

# **Outpatient Transformation Conference South 2023**

**Agenda for today**



**Wednesday 4th October | 15Hatfields, London**



Welcome to the Outpatient  
Transformation Conference South 2023!



**Outpatient  
Transformation  
Conference  
South 2023**



4<sup>th</sup> October 2023  
8am – 4pm  
15 Hatfields, London





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South 2023**

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# Chair Opening Address



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**Katrina Davies**

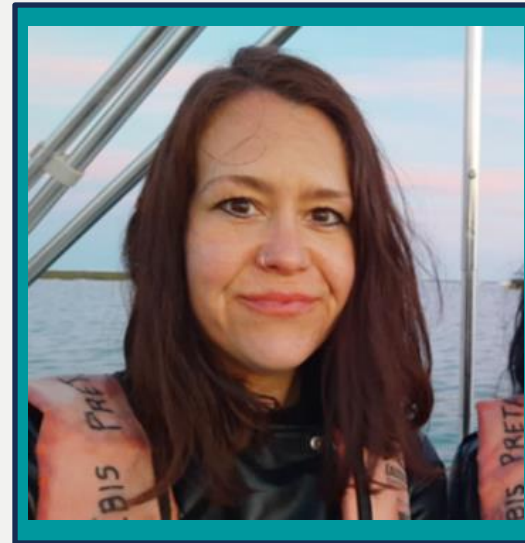
Outpatient Transformation  
Programme Director - Barts Health



Speaking Now...



**Outpatient  
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South 2023**



**Sarah Tilsed**  
Head of Patient  
Partnershi - Patients  
Association



**Teena Chowdhury**  
Deputy Director, Care  
Quality Improvement  
Directorat - Royal  
College of Physicians



Royal College  
of Physicians

# Future of outpatient care - strategy

- Teena Chowdhury, Deputy Director, Care Quality Improvement Department, Royal College of Physicians
- Sarah Tilsed, Head of Patient Partnership, The Patient Association

**NHS**  
England



# What are we trying to achieve?



- Reducing health inequalities
- Safer care
- Integrated care
- Personalised care (evidence based)
- Better outcomes



Dr Vin Diwakar, Medical Director  
National Transformation and Medical  
Directorates in NHS England, said at the  
first summit -

"We are ready to hear ideas, old and  
new, and to work through what  
changes can be made and how they can  
be implemented by working with those  
who deliver services and those who will  
be most impacted by any change"



## A message from Dr John Dean, Clinical Vice President, RCP



“There are many examples of excellent and innovative practice that we can share, learn from, spread and adapt and we must do that”

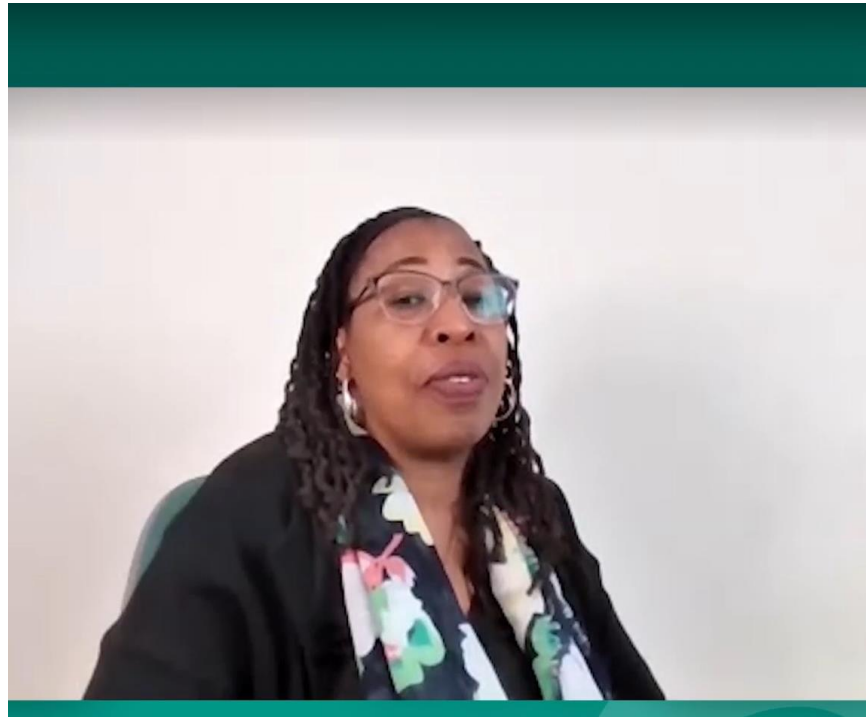


“We have a tremendous opportunity to make things better for patients, their families and staff”



# Patient Panel

Irene



Georgina

"There was some great discussion. I feel it was great to have the opportunity for us as patients to at least have a seat at the table when processes and procedures that directly affect us are being looked at. I really enjoyed the summits"

# Workstreams

- Patient engagement and involvement
  - Patient survey
  - Focus groups and reports
- Literature review
- Case studies, best practice, blog series – *Medical Care – driving change*
- Stakeholder engagement
  - Meetings
  - Survey
  - Social media

# How we worked with patients

- Focus groups
  - Reports
- Steering Group
- Summits
- Survey



# Who have we engaged with?

- Clinicians from multiple specialties and disciplines
- Clinicians at different career grades
- Clinicians in different regions working in local and regional roles
- Clinical leaders in national roles
- Policy and strategy development colleagues in national roles
- Members of provider teams with expertise in patient safety, transformation, quality improvement, digital transformation and implementation

# Summits

## Summit 1

25 May 2023

Stakeholder engagement

## Summit 2

21 June 2023

Accessing quality care

## Summit 3

6 July 2023

Future models of care

## Summit 4

14 Sept 2023

Delivering care fit for now  
and the future

### Themes (wider context)

Patient experience

Digital health

Health inequalities

Implementation of change

# Early questions

- What is the purpose and value of outpatient care?
- What are the enablers for good care?
- What do we need to transform care?
- What does access to outpatients mean to you?



Join at [menti.com](https://menti.com) use code 3477 7161

# What is the value and purpose of outpatient care?

Waiting for responses ...



# What is the purpose and value of outpatient care?

(responses from summit participants)





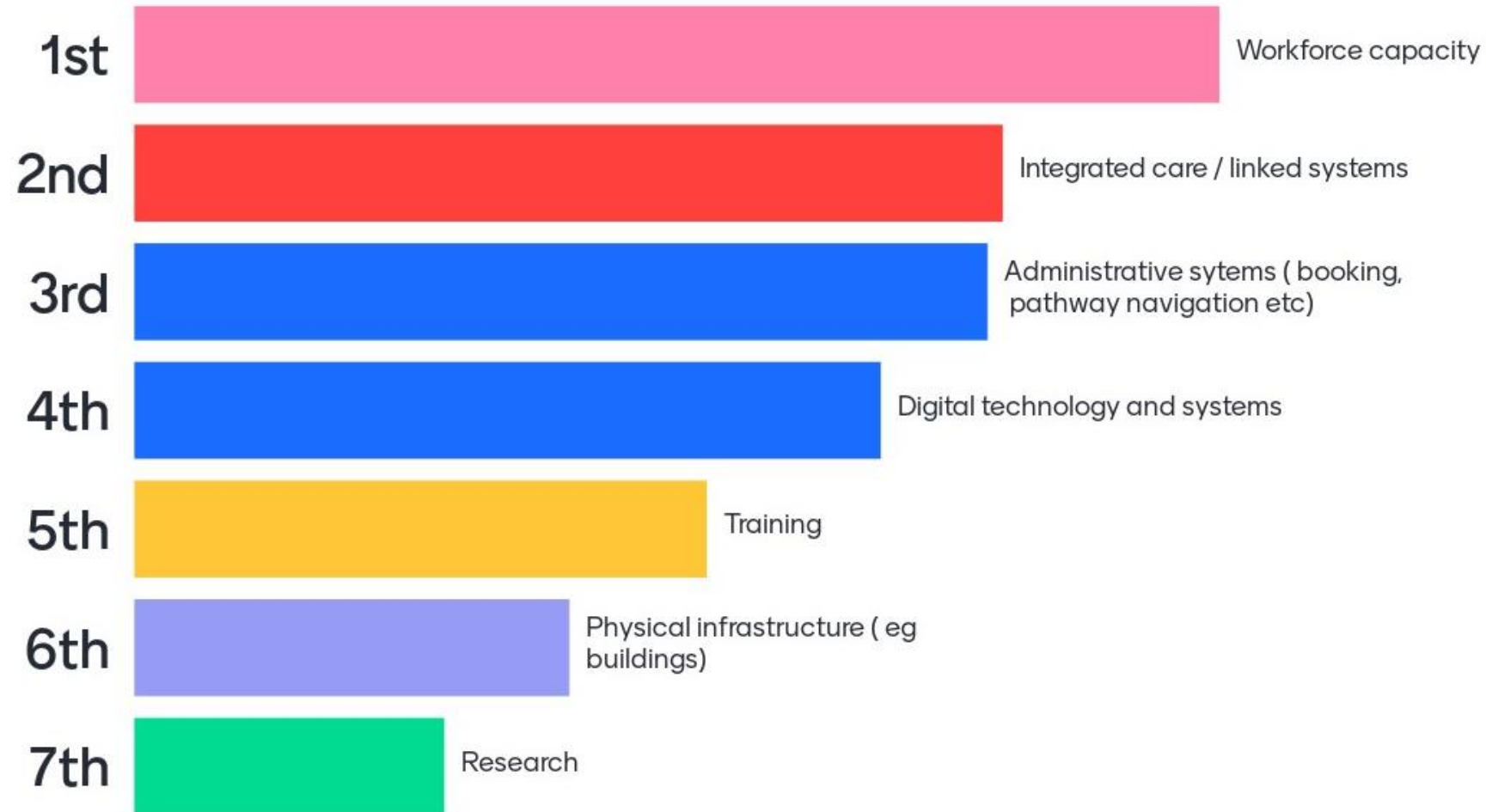
# What are the enablers for good care?

- 1st | Administrative systems (e.g. booking, pathway navigation)
- 2nd | Digital technology and systems
- 3rd | Integrated care / linked systems
- 4th | Physical infrastructure (e.g. buildings)
- 5th | Research
- 6th | Training
- 7th | Workforce capacity

▶ Start Menti



## What are the enablers for good care? (responses from summit participants)



Join at [menti.com](https://menti.com) use code 3477 7161

# What do we need to transform care?

▶ Start Menti

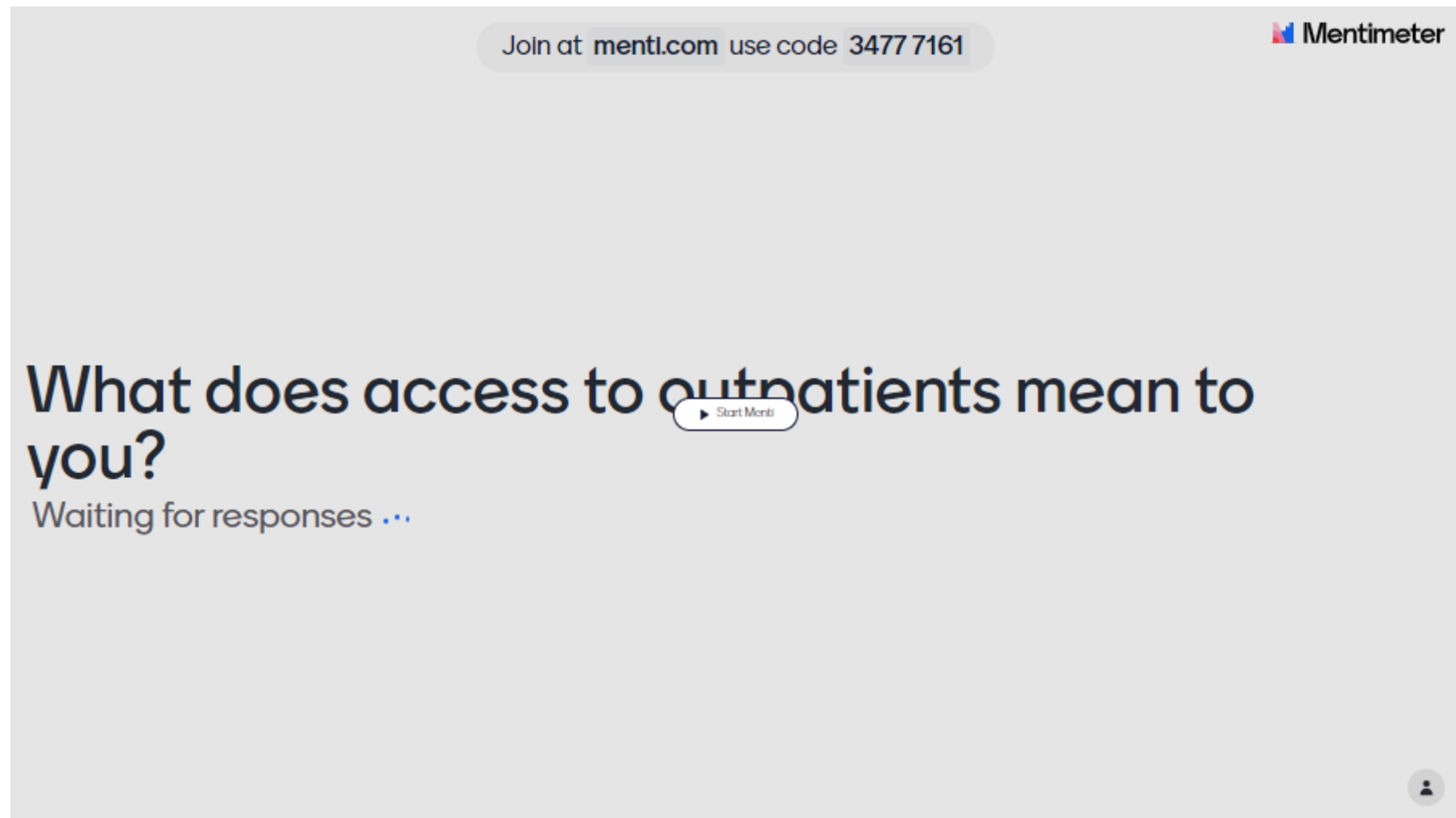
Waiting for responses ...



## What do we need to transform care? (responses from summit participants)



# What does access to outpatients mean to you?



## What does access to outpatients mean to you? (response from patient panel)



# 10 key themes from the summits



Royal College  
of Physicians



# Patient centred

- Patient choice and empowerment
- Personalised care
- Whole person care/holistic care





# Whole pathway

- Integrated care
- Communication



# Accessing quality care

- Health inequalities
- Coordination of care



# Enablers to deliver good care

- Digital health
- Education and training
- Workforce capacity



# Next steps

- Final stage of the listening and engagement exercise
- Reflecting on the work so far to draft the strategy
- Strategy to be published in December 2023



Speaking Now...



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**Mr Daniel de Rozarieux**  
Director of Elective Care - NHS  
Sussex

# Introducing... My Health and Care+

*Improving Lives Together*



# What is My Health and Care+ ?

Across Sussex, all health and care partners are working to reduce waiting lists and the length of time that people are waiting for care.

This month a new initiative goes live in Sussex that will improve patient choice and reduce waiting times.

My Health and Care+ (MHC+) provides patients with greater visibility of their referral through the NHS App, and support providers to streamline contact and communication with patients, which in turn is expected to speed up pathway processes.

Sussex is one of three systems in the country to be selected to implement the new initiative that will be available through the NHS App and through a voice call system for those who are not digitally enabled.

MHC+ will integrate with our internal systems and will work to support our booking processes, patient communications and validation of waiting lists.

The Sussex implementation process is expected to run from September 2023 to March 2024 with a formal evaluation to follow.

*Improving Lives Together*

# What will this mean for patients?

The functionality will enable patients to:

- Know when their referral has been triaged and accepted;
- Receive appointment reminders;
- Have improved patient choice and opt to travel further for a shorter waiting time;
- View and change their appointments;
- Be validated every 12 weeks;
- Be engaged in shared decision making;
- Receive more resources and information as they wait; and
- Receive early health screening questionnaire.

