


# The Winthrop NSQIP Spine Collaborative

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Winthrop-University Hospital has been a participant in the American College of Surgeons' National Surgical Quality Improvement Program since July of 2010. Winthrop, along with the ACSNSQIP Leadership, is piloting a National Spine Surgery Collaborative with the intent to establish best practice in post-op VTE prevention.

The program is under the direction of our Surgeon Champions, Dr. Jules Garbus, Dr. Eva Chalas and Dr. Collin Brathwaite. The two Certified Surgical Clinical reviewers include Roseann Grandelli, RN, and Maureen Keegan, RN. As part of our participation in this international database, Ms. Grandelli and Ms. Keegan met at the National Conference this past July with Winthrop physicians, other interested sites and Dr. Joseph A. Caprini with the intent to establish a Spine Surgery Collaborative.

At present 17 sites across the country are interested in reducing complications after spine surgery. We have an interdisciplinary team consisting of Neurology—under the direction of Dr. Mark Stecker, Neurosurgery—under the direction of Dr. Nancy Epstein and Dr. Ben Cohen, Orthopedics, under the direction of Dr. James Capozzi, and Hematology, with the assistance of Dr. Alex Hindenburg. The Surgeon Champion, Dr. Garbus, and the Nurse Reviewers, have established data collection parameters and variables.

If you are interested in this project, please stop in to speak with a Nurse Reviewer, located in Clinical Informatics Department on Winthrop 3, or call Maureen Keegan at ext. 4923 ([mkeegan@winthrop.org](mailto:mkeegan@winthrop.org)) or Roseann Grandelli at ext. 8145 ([rgrandelli@winthrop.org](mailto:rgrandelli@winthrop.org)). They would be glad to answer any questions with regards to this project or any of the collaboratives that Winthrop is participating in from across the country.

These projects include:

- Optimizing Geriatric Care in the Surgical Patient with Yale New Haven (Dr. Ronnie Rosenthal),
- Pancreatic/Hepatobiliary database with Indiana State University (Dr. Henry Pitt) and
- Hip Fracture Collaborative with Dr. Stephan Kates and Dr. Kevin Bozic.

This is a wonderful opportunity for Winthrop to continue its practice of providing patients with safe, quality care. *Won't you join us?*