florey, and the nominated representative is Professor Dominique Cadilhac. The role of the Data Custodian is to manage the system and data according to relevant policies, and national and state legislation in partnership with programs/projects.

What about privacy?

- There are 5 levels of users within the AuSDaT which have tightly restricted user profiles controlling the ability for entering, editing, or exporting data.
- Depending on the program, information in the tool hides names/identifying information as much as possible by utilising a statistical linkage key (SLK) which does not display at the user interface, yet maintains data integrity in the back end, ensuring patients' confidentiality.
- The AuSDaT allows local health service users to view data across all programs for which the health service is registered.
- A third party organisation (Amazon Web Services) hosts the server where the data are stored according to international best practice standards.

For further information, please email AuSDaT@florey.edu.au or contact the AuSDaT Program Manager on (03) 9035 7125