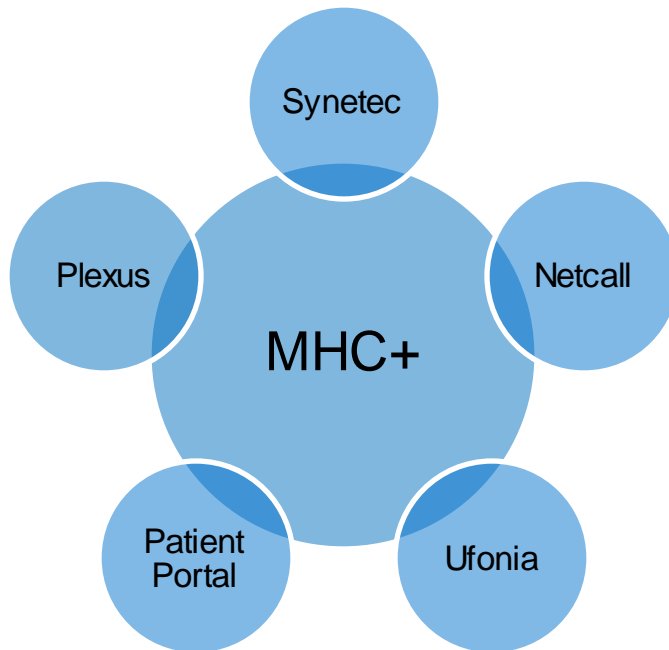


# What are the benefits to us?

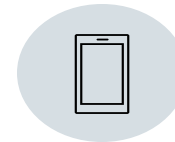
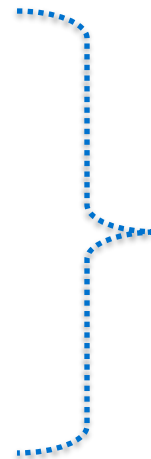
- There are currently large numbers of people waiting too long for diagnostic services and planned care, which can cause a deterioration in their condition, impact on their day-to-day lifestyle, and affect their general health and wellbeing.
- Across Sussex, health and care partners have agreed that reducing the length of time people are waiting for diagnostic and elective care is one of the four key immediate improvements for the system this year.
- My Health and Care+ will provide patients with increased choice and enable patients to be more involved and engaged in their pathway.
- My Health and Care+ will help system partners in Sussex to reduce waiting times for patients through regular validation of patients' needs and improved patient choice.
- Ultimately, My Health and Care+ is a key initiative to support our system work to reduce the length of time that people waiting for elective care in Sussex.

# How will this work with our systems?

The functionality of MHC+ will be delivered through integration with suppliers:



Patients across Sussex will experience MHC+ in one of two ways:



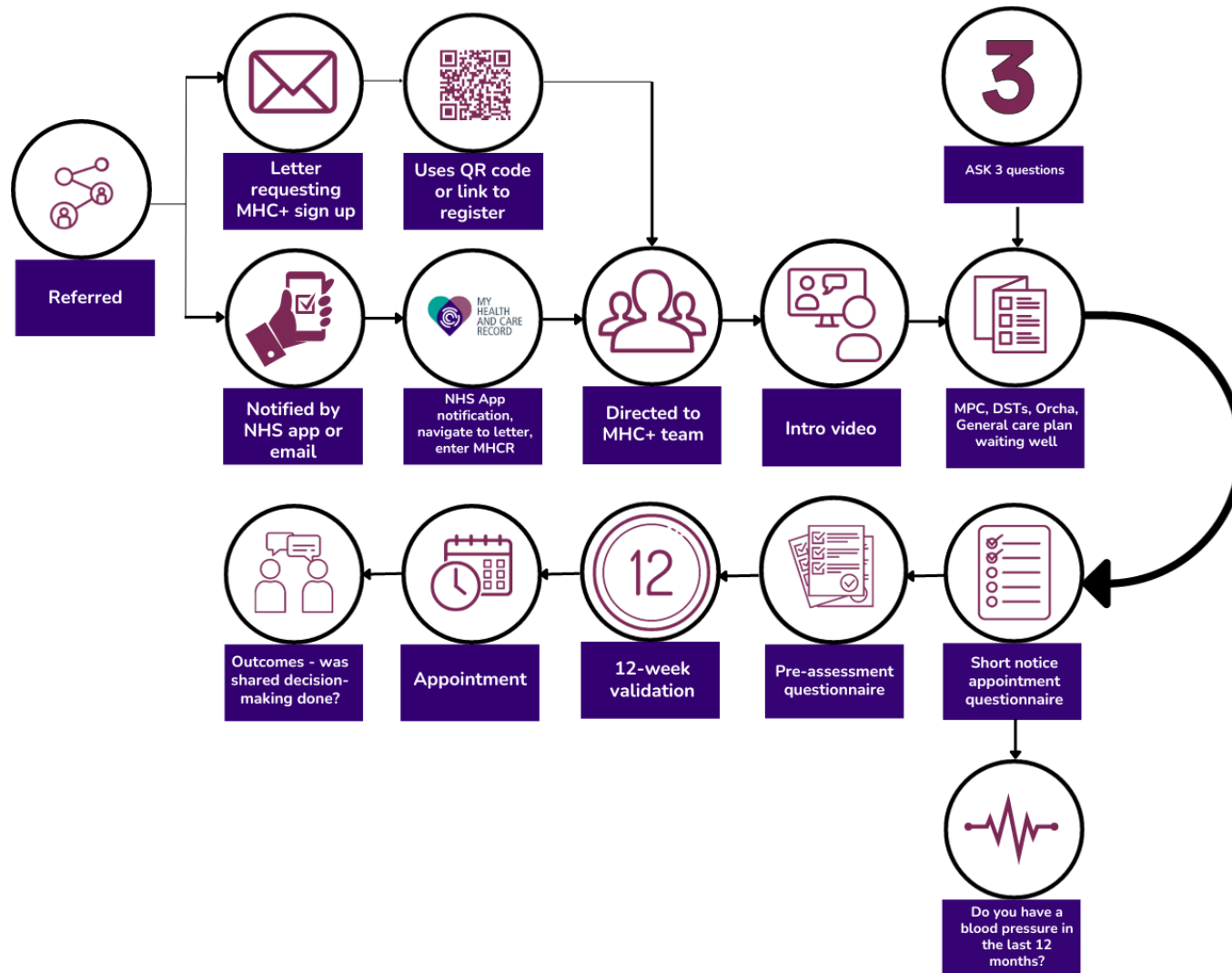
The Patient Portal  
(MHCR)/ NHS App



Natural voice language calls  
where patients are not able  
to engage via the Patient  
Portal

*Improving Lives Together*

# How will it work for patients?



This outline shows how patients will be to use the new functionality, and how this will support at each part of the referral pathway.

# Benefits of MHC+



# What will this mean for patients?

Patients will know when their referral has been triaged and accepted



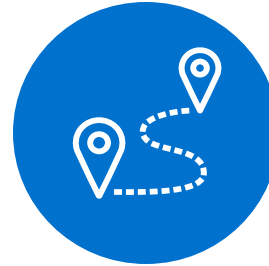
15 – 30% reduction in admin time in primary and secondary care

Patients will receive appointment reminders



Reduced DNAs

Patients can opt to travel further for a shorter waiting time



Improved patient choice and reduced waiting times

Patients will be able to view and change their appointments



Reduced late patient-initiated cancellations

Patients will be validated every 12-weeks



10% of patients removed from the waiting list following validation

Patients will be engaged in shared decision making



Patients are more engaged in their care

Patients will have more resources/ information available to them



Patients gain education and insight

Patients will receive early health screening questionnaires



Ability of optimise patients and appropriate use of resources

# Improving the way we work

- Reducing time spent responding to patient queries by hospital booking teams and GP practices;
- Validation will enable trusts to keep up to date waiting lists with trusted updates directly from the patient;
- Hospital administrative staff can manage their access duties to carry out other tasks;
- Scaling of shared decision-making leads to avoidable progression to surgery. Estimate between 1,000 – 2,500 fewer procedures;
- Enable adjustment and equity of waiting lists by identifying patients willing to travel to alternative providers;
- Clinicians will have more information available before the first appointment through the contact with the patient through the NHS App;
- Reduced length of stay and reduced complications associated with enhanced pre-habilitation support;
- Live information on patients who are ready for elective care and therefore this can help with consideration of short notice changes to surgery schedules;
- PALS expected to receive fewer patient contacts, concerns and complaints.

*Improving Lives Together*

# What we could see in numbers...

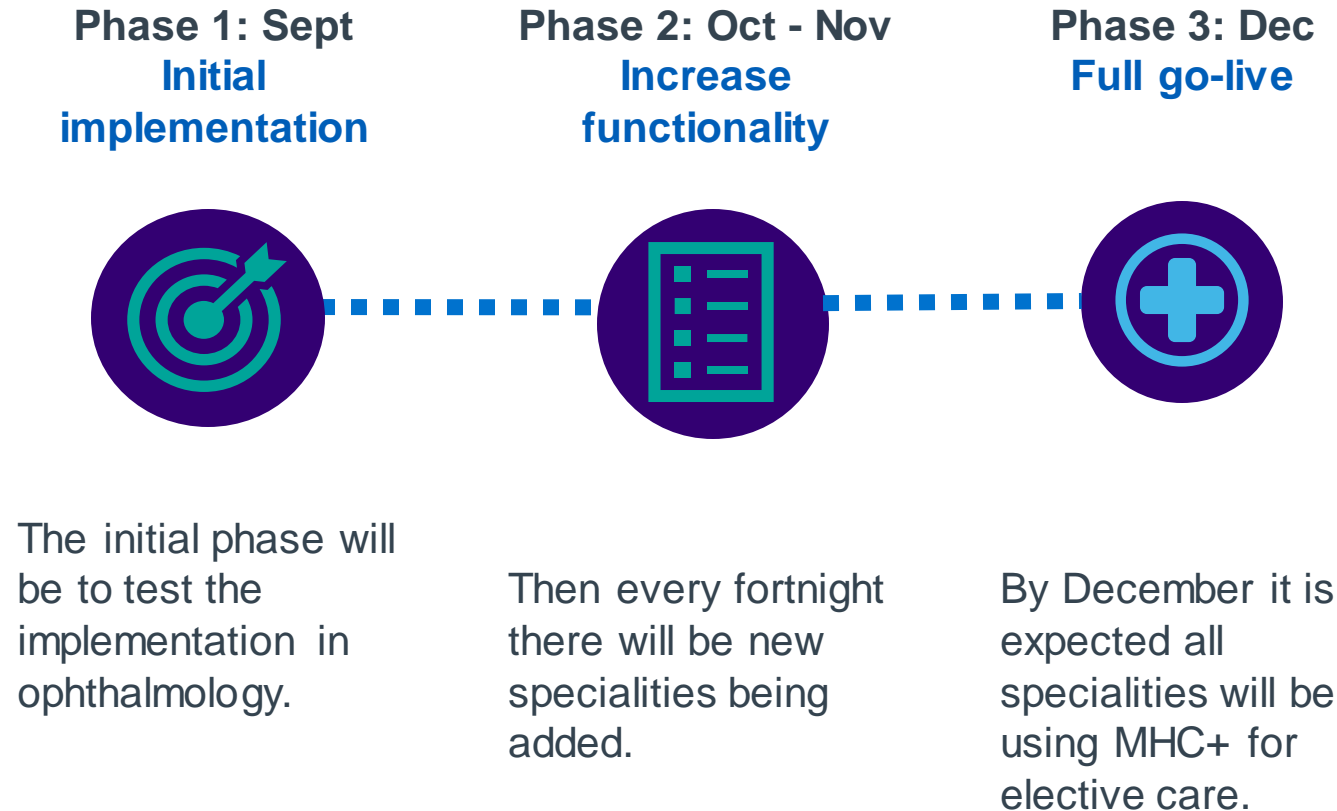
- Increase the number of people on HVLC pathways engaged in a meet and greet pathway under use case 2 – over 1000 patients a month
- Onboard existing patients on the non-admitted waiting list – 30-50%
- Increase the number of people using the NHS App in Sussex to 65%
- Freeing up administrative time in primary care/ community care/ secondary care by reducing the volume of expedites and duplicate referrals patients enquiring about the status of their referral
- Freeing up administrative time in hospitals from responding to e-mails from patients enquiring about the status of their referral by 15-30%
- Reduction in DNAs resulting from patients unaware that they have been referred to secondary care and not attending\*

# Timeline for implementation





# What will this mean for patients?



*Improving Lives Together*





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# Q&A Panel



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# Morning Break



## Chair Morning Reflection



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**Katrina Davies**

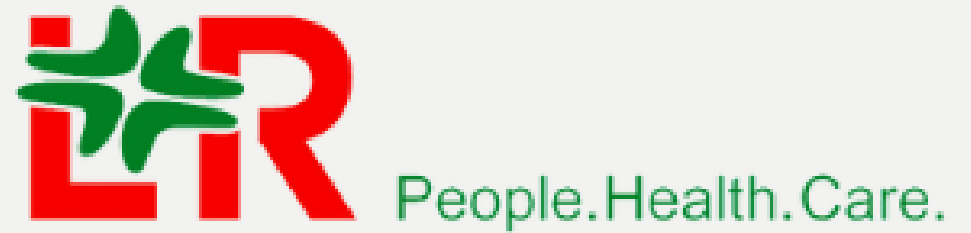
Outpatient Transformation  
Programme Director - Barts Health



# Up Next...



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Speaking Now...



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**Ellie McLeod-Barker**  
Regional Commercial Manager - L&R  
UK

