**Integrated Care Pathway for Hip Fracture**

**National Clinical Programme for Trauma and Orthopaedic Surgery**

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**Background:** In 2014, there were more than 3,400 hip fractures in the over-60 age-group in Ireland. Hip fracture is the most common, serious injury among older people. The mortality rate can be as high as 33% at twelve months post-fracture. Fewer than 50% regain their pre-fracture level of function, less than 30% go straight home after hospital treatment, and more than 20% are transferred to nursing homecare. The acute cost of inpatient care in 2014 was approximately €45 million. Hip fracture patients are usually older, frail and vulnerable; they require thorough multidisciplinary input during both the acute and rehabilitative phases of their care. Integrated care pathways for hip fractures have demonstrated improvements in time to surgery, reduction in 30 day mortality, reduction in length of stay, reduced costs and improved clinical effectiveness and they facilitate clinical audit. The goals of the National ICP for hip fracture are fully aligned to that of the Irish Hip Fracture Database (IHFD).

**Aim:** To establish agreement and standardise care for hip fractures across multiple specialties. Introduce the ICP to all 16 trauma units in Ireland.

**Objectives:**
- Provide evidence based care
- Ensure care is fully integrated
- Improve consistency
- Improve communication
- Improve collaboration
- Decrease unwanted practice variations
- Ensure milestones are met
- Improve outcomes
- Audit (IHFD)

**Results:** Following several drafts and consultation and a pilot in several sites the final document has been approved. It is ready for implementation nationally. It is 65 pages and follows the patient's journey from admission to discharge. It incorporates all hip fracture care standards, milestones and audit requirements from all disciplines involved with providing care for hip fracture patients. The National Clinical Programme for Trauma and Orthopaedic Surgery is now supporting the implementation of this ICP across all of the trauma units.

For further information about the integrated care pathway for hip fracture or the Irish Hip Fracture Database please email louise.brent@hse.ie