



A member of the
Global Resuscitation Alliance



New Zealand – Data Collection

St John New Zealand

The St John New Zealand ambulance service covers a population of just over 4 million people and attends greater than 4,000 cardiac arrests annually. In 2013 the St John New Zealand Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest Registry was established giving St John the ability to collect data and ultimately report on outcomes from out-of-hospital cardiac arrest for the first time.

CHALLENGE

The difficulty in reporting on technical data was to produce a document that explained to experts and lay people, the clinical outcomes from cardiac arrest. The report also had to be appealing and generate interest from our own staff, key stakeholders and the public. Moreover, as the intent was to engender accountability St John needed to compare our outcomes against other similar services.

INTERVENTION

The challenge of making the report appealing and readable to a wide audience was met through incorporation of infographics and pictures to bring a reader's focus on key results. The requirement for accountability was met through engagement with international collaborators seeking permission to use results from their services alongside the results from St John. In addition, comparisons were made to results already in the public domain. This side-by-side accountability, although not perfectly aligned in some instances, gives direction and impetus for making improvements.

RESULTS

In 2014 St John produced its first Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest Registry Annual Report. Alongside the report posters and media releases were generated which highlighted what St John were doing well and where improvements could be made. This was well received by our staff, key stakeholders and public alike. More recently other services are also adopting the use of infographics in their report.

ADDITIONAL PLANS

Moving forward the focus is on strengthening communications through consistent publications utilizing further improved infographics and incorporation of the 10-Steps within annual reports to increase goal-directed accountability.

The St John Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest Registry Annual Reports are publicly available through this link:
<http://www.stjohn.org.nz/News--Info/Our-Performance/Cardiac-Arrest-Annual-Report/>