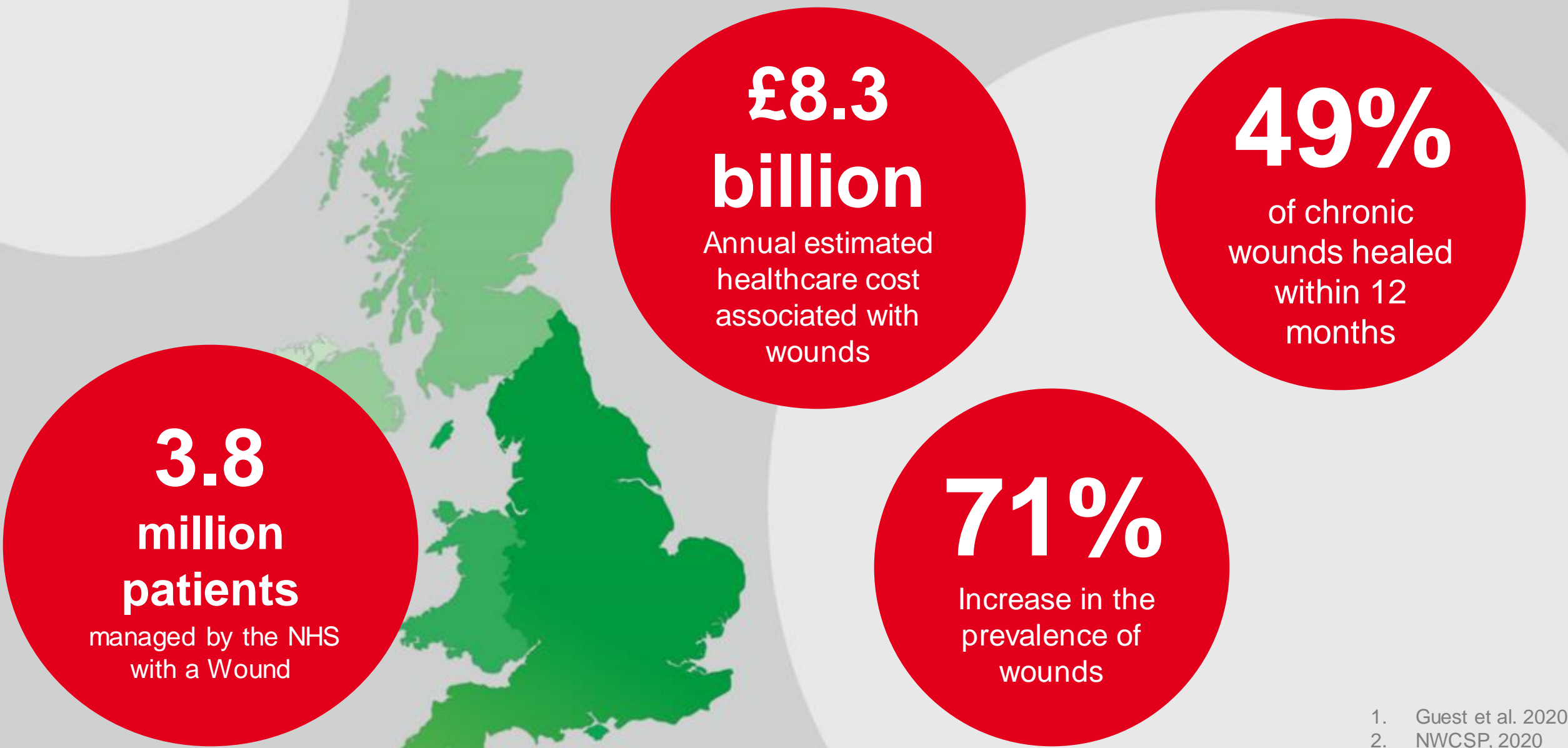


# Workforce and clinical transformation through partnership working

Ellie McLeod-Barker, Commercial Manager, L&R



# The burden of wound care is escalating...



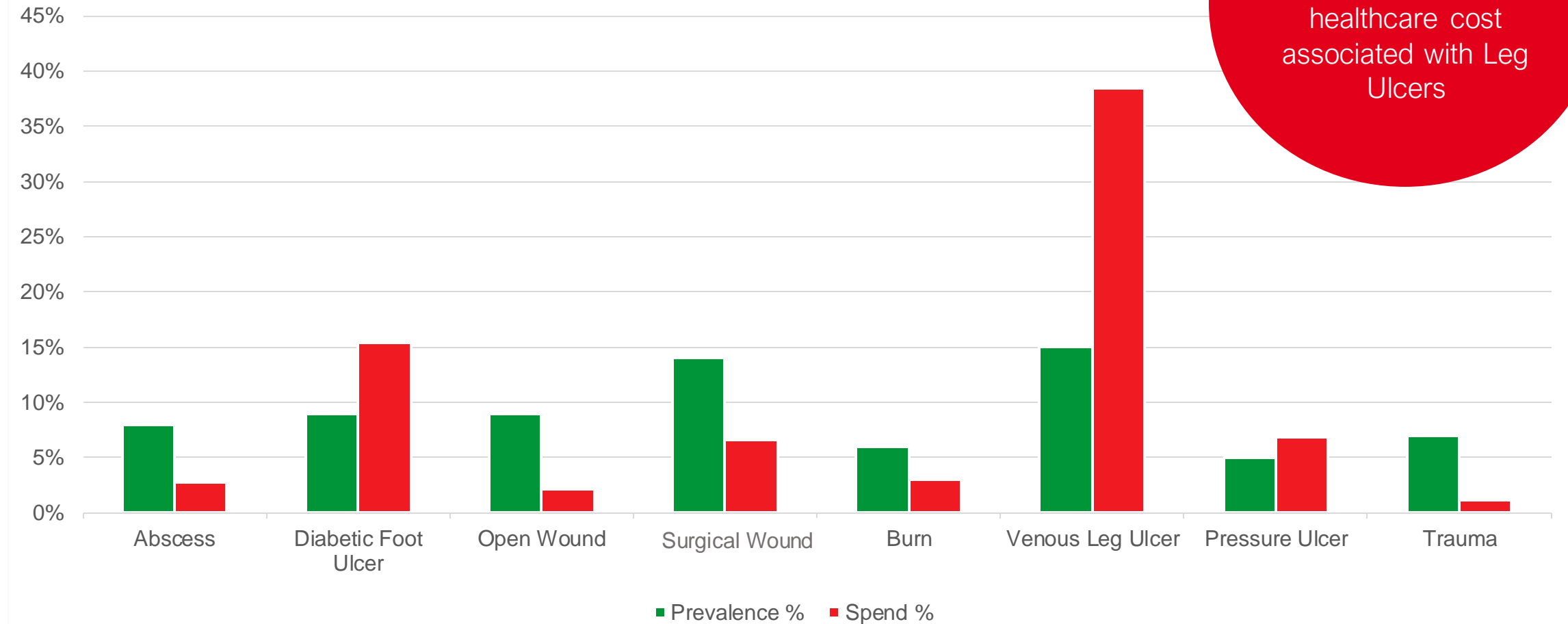
1. Guest et al. 2020
2. NWCSP, 2020

# The burden of wound care is escalating

**£3.1 billion**

Annual estimated  
healthcare cost  
associated with Leg  
Ulcers

Prevalence Vs Spend by Wound Type



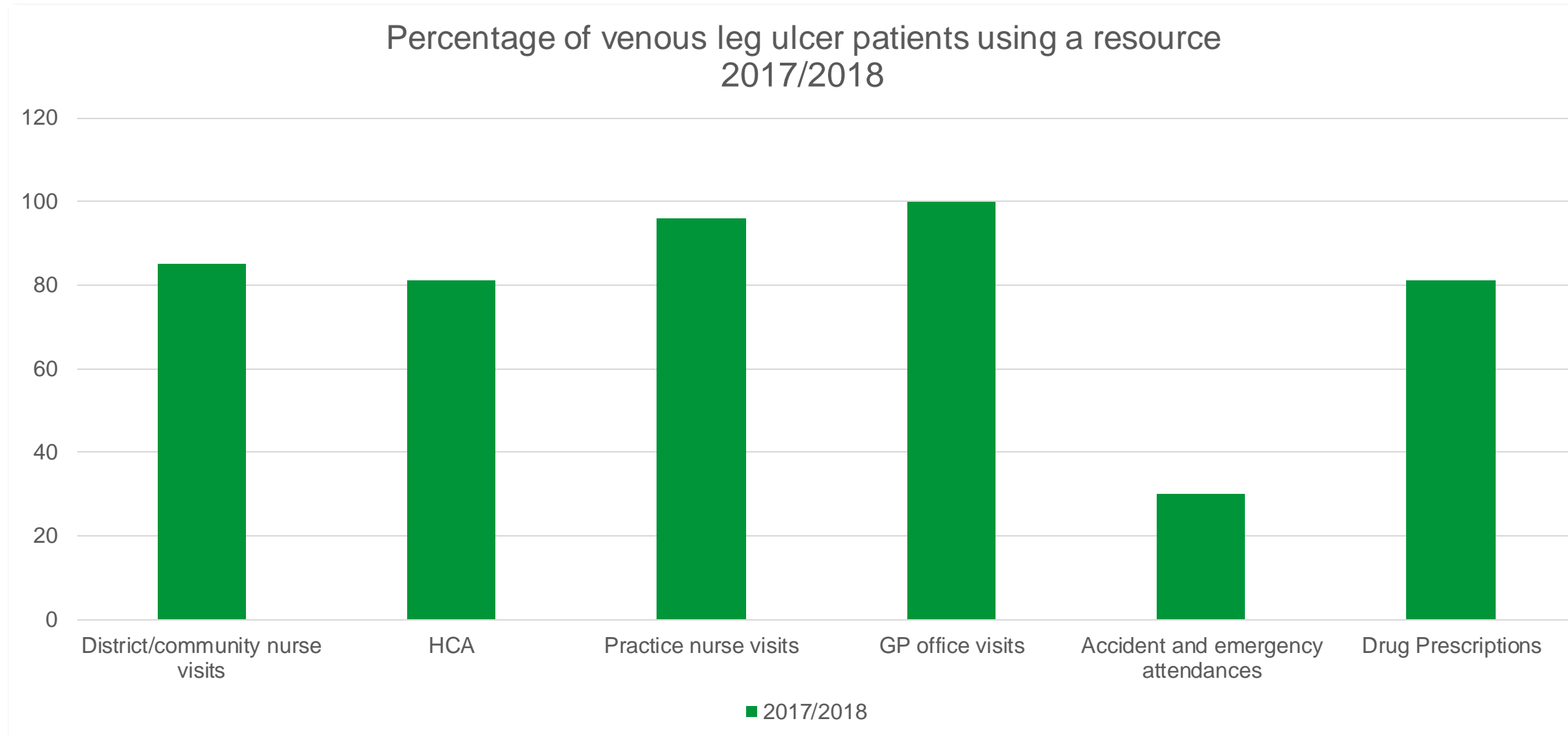
# The community workforce challenge

“There are less nurses to care and more patients needing care”

The following comments were heard by the RCN during a community nursing forum:

- “Minimum staffing requirements aren’t being met within my team”
- “I am making at least 20 patient visits per day – I don’t have enough time”
- “My experienced colleagues are leaving and not being replaced - this impacts on my patients”
- “My wellbeing is suffering, and I don’t have support”

# The burden of wound care is escalating



# Betty's Story

January 2017



## NHS RightCare scenario: The variation between standard and optimal pathways



Betty's story: Wound care

January 2017

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/rightcare/wp-content/uploads/sites/40/2017/02/nhs-rightcare-bettys-story-app1.pdf>

## Financial information



Analysis by provider	Sub-optimal	Optimal
Acute	£1,703	£0
Ambulance service	£466	£0
Community teams	£2,167	£12
Primary care	£1,334	£346
Pharmacist	£3	£3
Leg ulcer pathway	£0	£144
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>£5,673</b>	<b>£505</b>

In the suboptimal scenario:

- Dressings represent £1,353 (24%) of the total costs versus £88 in the optimal pathway.
- Clinical time represents £2,139 (38%) of the total costs versus £195 in the optimal pathway.

# Action needed for patients

“It feels like there’s **little tiny people inside your leg with knives stabbing you** or **hot acid** is being poured down your shin”

“**After 5 years**, this was the first time I’d been told that what I had was a leg ulcer. I didn’t know what a leg ulcer was or what it looked like. I’d spent months being told it was an infection and being given antibiotics rather than compression”

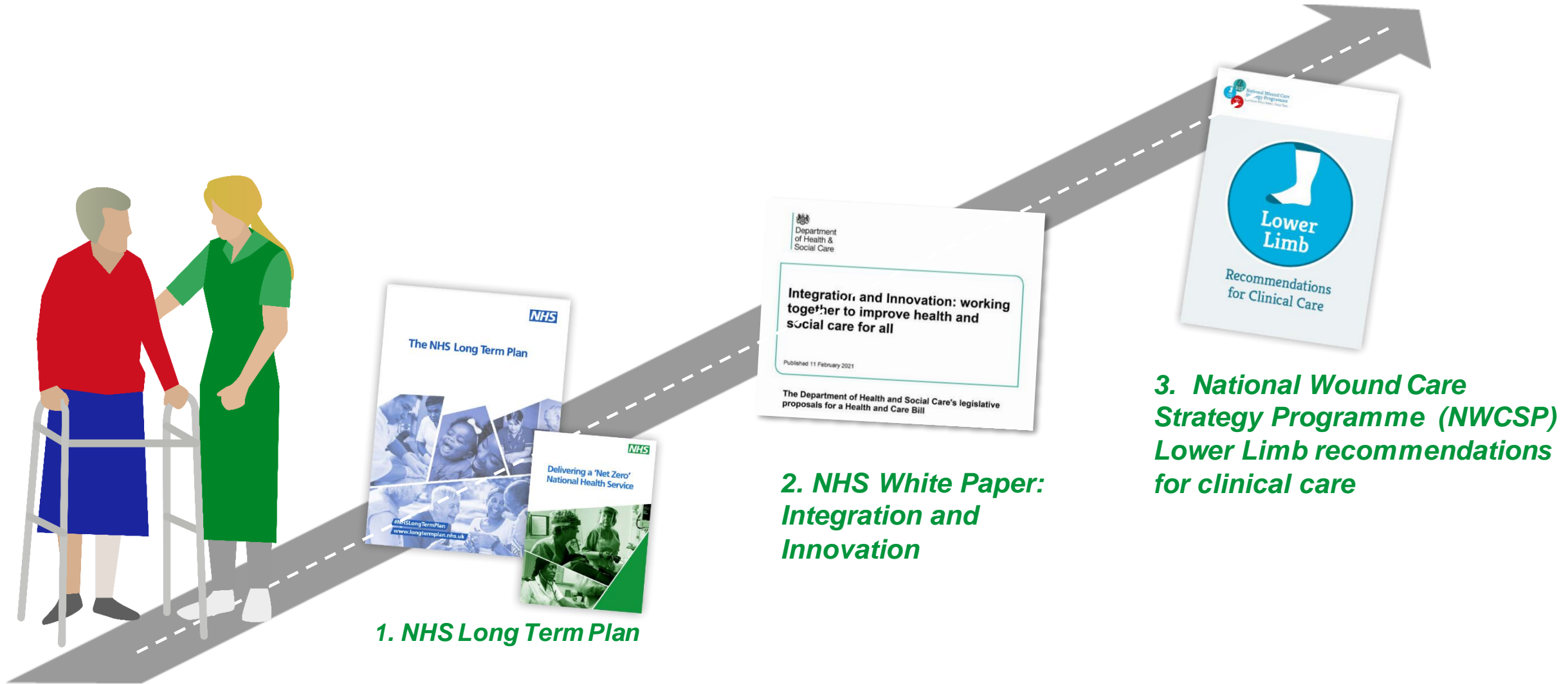


“The thing I found hardest was how difficult it was to get around. Especially when my doctors were insisting on having my dressings changed **three times a week**”

“I have dealt with the same problems since I was 20 years old. I’m now 43 and **I am about to give up**. This battle has been horrendous **it’s taken everything from me**.”

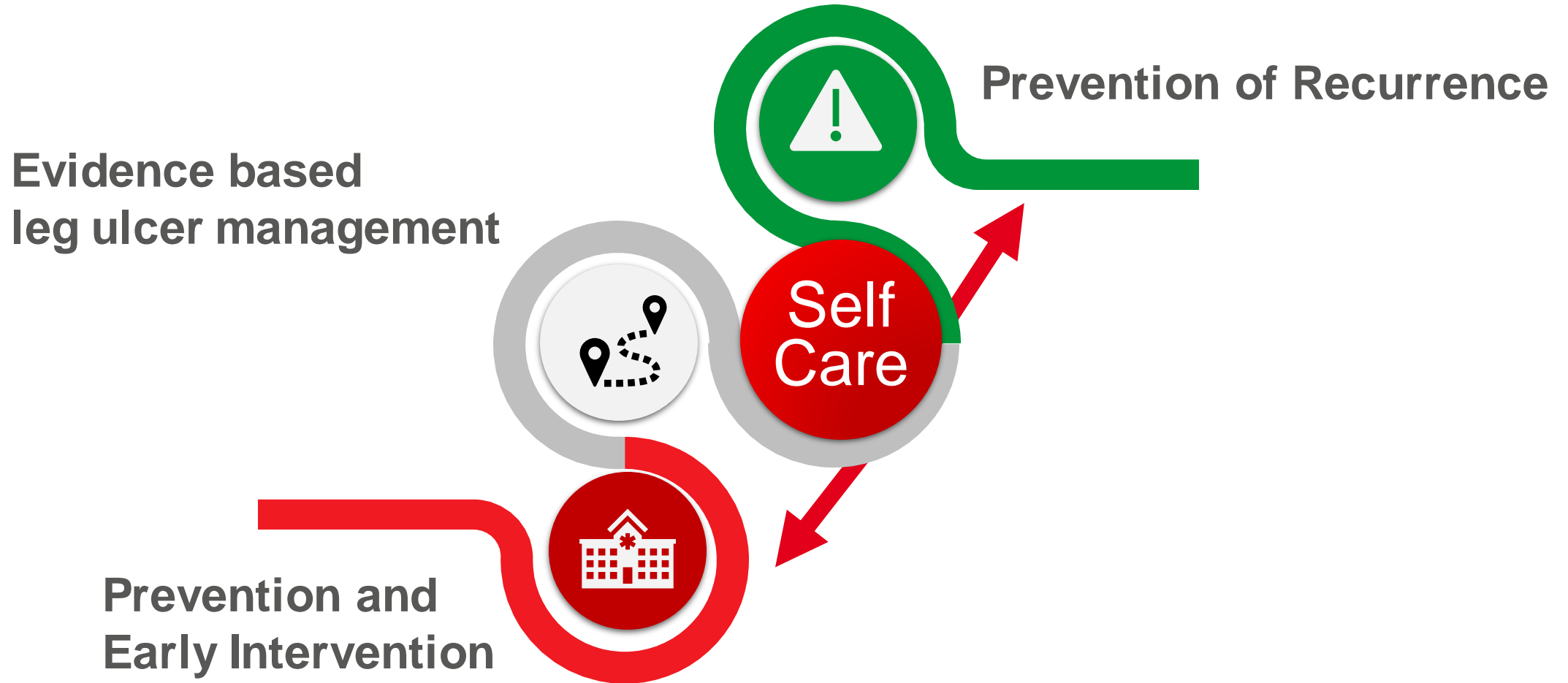
“The last one was the most severe and I think the results from that and everything else that occurred as a result of it, **has terrified me**.”

