Safe Surgery South Africa
Research Support Service Offering

Safe Surgery SA is a research-driven non-profit organisation enabling the use of data related to perioperative care to empower clinicians in providing affordable quality services in optimal settings. We do this by providing research support, promoting access to relevant data, and seeking collaborative partnerships.

African Perioperative Research Group (**APORG**) membership registration is strongly encouraged for all researchers taking up this research support service offering. You can register on the APON platform via this link: https://periopnetwork.org. APON is an international platform where researchers can engage with each other and contribute to perioperative research throughout Africa. The group includes researchers from all aspects of Perioperative Medicine including anaesthesia, surgery and allied disciplines. APORG is administered by SSSA and membership is free. To read more about APORG, go to: http://www.asos.org.za/index.php/aporg

The research support services offered by Safe Surgery SA include:

1. The use of the SSSA as the study project office, enabling streamlined communication and troubleshooting
2. Access to the African Perioperative Network platform to promote the study amongst colleagues
3. Creating data collection tools specific to the project
4. Designing and maintaining a study website
5. User management – assisting researchers with use of the chosen data collection tool
6. Enabling survey research distribution to consenting APON participants

The following applications are available for use to create data collection tools:

Research Electronic Data Capture (**REDCap**) is a secure web application for building and managing online surveys and databases. REDCap was created at the Vanderbilt University by Paul Harris in 2004,[1] with the aim of giving clinical researchers a platform that is compliant with the Health Information Privacy and Security Act (HIPSA), and other local and international regulation and legislation. REDCap has since grown to become one of the most widely adopted platforms for research around the world, currently used by 2221 institutions in 108 countries around the world. *www.project-redcap.org*

The Perioperative Shared Health Record (**PSHR**) is an electronic platform that enables the capturing of patient-reported measures (preoperatively and postoperatively), the capturing of clinical and administrative data by providers (surgeons and anaesthetists), and the secure receiving of patient data from hospitals (e.g. outcomes data) or medical funders (e.g. administrative data: patient demographic data, procedural data). Its interoperability mediator enables integration of data from sources such as practice management systems. The preoperative patient-reported data allows for preoperative screening. It can also incorporate algorithms to allow for preoperative risk stratification. Use of the PSHR is currently limited to researchers within South Africa.

Research Electronic Data Capture (REDCap) web application:

- Development of data collection tools in REDCap. For a survey tool example, click here
- Investigator- and user support on the REDCap system.
- Secure data management and hosting of data on a secure Safe Surgery SA REDCap server.
- Exporting of de-identified research data to Excel, SPSS, SAS, R, Stata, and CDISC ODM formats subject to ethics- and regulatory approval.

Perioperative Shared Health Record (PSHR) web-based platform:

- Customizing of the patient-centric PSHR dataset to allow data collection for specific research objectives
- Investigator- and user support when using the PSHR as data collection tool
- Secure data management and data hosting
- Exporting of de-identified data in Excel format subject to ethics- and regulatory approval.

Fee Structure

Type of Research	Price (excluding VAT)
Research for MMED purposes	R1500
Research for Doctoral study purposes	R4000 (when using REDCap); quoted per project when using PSHR
Research for non-degree purposes	Fee to be negotiated and quoted per project
Multi-centre research	Fee to be quoted depending on the requirements of the project

Other services to be quoted on a project specific basis.

How to apply:

If you are interested in taking up the offer, please complete this form and we will compile a fee estimate for the service offering.
For any questions, please email us at it@safesurgery.co.za

1.   Harris PA, Taylor R, Thielke R, Payne J, Gonzalez N, Conde JG. Research electronic data capture (REDCap)— A metadata-driven methodology and workflow process for providing translational research informatics support. *J Biomed Inform*. 2009;42(2):377-381. doi:10.1016/j.jbi.2008.08.010