

CONFIDENTIAL REPORTING SYSTEM IN SURGERY (CORESS)

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- **Analysing safety-related reports which would not otherwise be available.**
- **At all times keeping the identity of the reporter confidential.**
- **Publishing 'Lessons learned' feedback commentary in the surgical literature.**

In using this website you accept these objectives and undertake not to use the information contained on this website in a manner inconsistent with those objectives.

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REPORTING

Who can report?

Any surgeon or surgical trainee, irrespective of specialty, can submit reports, in confidence, to CORESS.

How do I report?

Reports can be submitted online through this site. They can also be made by mail, using the Reporting Form which can be downloaded from this website.

What do I report?

We are interested in any safety-related incident involving yourself, other people, your hospital or other organisations that you deal with. Incidents may be diagnostic or operative errors, technical or maintenance failures, regulatory or procedural aspects or unsafe practices/protocols.

What not to report?

There is no educational value in incidents where no lesson can be learned. Therefore, incidents with no safety content, issues involving conflicts of personalities and problems involving industrial relations or terms and conditions of employment are not, generally, useful.

When do I report?

CORESS is complimentary, not an alternative, to other incident reporting requirements, statutory or otherwise. Useful lessons may often be learned from incidents which do not result in adverse consequences and may only be known to the reporter. CORESS is a service provided by surgeons for surgeons and would like to hear about any safety related issue from which lessons can be learned.

What happens to my report?

When all identifiable data has been removed, your report is reviewed by experts in the appropriate specialty. If useful lessons can be learned an unidentifiable version may be published in the surgical literature.

Is my report secure?

CORESS would like to hear from you when you are concerned to protect your identity but anonymous reports are not normally accepted. However, confidentiality is fundamental to the concept of the CORESS service. On receipt of your report, identifying data are removed and it is transferred to a standalone computer with no wired or wireless connections to any network. Identifying data is available to the Programme Director and System Manager only. The reporter will be informed of the proposed outcome. The original report will then be returned to the reporter and all identifying data securely deleted from the CORESS system before any feedback publication. The Freedom of Information Act applies to government departments in the public sector and some private sector organisations carrying out duties on behalf of government, including the privatised utilities.

CORESS is a service provided by The Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland which is a Registered Charity and does not possess any executive powers granted by statute or otherwise. CORESS exists merely to provide a safety information service to and on behalf of the surgical community. The Freedom of Information Act therefore does not apply to CORESS.