# The need to optimise the patient pathway is evident:

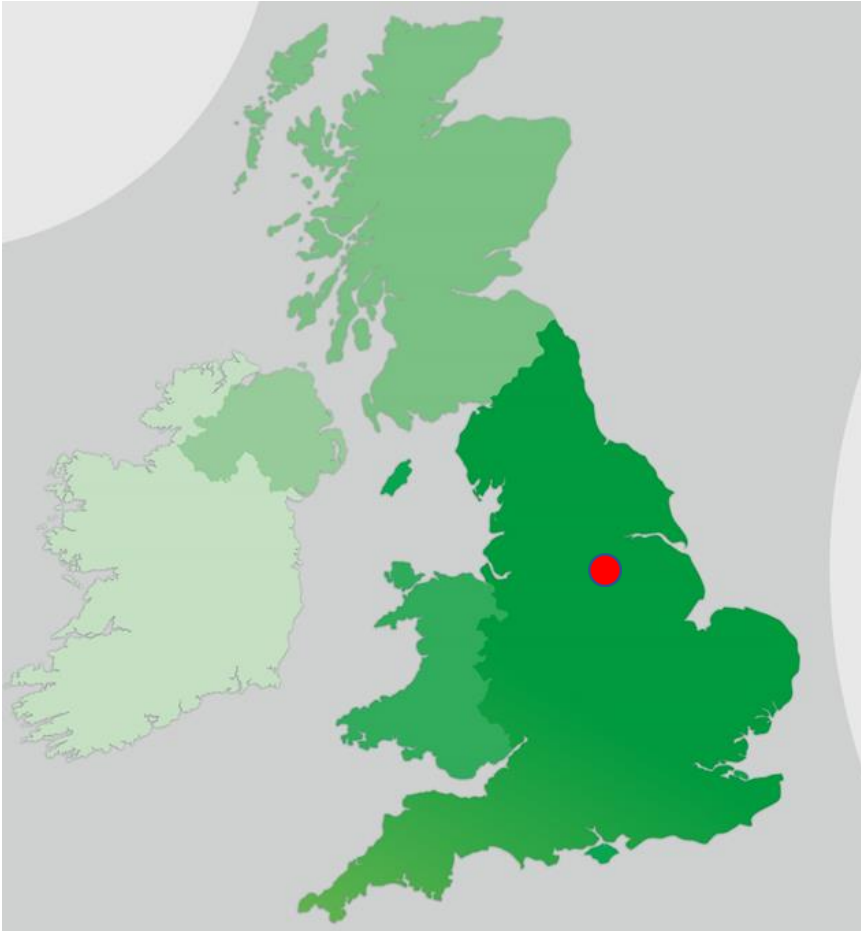




# A solution for the whole patient journey



# South West Yorkshire Partnership Trust



**2,000**

The approximate number of new patients presenting with leg ulcers at South West Yorkshire Partnership Foundation Trust in a 12-month period (2019)

Up to **1,380** may re-present to South West Yorkshire Partnership Foundation Trust with a recurring leg ulcer annually

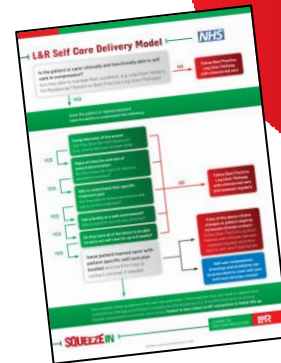
**£4.3 million**

The annual approximated cost associated with treating patients with leg ulcers in South West Yorkshire Partnership Foundation Trust

# Implementing a 3 step approach...



Atkin and Tickle  
(2019)



Halls Hoyes (2021)

SELF-CARE  
DELIVERY  
MODEL

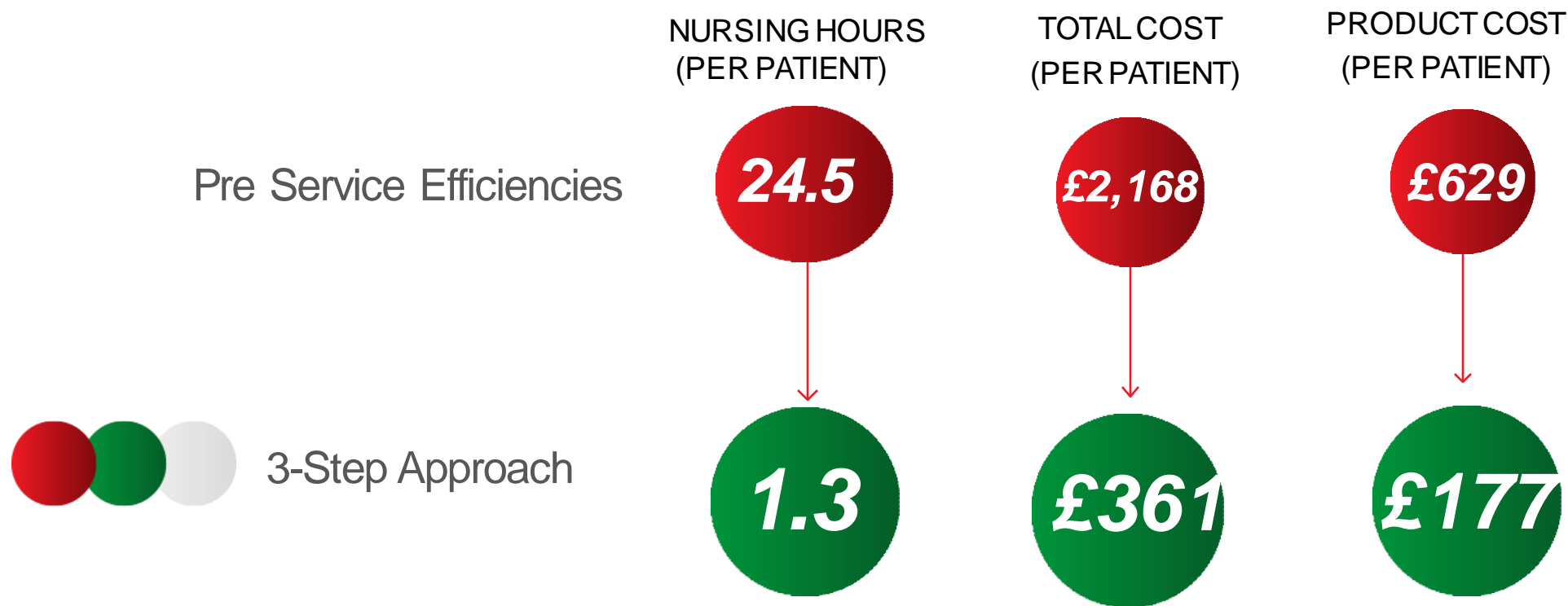


SQUEEZE IN

Based on:

1. Atkin & Tickle 2019
2. Hallas Hoyes et al 2021

# The results from service model transformation



**Achieved along with 72% healing at 18 weeks and  
99% healing at 42 weeks**

# National Scalability

***Per 100,000 population:***  
(total cost release or cost avoidance )

**£903,500**

If up to 25% of patients with leg ulcers were supported by the self care delivery model nationally

***Per 100,000 population:***  
(product cost release or cost avoidance)

**£226,000**

If up to 25% of patients with leg ulcers were supported by the self care delivery model nationally

***Per 100,000 population:***  
(nursing hours)

**6 FTE**

If up to 25% of patients with leg ulcers were supported by the self care delivery model nationally

# System wide improvements:

## Staff Health and Wellbeing Improvements:

**100%** of staff reported an **increased level of motivation** to support patients to self-care

**80%** of staff said they could **spend more time** with patients who cannot self-care and on other care duties

**67%** of staff believe that using a self care model has **reduced their workplace stress levels**

## Sustainability:

**60%** reduction in miles driven (where patients are treated on the Self Care Model)

**£535** saving in fuel costs per 100 patients

**1,471kg** saving in CO2 per 100 patients

# Improved patient outcomes

- Enabling patients to stay in employment while receiving treatment
- Patients preferred not being confined to set appointments
- Reduced financial impact due to travel
- Increased empowerment to take ownership of their care
- **Friends and Family Test: 100% rated the Leg Ulcer Service outstanding with no negative comments (1,481 respondents)**

**100%**  
Outstanding  
friends and  
family test



Comments from patients on the self care delivery model in  
South West Yorkshire Partnership Trust



# Award winning approach

HSJ Partnership Award March 2022  
Most effective contribution to clinical redesign L&R Medical and SWYPT

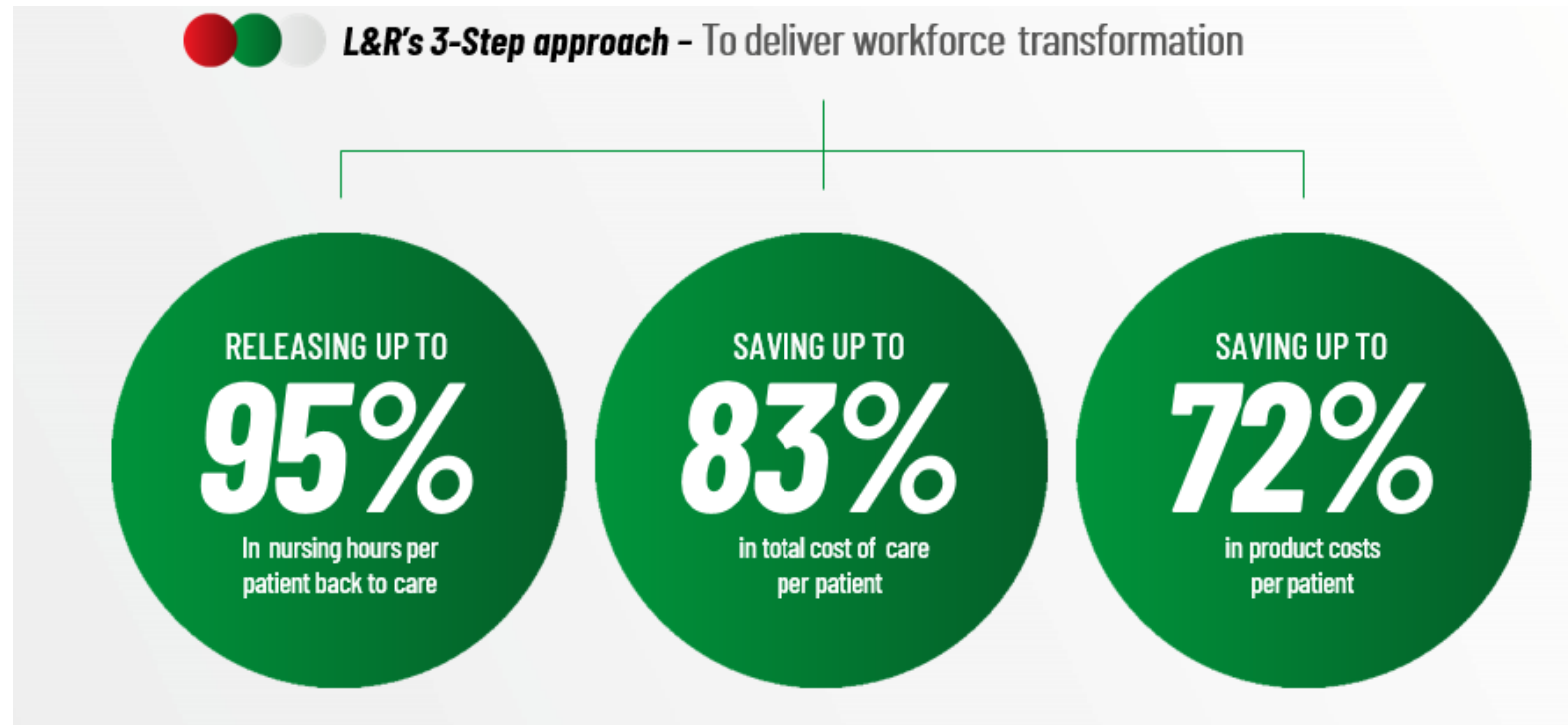
*“The project achieved impressive results with regards to the impact on workforce utilisation and patient empowerment while ensuring high standards of clinical outcomes. There is considerable potential for the approach to be rolled out rapidly and at scale across the country which is likely to result in significant savings of care hours needed as well as costs, while allowing patients to have more flexibility with regards to their care.”*





# Summary

- The burden of wounds is growing, placing a significant impact on the patient population and the NHS
- This is compounded by the community workforce challenge that is more prevalent than ever before
- Working together we can achieve workforce transformation by implementing a self care programme, reducing the demand on workforce capacity, improve service efficiencies and deliver wider benefits for both patients and the clinical team.



# References

1. Guest JF, Fuller GW, Vowden P. Cohort study evaluating the burden of wounds to the UK's National Health Service in 2017/2018: update from 2012/2013. BMJ Open 2020;10:e045253. doi:10.1136/bmjopen-2020-045253
2. NWCSP, National Wound Care Strategy Programme (2020) Lower Limb Recommendations. Available online at: <https://www.ahsnnetwork.com/app/uploads/2020/10/@NWCSP-Lower-Limb-Recommendations-13.10.20.pdf>
3. NHS Right Care 2017. NHS RightCare scenario: The variation between sub-optimal and optimal pathways. Betty's at: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/rightcare/wp-content/uploads/sites/40/2017/01/nhs-rightcare-bettys-story-narrative-full.pdf>
4. Hallas-Hoyes et al. (2021). An advanced self-care delivery model for leg ulcer management: a service evaluation. JWC
5. Atkin, L. et al. (2019) Updated leg ulcer pathway: improving healing times and reducing costs. British Journal of Nursing, Vol 28. (20) Suppl.
6. COVID 19 - Advice in relation to Wound Care in Community Services.
7. HSJ Partnership Award 2022  
Most effective contribution to clinical redesign  
L&R Medical and South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Trust, Tissue Viability Service



Speaking Now...



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**Katrina Davies**  
Outpatient Transformation Programme  
Director - Barts Health

# Outpatient Transformation at Barts Health

## Our Journey So Far and Ophthalmology Case Study

Katrina Davies, Outpatient Transformation Programme Director  
George Patnelli, Service Manager – Ophthalmology, Royal London Hospital



**Project Aim:** To support Barts Health to reduce outpatient follow-up activity by 25% and deliver 106% of outpatient activity against the 2019/20 baseline by March 24.

**Sites in Scope:** All **Specialties in Scope:** Orthopaedics, Respiratory/Sleep Medicine, ENT, Gynaecology, Dermatology, Diabetes, Cardiology, Urology, Gastroenterology and Ophthalmology

## Improvement & Transformation contribution

- Using GIRFT, Royal College & other national guidance/best practice to benchmark and identify potential improvements in:
  - Follow-up appointment pathways
  - Follow-up capacity on clinic templates
  - Patient Initiated follow-up appointments
  - Specialist advice (A&G, A&R)
  - Remote consultation offer
  - DNA rate
- Implementation of the Patient Portal - Patient Knows Best - and opportunities for added value



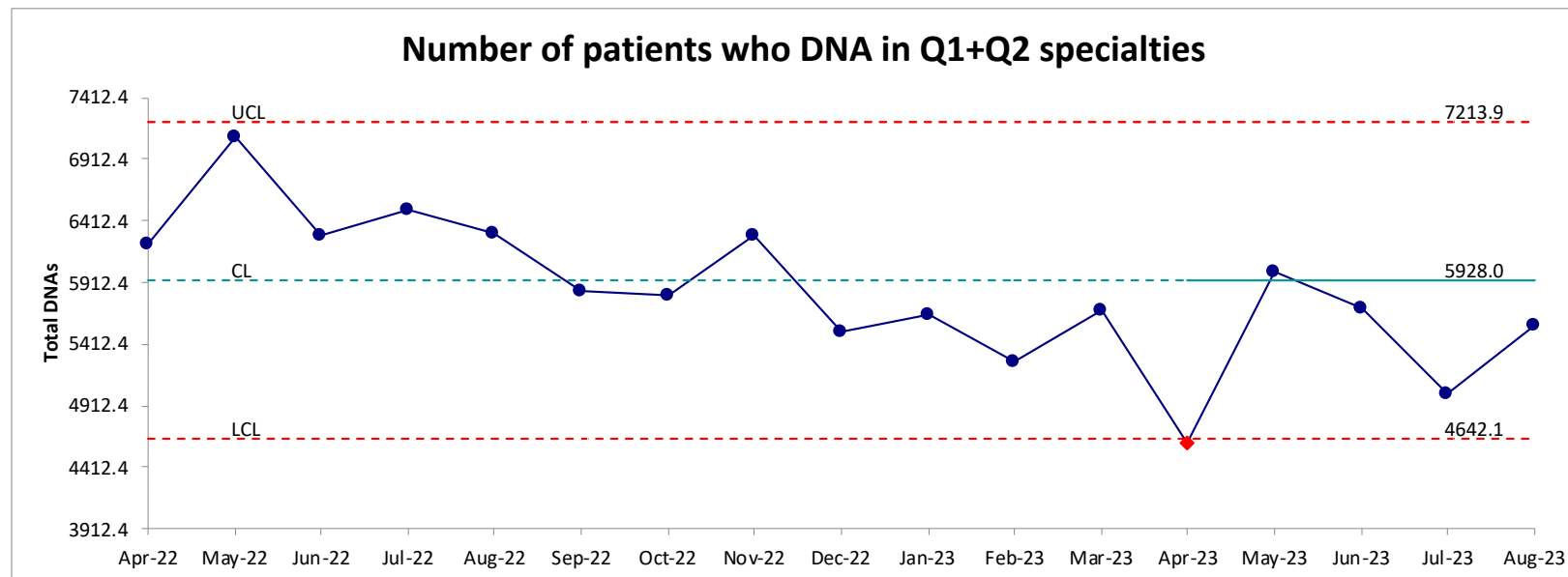
## Supporting Trust's Priorities

- Reduce follow-up appointments by 25% against the 19/20 baseline
- Deliver 106% outpatient activity against the 19/20 baseline
- Diverting 2.3% of appointments through specialist advice
- Offer meaningful choice at point of referral and at subsequent points in the pathway
- Productivity objectives:
  - Reducing first and follow up outpatient appointment DNA rate against 22/23 baseline (site/speciality specific)
  - Reduction in outpatient new / follow-up ratio (site/speciality specific)
  - 25% of appointments via remote consultation

