

# webAIRS Information Sheet



**What is webAIRS?**

**How do you register?**

**What is the cost? (free)**

**What does it do?**

**What are the benefits for anaesthesia?**

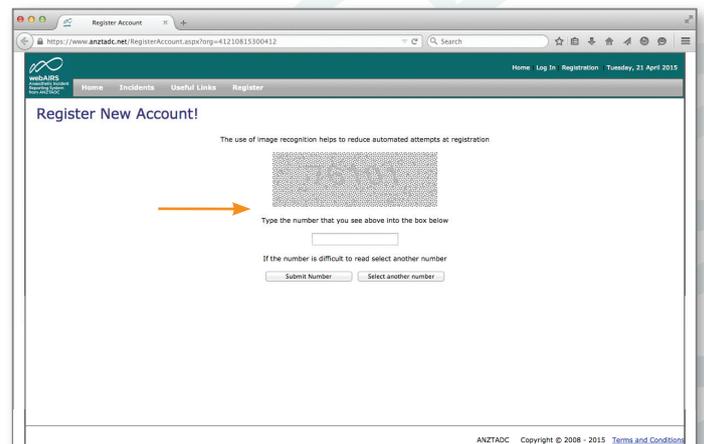
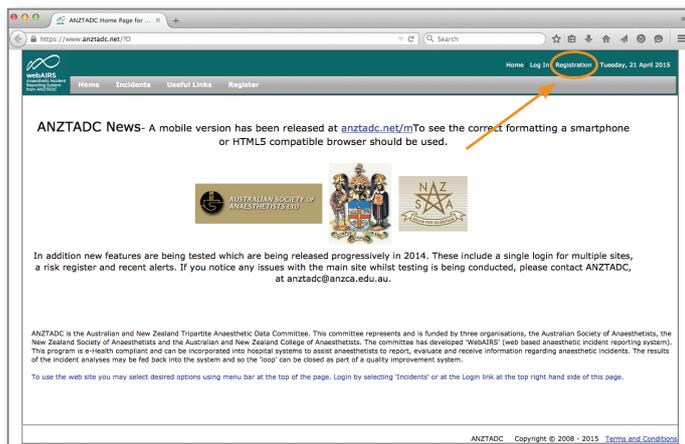
**What are the benefits for me?**

**This pamphlet answers these questions and many others regarding webAIRS.**

## webAIRS and the role of the Australian and New Zealand Tripartite Anaesthetic Data Committee (ANZTADC)

**What is webAIRS?** webAIRS is the web-based anaesthetic incident-reporting system from the Australian and New Zealand Tripartite Anaesthetic Data Committee (ANZTADC). The mission of ANZTADC is to improve the safety and quality of anaesthesia for patients in Australia and New Zealand by providing an enduring capability to capture, analyse and disseminate information about (de-identified) incidents relative to the safety and quality of anaesthesia in Australia and New Zealand. webAIRS is owned and funded by three organisations: the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA), the Australian Society of Anaesthetists (ASA) and the New Zealand Society of Anaesthetists (NZSA).

**How do you register?** The pilot phase has been completed and all hospitals, private practices and individuals are encouraged to register. ANZTADC is in the process of analysing the incidents and has started releasing the results in the bulletins and newsletters of the parent organisations. If you would like to join webAIRS and send de-identified incident data from your hospital to this bi-national registry, please visit the ANZTADC home page at [www.anztadc.net](http://www.anztadc.net) and click the registration link in the top right-hand corner. You will be asked to enter a captcha number for security purposes, then simply follow the onscreen instructions.



**What is the cost?** This web-based program is free and available to all members of ANZCA, ASA and NZSA. And, as an active user of webAIRS, you are entitled to two CPD points per hour of reporting incident data to ANZTADC.

### What does it do?

**Background:** Incident monitoring has been used extensively in high-risk human activity, such as the airline, nuclear and petrochemical industries to reduce risk and improve quality and safety. Anaesthetic incident monitoring has taken place in Australia and New Zealand since the 1980s and papers have been published by the Australian Patient Safety Foundation (APSF) from data collected by AIMS (Anaesthetic Incident Monitoring Study). The Australian and New Zealand Tripartite Anaesthetic Data Committee (ANZTADC) was formed in 2005 by ANZCA, the ASA and the NZSA. From 2005 to 2007 a review of existing incident reporting systems was made and a set of requirements drawn up. From these requirements the webAIRS software program was created.

**Functions:** webAIRS can replace paper-based reporting of incidents in your department. It does not interfere with existing hospital incident recording and management systems, but enables the forwarding of a de-identified subset of the data to a bi-national registry. The software includes a tool for presenting department incidents at local morbidity and mortality meetings while maintaining anonymity at a national level.

The webAIRS registry will be used to formulate strategies for helping prevent the recurrence of incidents. The system will operate using similar principles and methods to those used by the Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS) with the ACHS clinical indicator reporting system. The ultimate aim is to improve patient quality and safety during anaesthesia. The project has received qualified privilege by the Department of Health and Ageing in Australia and the Ministry of Health in New Zealand to collect and protect the data.

*If you wish to assist with the analysis of data and development of strategies, please contact ANZTADC using the contact details at the bottom of this pamphlet.*

**What are benefits for anaesthesia?** The benefits for the specialty of anaesthesia are the development of evidence-based, safer approaches to crisis management. This includes the prevention and the management of these events. In addition, and for the benefit of information sharing, ANZTADC is in close communication with stakeholders operating similar registries throughout the world. This includes attending meetings of the Anesthesia Quality Institute in the US, which involves representatives from similar organisations in Canada, South America, Europe, Africa and Asia.

**What are the benefits for me?** ANZTADC is developing a knowledge base for anaesthetists that will provide a connection to information relative to many of the complex clinical situations that require solving during our clinical practice. This will allow consistency in decision-making and provide an opportunity to demonstrate the following of accepted pathways when reviewing anaesthetic events.

Another benefit is that when reporting, analysing incidents and performing quality assurance activities in webAIRS, CPD credits are acquired at two credits per hour in the category of practice evaluation.

### Want to find out more?

- Attend the presentations at the annual meetings of ANZCA, the ASA and the NZSA.
- Read articles about it in the *ANZCA Bulletin*, the ASA magazine and the NZSA newsletter.
- Go to the ANZTADC website [www.anztadc.net](http://www.anztadc.net) and follow the links.

Contact **ANZTADC** at [anztadc@anzca.edu.au](mailto:anztadc@anzca.edu.au)