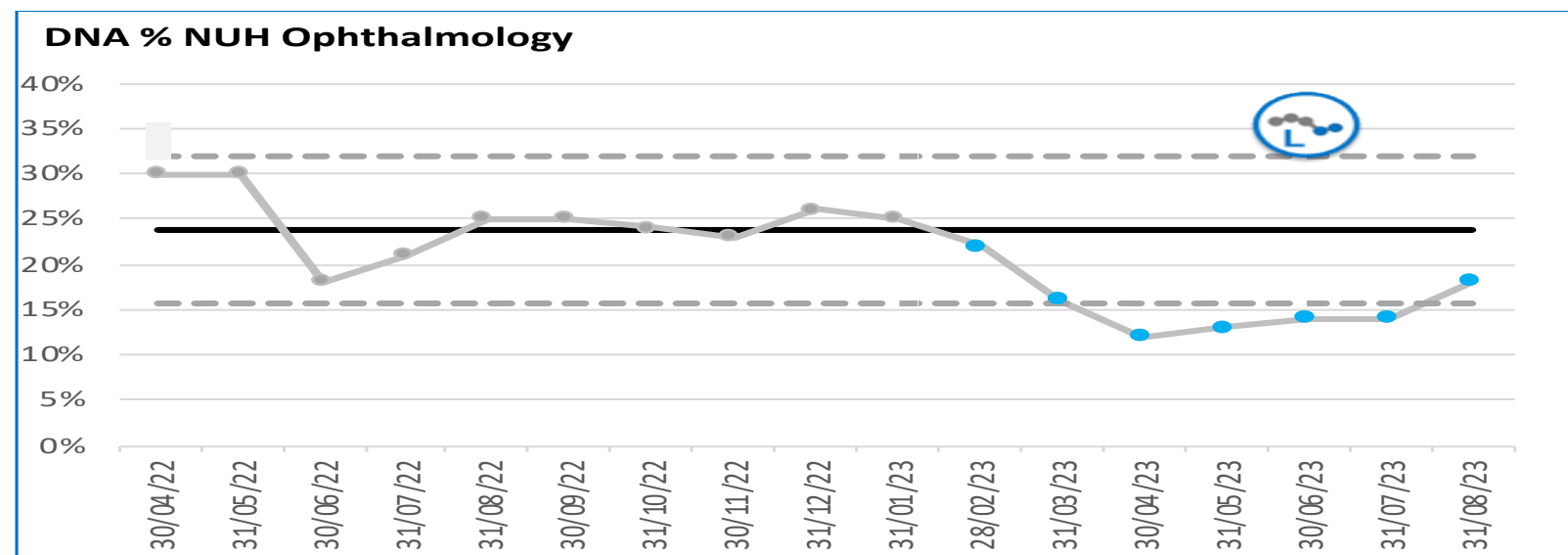
## Supporting Strategic Priorities

- APC, NEL and Regional Outpatient priorities
- 23/24 NHSE Operations Planning Guidance,
- Trust Operating Plan Submission
- 4<sup>th</sup> August Elective Recovery Letter
- Further, Faster Clinical Transformation Programme

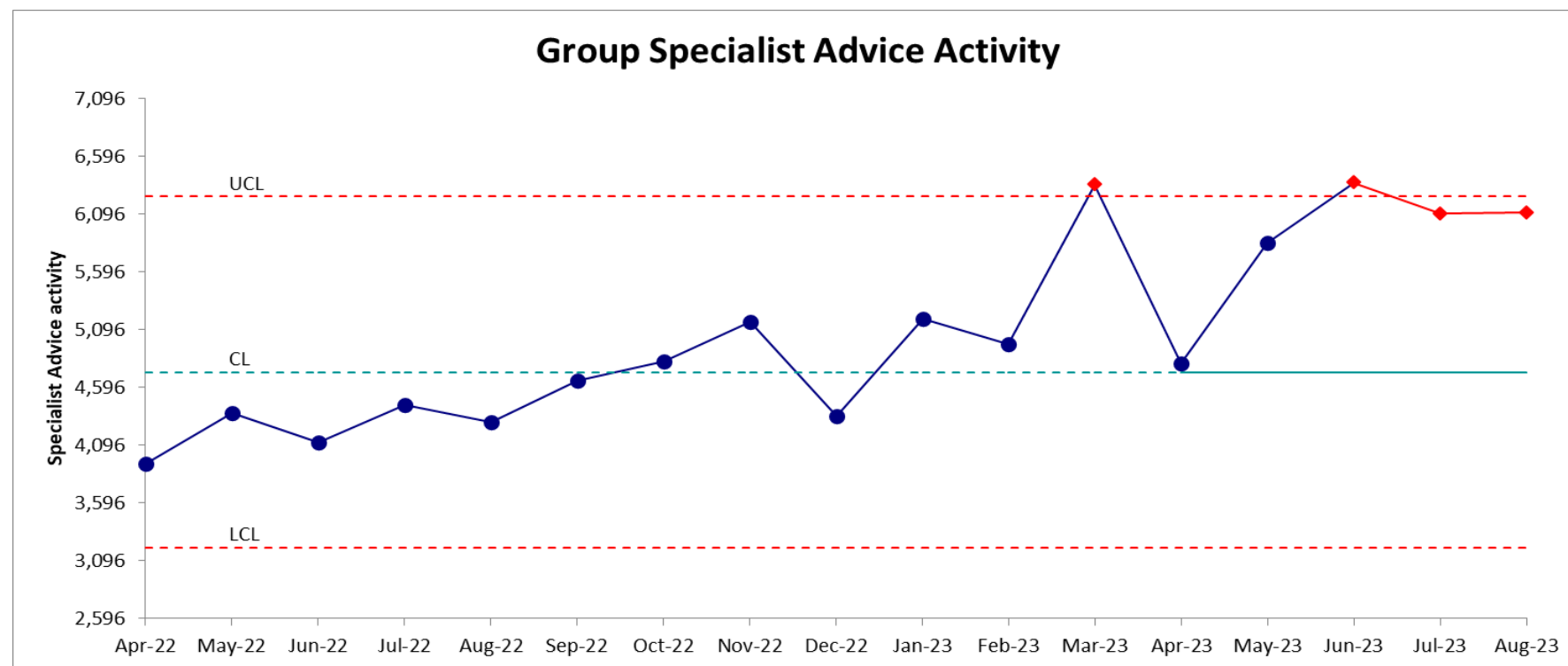
- There has been a **17% (5529)** decrease in the number of patients who DNA their appointment in programme Q1 and Q2 specialties (Urology, Ortho, Ophthalmology, Gynae, ENT, Dermatology) when comparing April – August 2023 to the same period in 2022.



- Through the programme we are working with specialties to test different interventions for reducing DNAs and cascading that across the group. 2-way text messaging has been highlighted as the most significant intervention, as evidenced in Ophthalmology at NUH.



- There has been a **38% (1611) increase in specialist advice (A&G and A&R) activity across the Trust** when comparing April – August 2023 to the same period in 2022.
- Income opportunity of **c.£2m**
- Capacity opportunity of **c.17,884 new appointments**



# **Royal London Hospital Ophthalmology Outpatient Transformation 2023**



## Session objectives



Insight into service delivery of a multi-site, large acute trust with a diverse population



National and local context for improvements in ophthalmology



Application of improvement science to identify and deliver service improvements

# About Barts Health



- Our hospitals serve a core population of about one million people.
- Outpatient services spread across all five sites.
  - Approx. 1.46m OP appts in 2019/20
- Across the three boroughs 60% belong to an ethnic group other than White British, compared to 20% nationally.
- Significant health inequality challenge.

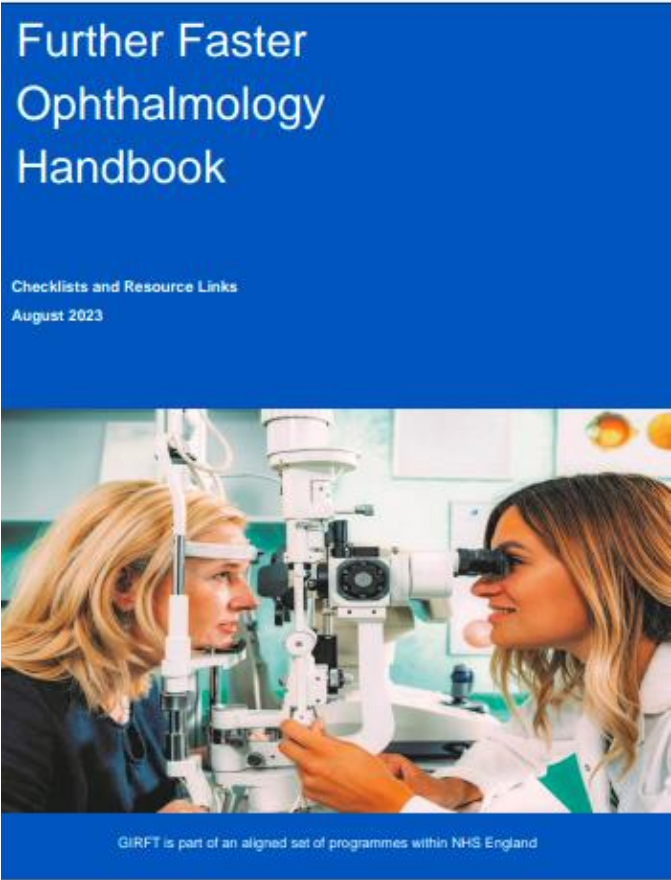
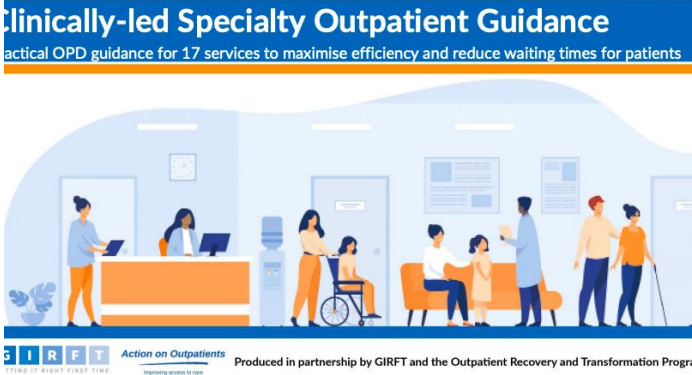
Classification: Official

Publication approval reference: PRN00021



# Background and context

## 2023/24 priorities and operational planning guidance



## Background and context

### Royal London Hospital Ophthalmology Oct 22-Sept 23

19,819	• Outpatient attendances
14,261	• GP referrals
7,664	• Consultant to Consultant referrals
1,297	• Referrals via A+E
7,027	• Outpatient procedures

## Ophthalmology Establishment:

Consultants – 6.5 WTE

Registrars – 7 WTE

Optometrists – 4.2 WTE

Orthoptists – 5.2 WTE



## Services:

# Background and context



- Cataracts
- Cornea/External disease, incl lesions on iris + conjunctiva
- Keratoconus
- Contact Lens
- Medical Retina Including retinal lesions eg: naevi
- Retinoblastoma
- Glaucoma
- Low Vision
- Neuro-ophthalmology
- Occular immunology
- General
- Oculoplastics/orbits/lacrimonal/adnexal Incl. suspect eyelid oncology
- Orthoptics – adult
- Orthoptics- paediatrics
- Squint/Ocular motility
- Paediatrics
- Wet AMD

# Diagnostic Phase



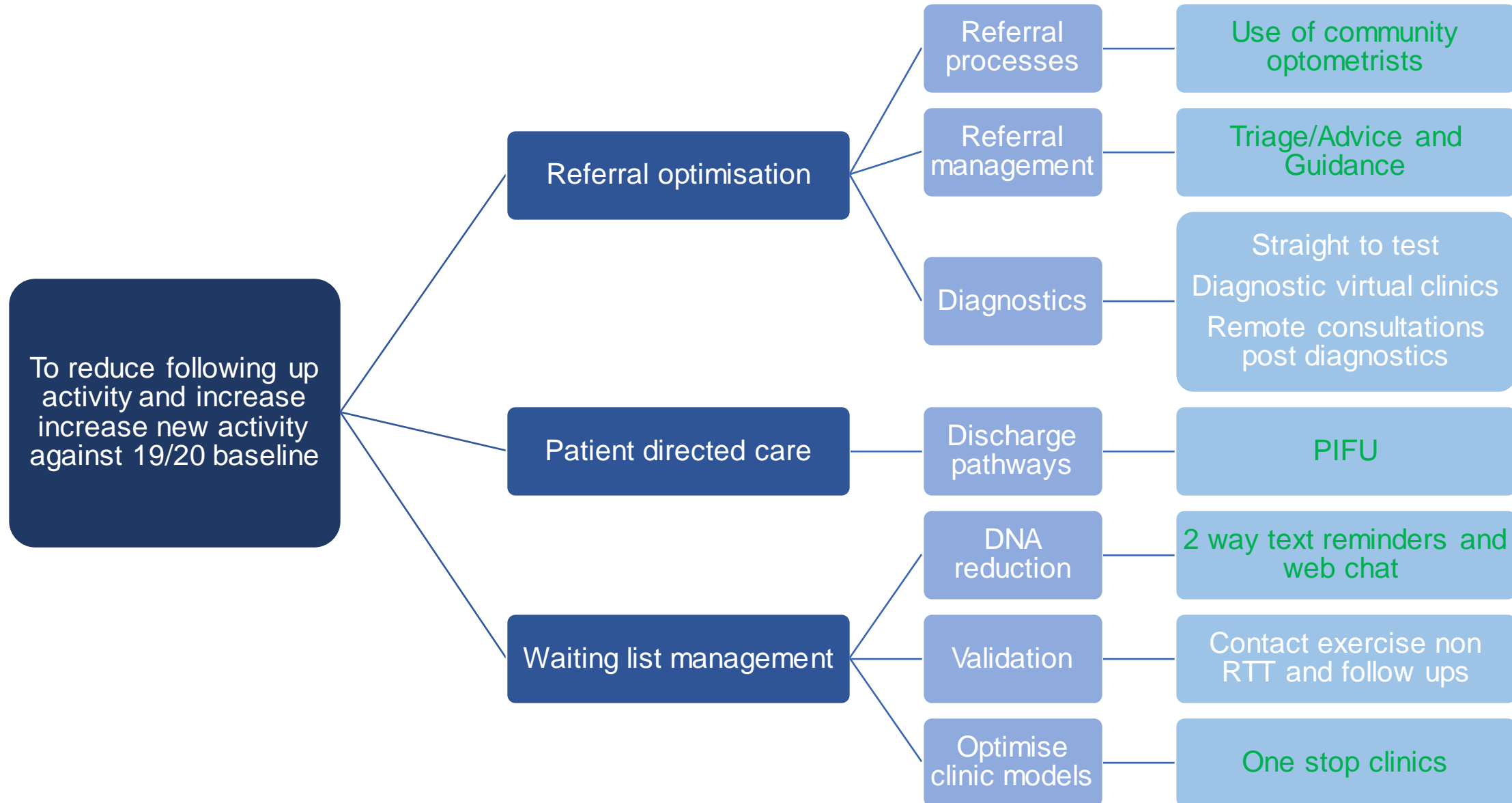
## Pathway mapping of services:

- Cataracts
- Neuro
- Occuloplastics
- Paediatrics
- Glaucoma



Gap analysis of service delivery against national aspirations in GIRFT guidance and Further Faster Handbook

# Opportunities for improvement

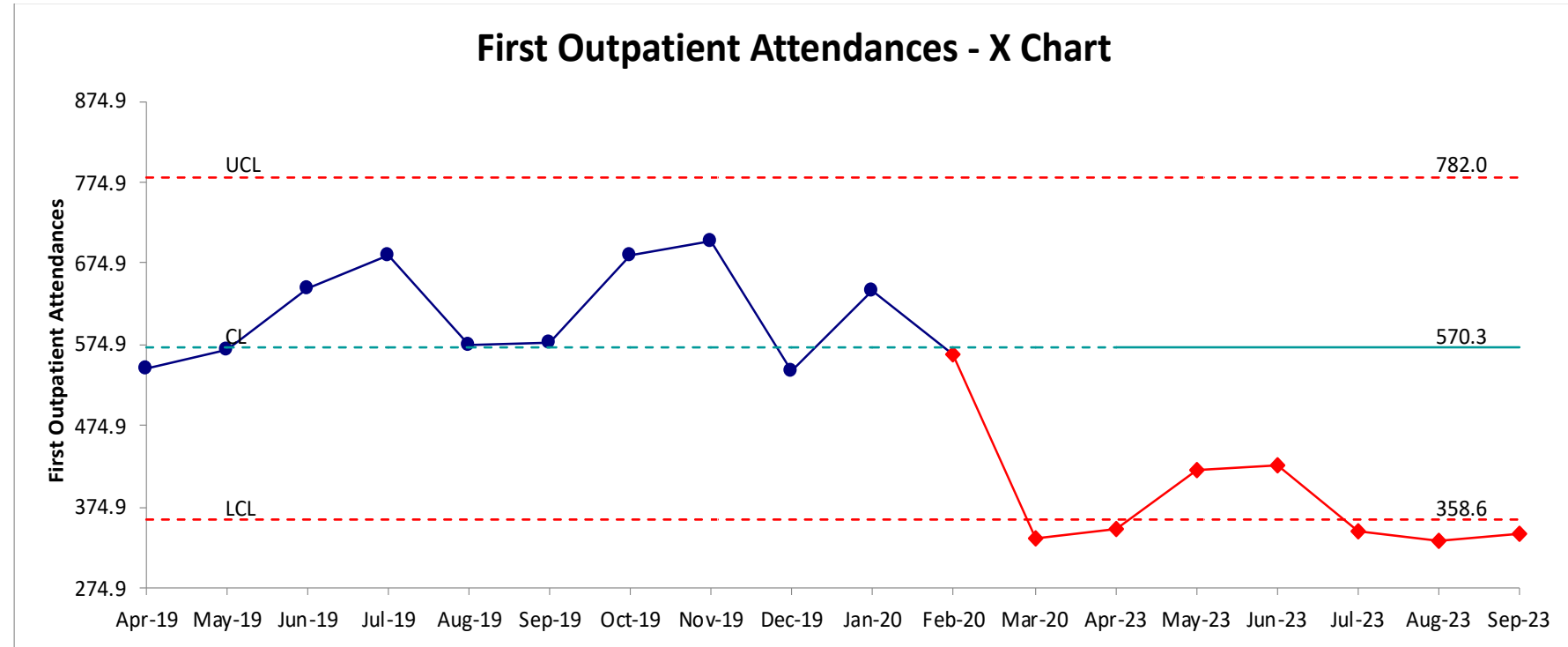


# Tested opportunities for improvement

	Change idea	Impact
1	Advice and Guidance	Improved clinic productivity – only seeing those who truly need secondary care review, increase in new activity, reduction in follow ups, improved income generation, improved patient experience
2	PIFU	Improved patient experience, reduction in follow ups
3	One stop clinics in cataracts with increased pre assessment slots. Stopping telephone new appointments	Reduction in follow ups Improved patient experience
4	Two way texts and web chat enabling patients to cancel/reschedule for DNA reduction	Reduction in follow ups, improved productivity and efficiency

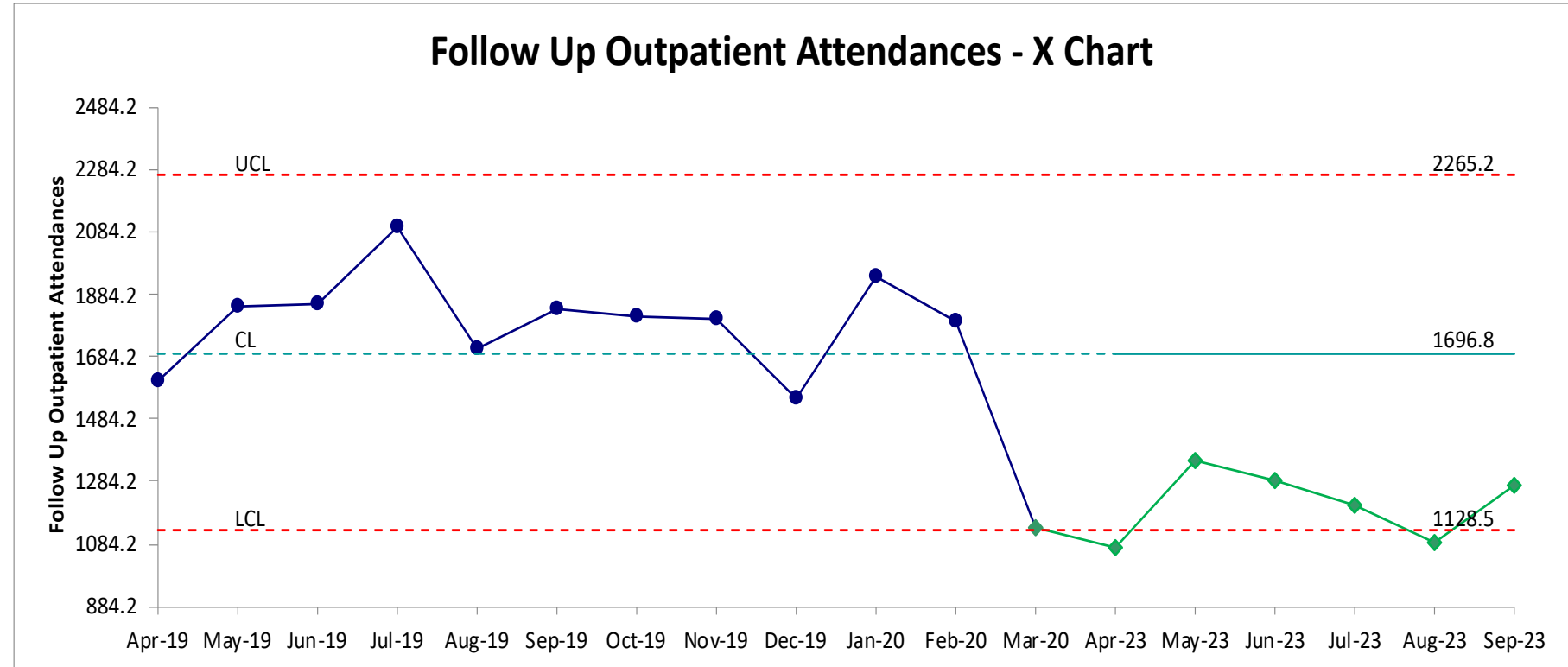


What does the data say?



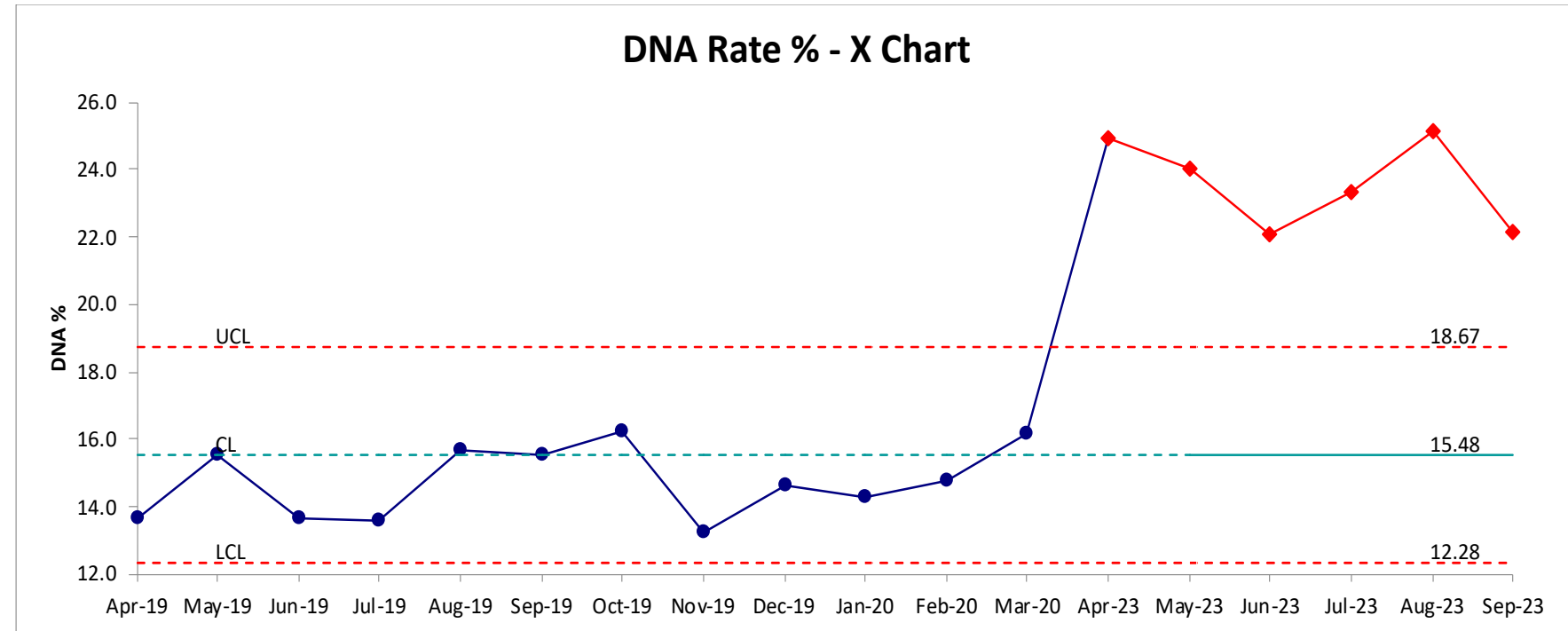
Our new patient activity is down against 19/20 baseline: Advice and Guidance should increase this

What does the data say?



Our follow up activity is down against 19/20 baseline: PIFU and Cataract one stop clinics should decrease this further and free up space for new patient activity

What does the data say?



Our DNA rate is significantly elevated against 19/20 baseline. Two-way text/web chat reminders should reduce this.

# Advice and Guidance



- Allows two-way digital dialogue
- The provider can convert an authorised A&G request to an appointment and provide interim advice to GP teams to help support the patient on a waiting list

Royal London Hospital A+G pathways launched:



- Paediatrics
  - Occuloplastics
  - Glaucoma
  - Retina
  - Cornea and anterior segment
- 
- Future plans for adult neuro

# Benefits of Advice and Guidance

## Benefits to Service Users and System Partners

1 Patients	2 Requesting Clinicians	3 Consultants & Service provider clinicians	4 Systems
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patients see the right person, in the right place, first time</li> <li>• Reduced waiting times and a reduced risk of unnecessary hospital appointments</li> <li>• Improved patient experience</li> <li>• Improved shared decision making</li> <li>• Improved access to services with tests and treatments undertaken at the most appropriate point in the pathway</li> <li>• Reduced patient journeys, transport costs and pressure on hospital car parks and a positive impact on the environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rapid access to specialist advice to support the care of individual patients</li> <li>• Secure two-way communication between primary and secondary care</li> <li>• Reduced risk of re-directed or rejected referrals</li> <li>• Improved knowledge and expertise to support future management of patients</li> <li>• Increased opportunities to inform continued learning and professional development</li> <li>• Opportunities to improve pathways of care</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More effective use of clinician time and expertise directed to patients who need it the most</li> <li>• Improved integration / relationships between primary and secondary care</li> <li>• Opportunity to improve pathways of care</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports elective recovery across the system</li> <li>• Drives system response to ensuring best use of resources</li> <li>• Increases collaborative working between GPs and providers</li> <li>• Contribution to meeting the commitment in the NHS Long Term Plan to avoid up to a third of face-to-face outpatient appointments over the next five years</li> </ul>

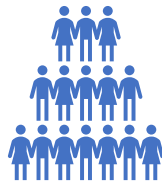


**Income generation: each A+G diverted back to the GP is the equivalent of a new patient tariff**

# Advice and Guidance: financial benefit



Investing in switching to advice and guidance in the aforementioned pathways should generate **£84,656 of income per annum**.



This is based on referral activity via eRS over the past 12 months (1480 referrals), with an average diversion rate of 52% (national average, trust achieving 60% currently).

Calculated based on an average new patient tariff of £110





## PIFU:

Enabling patients to book an appointment with a clinician as and when needed, rather than at routine intervals

### Main benefits

- Potential for fewer appointments/trips to hospital
- Reduction in unnecessary appointments:
- Patients have greater control over care, seen when they need to be rather than pre-defined times
- Direct contact with service avoiding re-referral by GP

**For clinicians:** see patients who most need their support quickly, manage waiting lists

**For patients:** Easier, convenient to receive care when they need it, avoiding unnecessary trips saving time, money and stress.

### Early findings (NHSE analysis)

- 3.5% patients call back from 13 specialities and 34 trusts
- Less likely to DNA than traditional OPA.



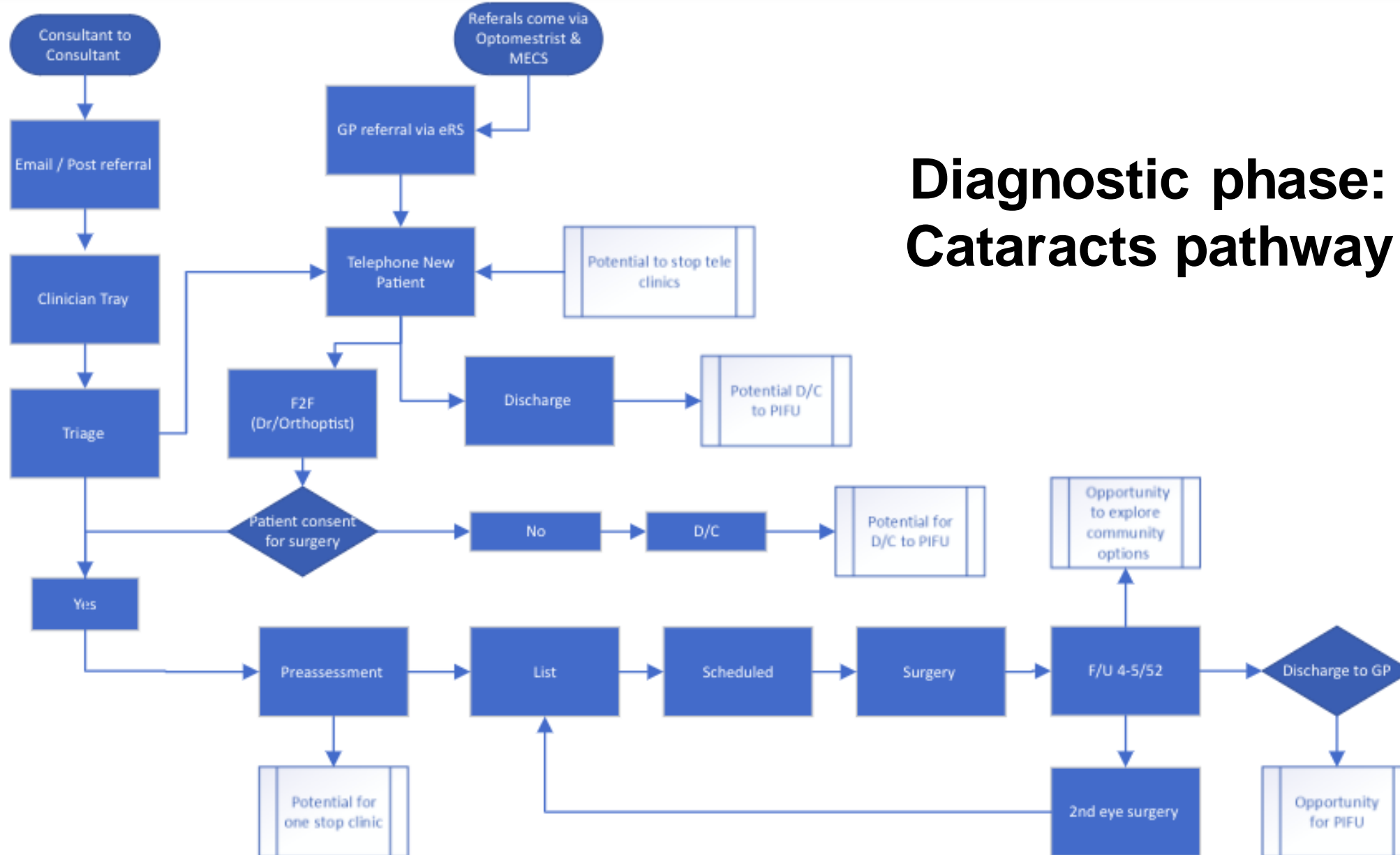
## Priority PIFU pathways

Condition
Acute anterior uveitis
Toxin injections for strabismus, blepharospasm and hemifacial spasm
Allergic or blepharitic conjunctivitis children
Allergic conjunctivitis adults
Stable AMD
Paediatric congenital nasolacrimal duct obstruction

However, the clinician can include any other patient who they feel has a condition which can be appropriately and safely managed by PIFU.



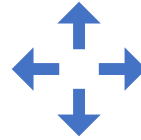
## Diagnostic phase: Cataracts pathway



# Cataract one stop clinic

## Pre-existing model:

- Upfront telephone triage, which was an additional unnecessary step and led to patients changing their mind between that appointment and a face to face appointment
- Duplication of appointments ahead of decision making for surgery
- No pre assessment available on the day of decision to proceed to surgery
- COVID pathway, which was no longer relevant
- Inefficient, poor patient experience



## Changes

- Removal of upfront telephone triage appointment
- Consultation, consenting and pre assessment done on the same day

## Benefits

- Saves pathway time, improved RTT
- Improved capacity through better slot utilisation
- Improvement patient experience

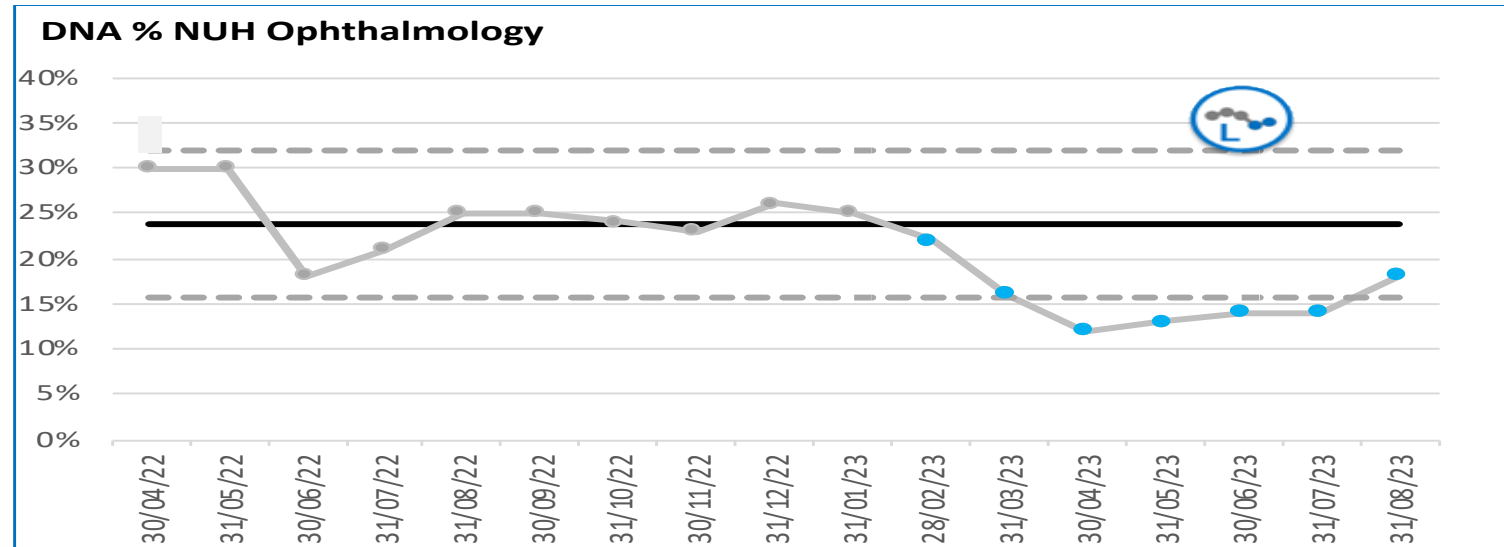
## Challenges

- Nursing capacity for pre assessment
- Room capacity

## Newham Hospital approach

- Introduced two-way text reminders
- Significant and sustained reduction in DNAs since

# DNA reduction



- Two-way webchat has been introduced for all appointment queries, however this alone has not impacted our DNA rate
- Addition of text reminders with hyperlink to two web chat due to launch this month

# Summary



- Multifaceted approach from the point of referral to discharge
- Multiple opportunities which collectively will lead to greater gains



- No increase in workload for staff, just more effective use of time

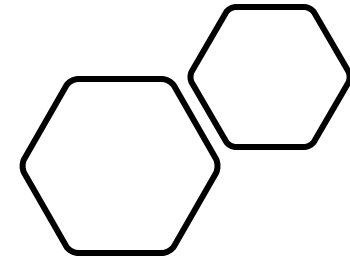
- No increase in establishment for bookings teams re: webchat approach, restructuring teams to deliver new initiative



- Use of improvement science to identify opportunities, working with trust improvement team to deliver

- Early on in journey, with plans to test other suggested change ideas in months to come





**George Patnelli**, Service  
Manager Ophthalmology,  
Royal London Hospital.  
[G.patnelli1@nhs.net](mailto:G.patnelli1@nhs.net)



Speaking Now...



**Outpatient  
Transformation  
Conference  
South 2023**



**Scott Deacon**

Clinical Lead Continuous Improvement & Clinical  
Director Outpatients - University Hospitals Bristol and  
Weston NHS Foundation Trust

# *Communication is key*

Mr Scott Deacon

Clinical Lead for Continuous Improvement and Innovation

Clinical Director for Outpatients

NHS Outpatients Conference 2023





# Start 2017

Longstanding issue

Lots of informal complaints

Problems with answerphones

Lack of senior or clinical engagement





# #Takephonership

NHS  
University Hospitals Bristol  
NHS Foundation Trust

It's everyone's job to pick up the phone

Worried you might not know the answer? Don't worry,  
find someone who can help!

We aim to answer the phone promptly

## People

Phones compete for priority with other target-driven admin duties

Other tasks prioritised

Staffing shortages, management changes

Complex booking rules make cross-cover difficult

Outdated phones

Don't know full infrastructure

Don't know how to use all features

## Environment

Multiple distractions and demands

Competing priorities cause mixed messages from managers

Teams not in same office - hard to share responsibility

Specialist regional centre

Rapid service growth

No corresponding growth in staff resource

No governance process for phones

Long waiting lists prompts calls

Partial booking process prompts calls

Operating voicemails to manage work flow

Confusing letters prompts calls to clarify

We do not consistently answer telephone calls, which frustrates patients and causes complaints

## Equipment

## Organisation

## Process

NHS

University Hospitals  
Bristol and Weston

NHS Foundation Trust

# #Takephonership



[Click here to find out more](#)

“ We've made improvements by sharing the problem together, and coming up with ideas. We haven't done anything magic. Sometimes the idea is so simple, we wonder why we didn't do it in the first place. There are some things that are harder to fix, but if we can get the basic things right by solving things as a team, we're in a much better position to address the rest. ”

Mr Scott Deacon

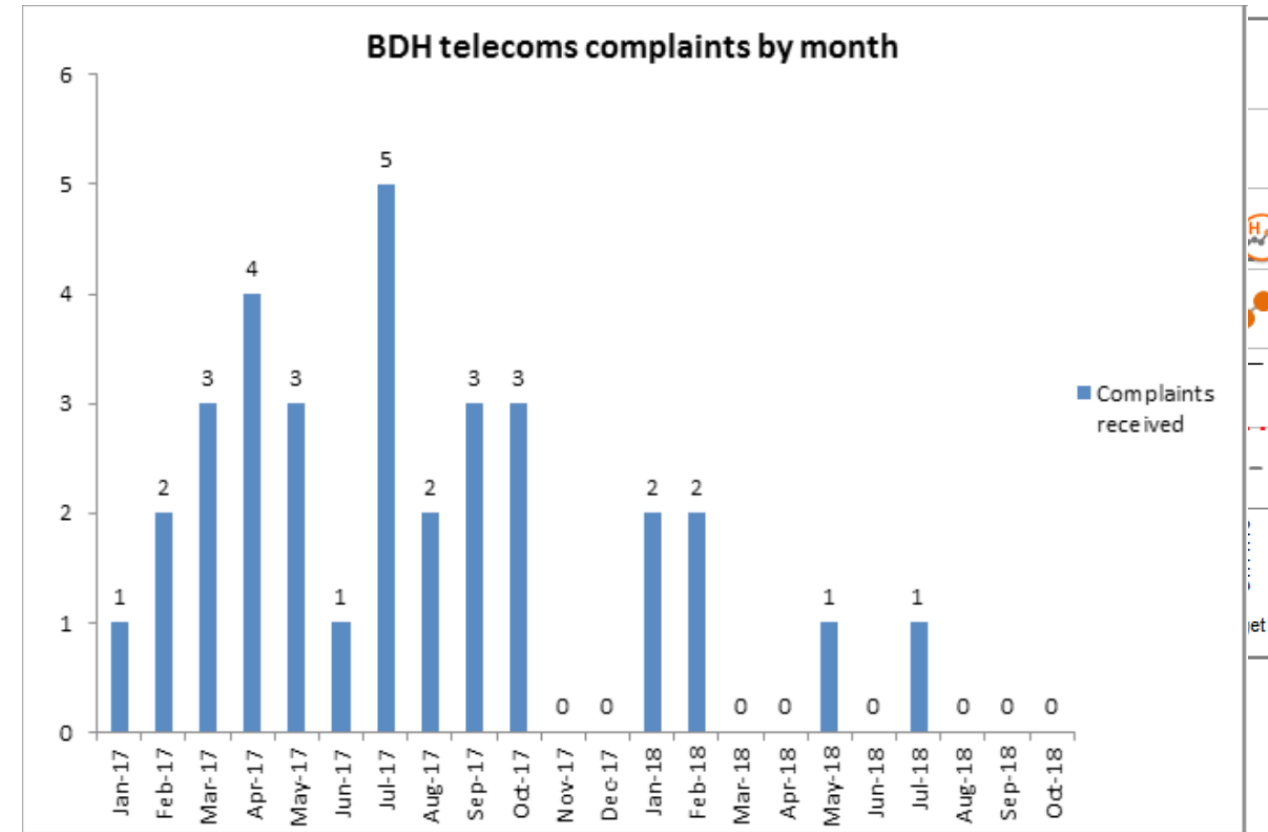
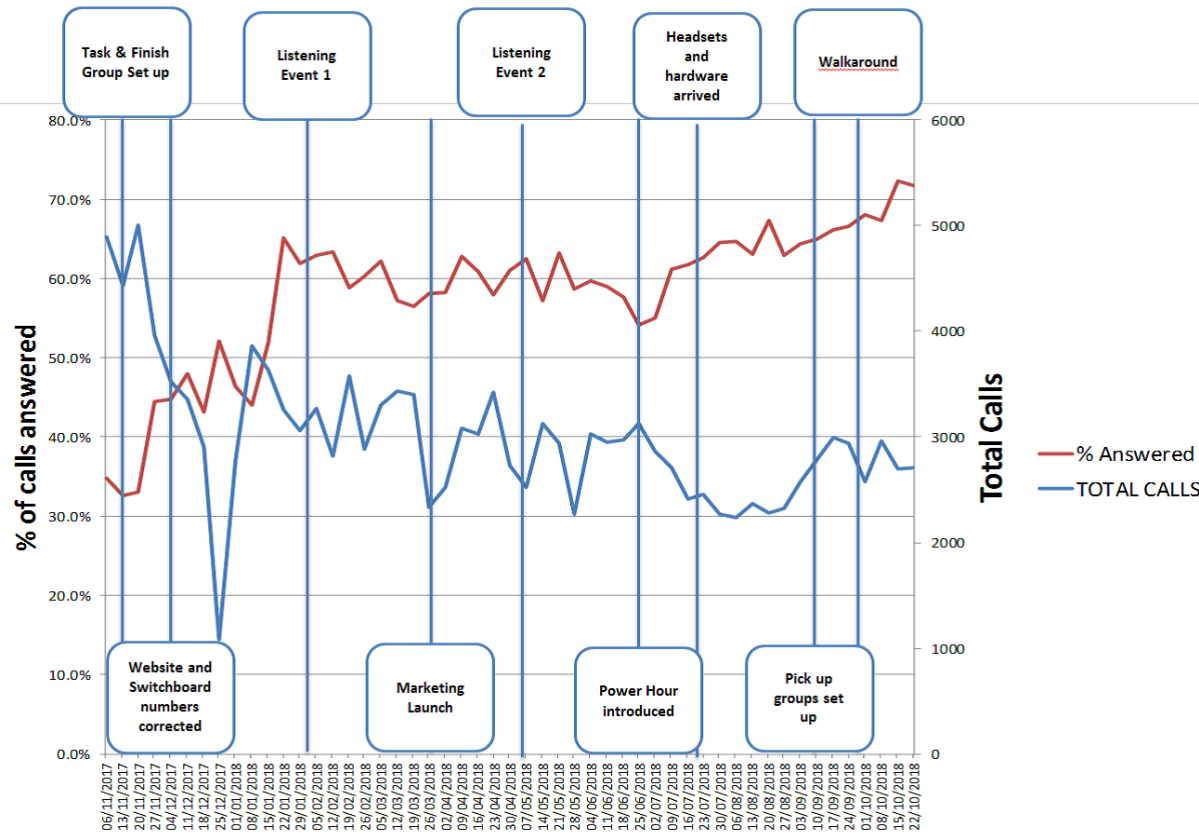
Clinical director for South West Cleft Service &  
lead consultant orthodontist

Inspected and rated

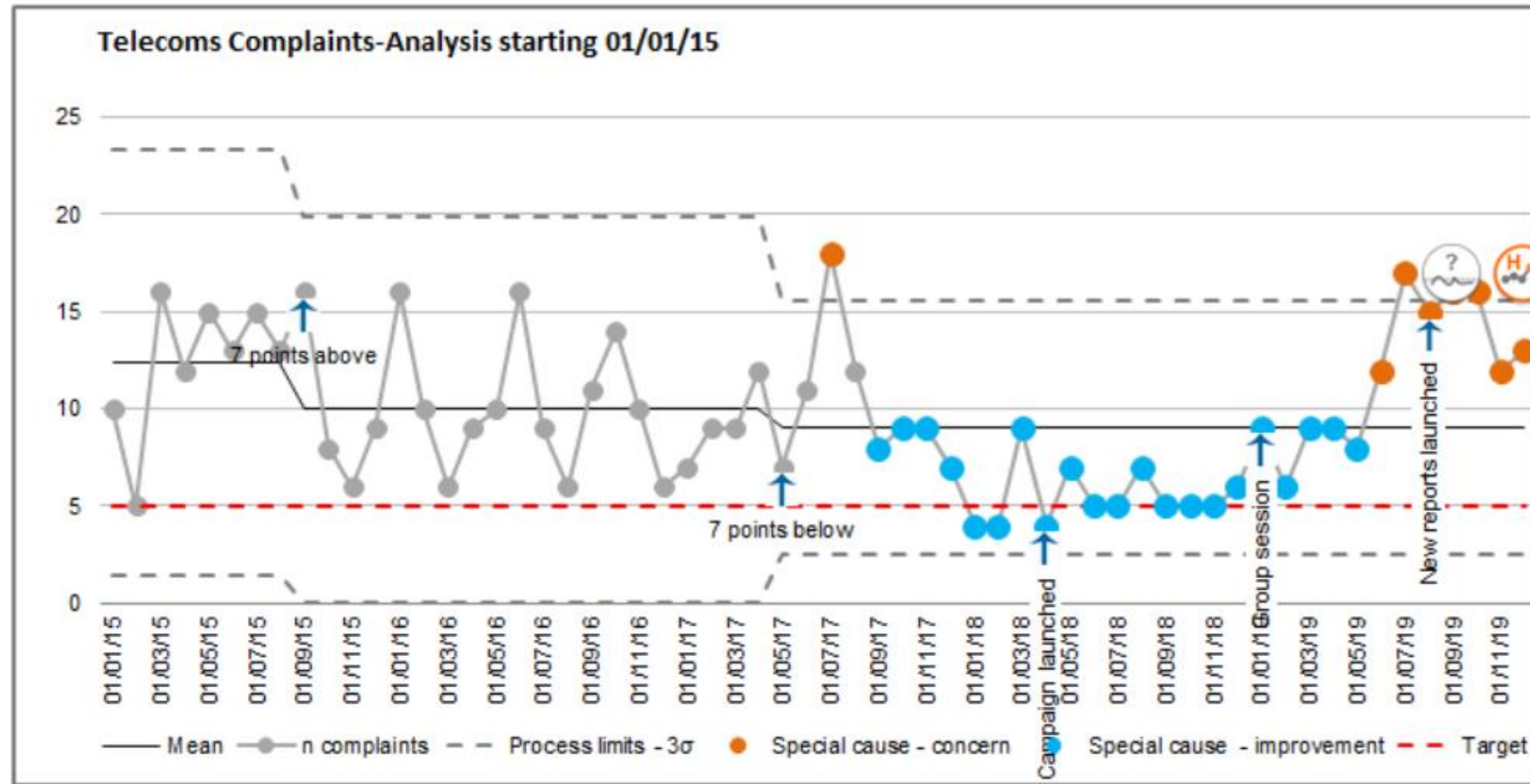
Good

CareQuality  
Commission

# Effective?



# Effective?



# Factors influencing

81% of patients reported having an appointment when their communication needs were unmet

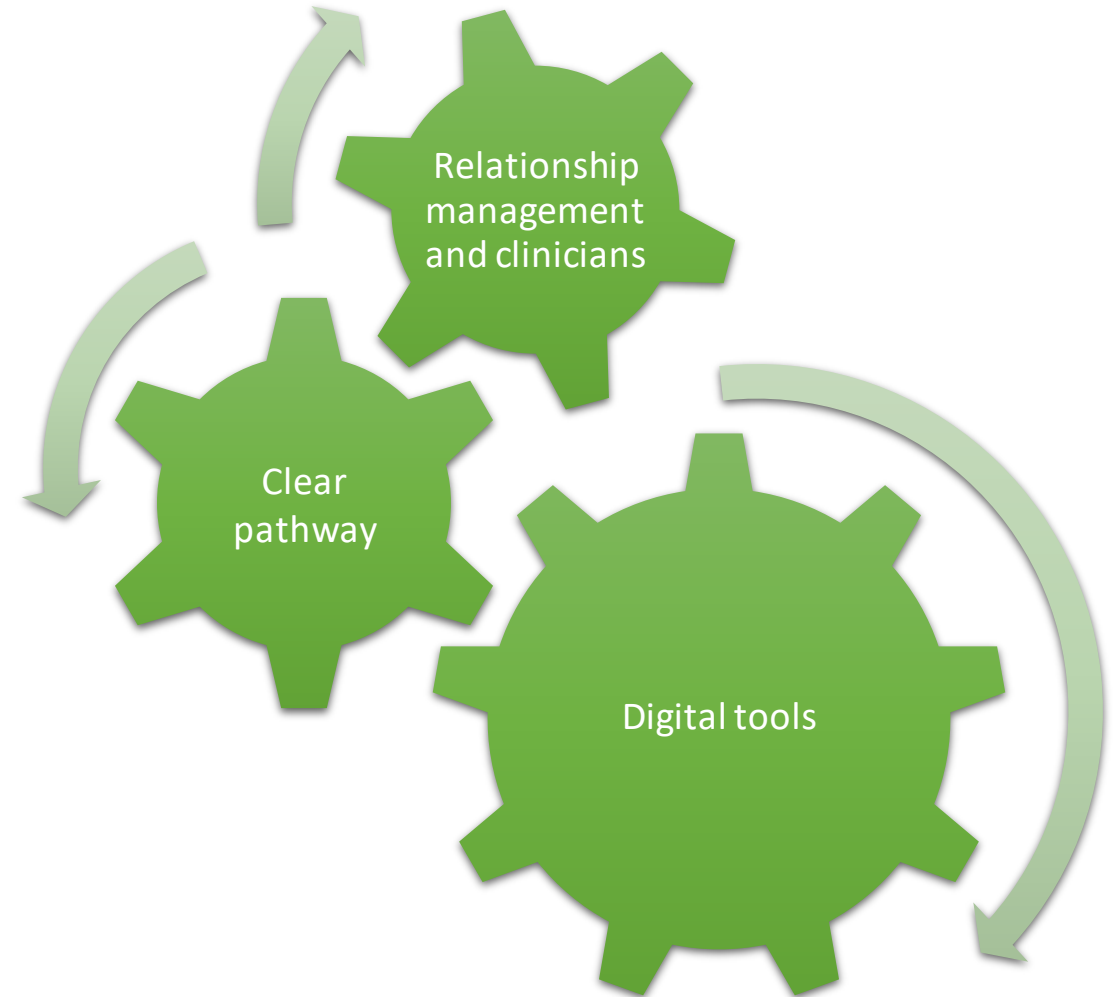
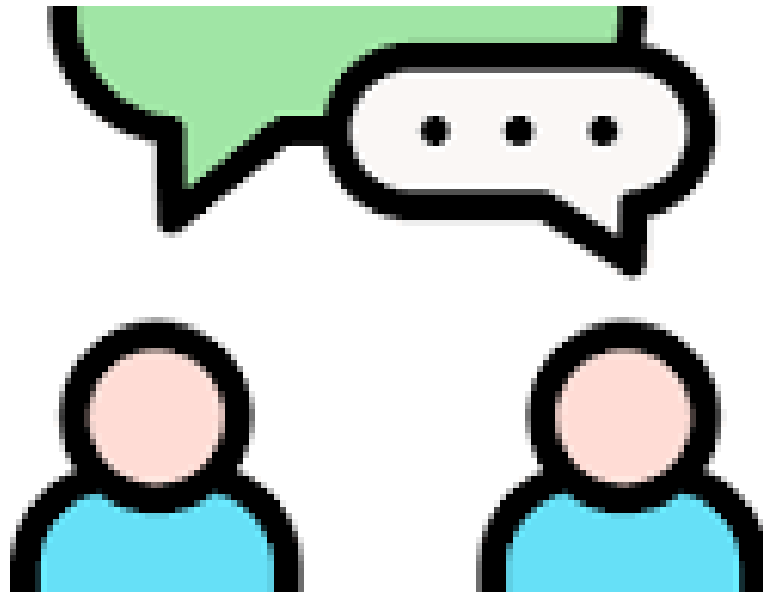
77% of people with accessible information needs reported rarely or never receiving information in alternative formats

- NHS staff morale low
  - Attending when unwell
  - Considering leaving
  - Less satisfied with pay

# 3 Circles model of emotion



# Factors influencing







124.5 million outpatient appointments 2022-23



an increase of 1.7% from the previous year

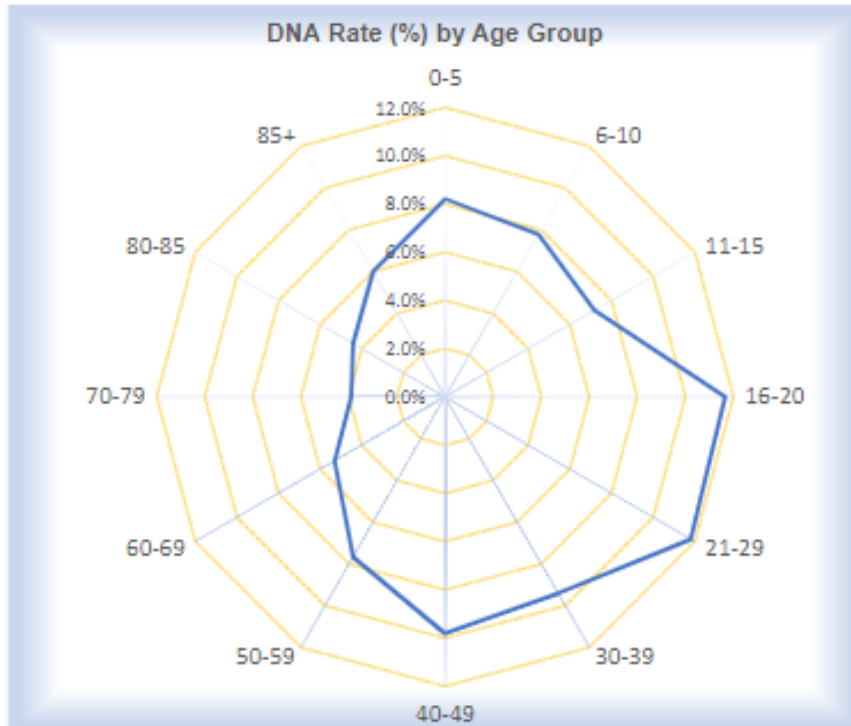


8.0 million outpatient appointments were DNAs 22-23 (6.4%)



This is an increase of 2.3% from the previous year

# DNA rate trends



Patients aged 16-29 most likely to DNA

Patients of working age more likely DNA

BAME or disabilities more likely to DNA



# DNA Project Background

Data from the Bristol North Somerset and South Gloucestershire (BNSSG) Elective Recovery Inequalities Working Group shows that:

- Residents of BNSSG who live in **more deprived areas, on average, attend fewer outpatient services than those who live in less deprived areas.**
- The Did Not Attend (**DNA**) rate is **higher for those who live in the most deprived areas**
- The **DNA rate for patients from ethnic minority groups is 59% higher than non-ethnic minority groups.**
- The Elective Recovery Inequalities Steering Group proposed focusing on Cardiology as both UHBW and NBT have a high volume of Cardiology appointments, with high DNA rates, and **there is a strong link between poor heart health and health inequalities.**

# Stakeholder Engagement

**In total the project has gathered views from:**

- 266 patients
- 22 community groups/champions
- 20+ members of staff
- 8+ GP colleagues across BNSSG
- Local communities by attending high footfall community events and community groups.



# Top themes



## Communication

Patients not receiving letters

Patients forgetting about their appointment

Patients not understanding what the appointment is for

Patients calling to cancel but not being inputted through the system.

Difficulty navigating the hospital (UHBW)



## Language & trust barrier

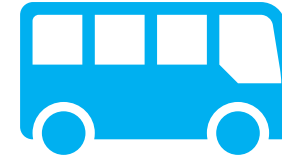
Poor prior experience

Not knowing how to navigate the system – anxiety

No hospital recorded language therefore no provision of language support – awareness of dialect differences

Preference for F2F interpreter – difficulties understanding interpreter over the phone

Illiteracy in the spoken language



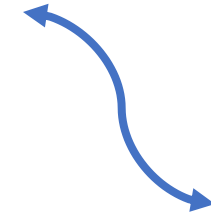
## Transport

Poverty - Cost of travel – bus fare, car parking, taxi

Time taken to travel by bus

Insufficient parking nearby

Insufficient direct bus services to hospital e.g. especially Weston/rural areas



## Flexibility

Shift workers, low-income workers etc. struggle to take time off work.

Reliance on another person to take them to an appointment.

Caring responsibilities

**Difficulties in cancelling/amending**

# Outpatient strategic ambitions



Patient Centred  
Care



Integrated  
Healthcare

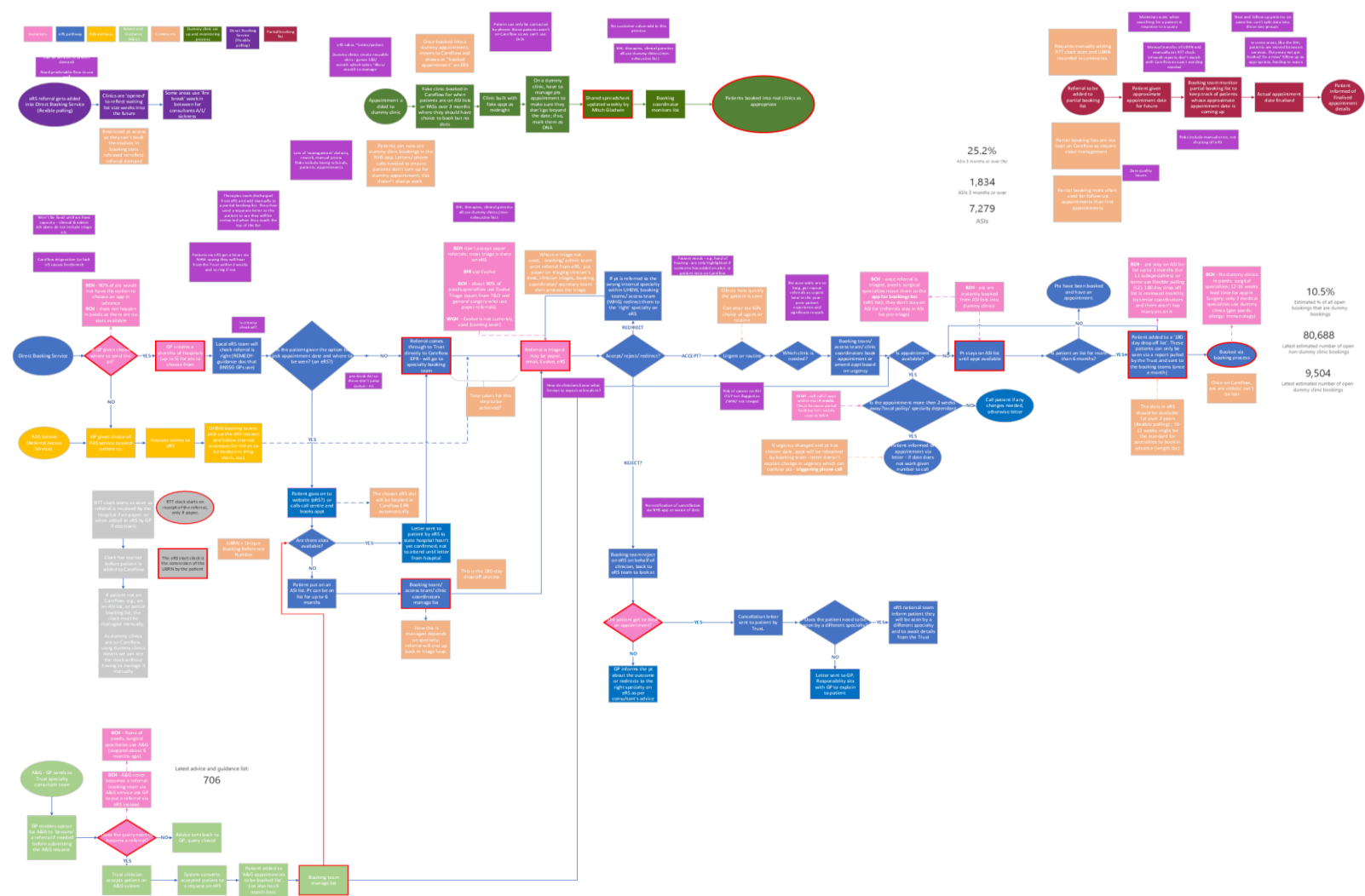


Digital  
healthcare

# True North

Our strategic priorities	Vision	Our strategic goals	Our 3-5 year targets	Our 12 month breakthrough objectives	Our 12-18 month corporate projects	Our strategic initiatives Year 1
<b>Experience of care</b>  <i>Exceptional patient experience</i>	Together, we will deliver person-centred, compassionate and inclusive care every time, for everyone.	We will be in the top 10% of NHS organisations for providing an outstanding experience for all our patients as reported by them and as recognised by our staff.	98% or more of inpatients will rate their care as good or above.  Feedback will be representative of the patients we care for.  We will be in the top 10% of non-specialist acute trusts: for staff recommending our organisation for treatment of a friend or relative.	Improve experience of care through better communication.	No corporate project in 2023/24.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and implement our Experience of Care Strategy.</li> </ul>
<b>Patient safety</b>  <i>Excellent care, every time</i>	Together, we will consistently deliver the highest quality, safe and effective care to all our patients.	Building on the many things we do well to keep our patients safe, we will reduce avoidable patient harm events - aspiring for zero avoidable harm, and further developing a "no blame" and "just culture."	10% reduction in avoidable harm events year on year.	Consistency in the early recognition of sepsis. <i>(Paused to review data and release divisional capacity to focus on Fire Safety breakthrough objective).</i>	<b>Mission critical corporate projects:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementing Careflow Medicines Management.</li> </ul> <b>Important corporate services projects:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delivering the NHS Patient Safety Strategy.</li> <li>Delivering our Deteriorating Patient Programme.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of a joint clinical strategy with North Bristol NHS Trust.</li> <li>Delivering Healthy Weston 2.</li> <li>UHBW clinical strategy developed.</li> </ul>
<b>Our people</b>  <i>Proud to be #TeamUHBW</i>	Together, we will make UHBW the best place to work.	We will improve the employment experience of all our colleagues to retain our valuable people.	We will be in the top 10% of NHS organisations for staff recommending us as a place to work, a 5% improvement year on year.	Staff turnover is no more than 14% in 2023/24 and our Divisions meet the staff group targets set.	<b>Mission critical corporate projects:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funded Retention Strategy developed.</li> </ul> <b>Important corporate services projects:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Optimising Medical Workforce.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eliminate violence &amp; aggression &amp; bullying and harassment.</li> <li>Embedding Respecting Everyone principles.</li> <li>Delivering education pathways</li> <li>Embedding our leadership &amp; management offer.</li> </ul>
<b>Timely care</b>  <i>Timely access to care for all</i>	Together, we will provide timely access to care for all patients, meeting their individual needs.	By streamlining flow & reducing variation, we will eliminate avoidable delays across access pathways.	A 10% year on year improvement in ambulance handover times as a measure of improved patient flow through our hospitals	33% of our patients who are ready for discharge leave by 12 midday.	<b>Mission critical corporate projects:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proactive Hospital (patient flow).</li> </ul> <b>Important corporate services projects:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve Theatres productivity &amp; efficiency.</li> <li>Improve outpatients productivity &amp; efficiency.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New Trust website.</li> <li>New Trust intranet.</li> <li>Channel review and implementation.</li> <li>Brand project delivered.</li> </ul>
<b>Innovate &amp; improve</b>  <i>Unlocking our potential</i>	Together, we will drive improvement every day, engaging our staff and patients in research and innovative ways of working to unlock our full potential.	We will be in the top 10% of NHS organisations for our staff stating they can easily make improvements in their area of work.	A 2% improvement year on year in staff reporting they are able to make improvements.	Consistency in undertaking weekly fire evacuation checks in every division and department.	<b>Mission critical corporate projects:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fire Safety Programme.</li> </ul> <b>Important corporate services projects:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoping and developing our Business Intelligence function.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Patient First deployment.</li> <li>Development of a Joint Digital Strategy with North Bristol NHS Trust.</li> </ul>
<b>Our resources</b>  <i>Making the most of all our resources</i>	Together, we will reduce waste and increase productivity to be in a strong financial position to release resources and reinvest in our staff, our services and our environment.	To achieve a 1% income and expenditure surplus from 2025/26 onwards, creating a recurrent source of funding for strategic investment.	Year-on-year improvement to deliver a circa £10 million Income & Expenditure surplus.  We will treat more patients with elective care needs, exceeding 2019/20 activity levels.	No breakthrough objective in 2023/24.	<b>Mission critical corporate projects:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce premium workforce costs.</li> </ul> <b>Important corporate services projects:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Space review.</li> <li>Digital procurement, stores and materials management transformation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop the Marlborough Hill business cases. ( <i>Paused to be informed by the clinical strategy</i>).</li> </ul>

# Booking process eRS



# Digital Patient Portal



**University Hospitals  
Bristol and Weston**  
NHS Foundation Trust

**Healthcare has changed.**

Clinicians all over the UK use the DrDoctor Patient Engagement Platform to make data driven decisions, activate patients through self-booking and provide remote care.

[Book a demo](#) [View case studies](#)

**Your patient portal**

- Appointments
- Letters
- Assessments
- Settings

**10 million +** Patients using DrDoctor

**50 million +** Appointments managed

**Over 35** NHS Partner Trusts

**DOWNLOAD THE  
FREE NHS APP**

**HOSPITAL  
APPOINTMENTS**

You can see your hospital appointment information in one place

**NHS**

Access your NHS services

[Continue with NHS login](#)

Version 2.18.0

NHS Wayfinders – NHS App

NHS eMeet and Greet – eRS interface

# Digital Patient Portal



**University Hospitals  
Bristol and Weston**  
NHS Foundation Trust



## Patient Portal

Easy-to-navigate interface with appointment information and guidance.



## Video Consultations

Configurable appointment confirmations / reminders to reduce DNA rates.



## Assessments

Save time, money and space by offering customisable forms online. Consultancy package contracted for 20 assessments



## Notifications

Configurable appointment confirmations / reminders to reduce DNA rates.



## Digital Letters

Fully integrated hybrid mail system to unlock cost savings and ensure accessible information.



## Quick Question

Fast and easy survey tool to validate patient needs. Non-integrated.



## Basic / slot Rescheduling

Digital self-service solution for patients to manage appointments.

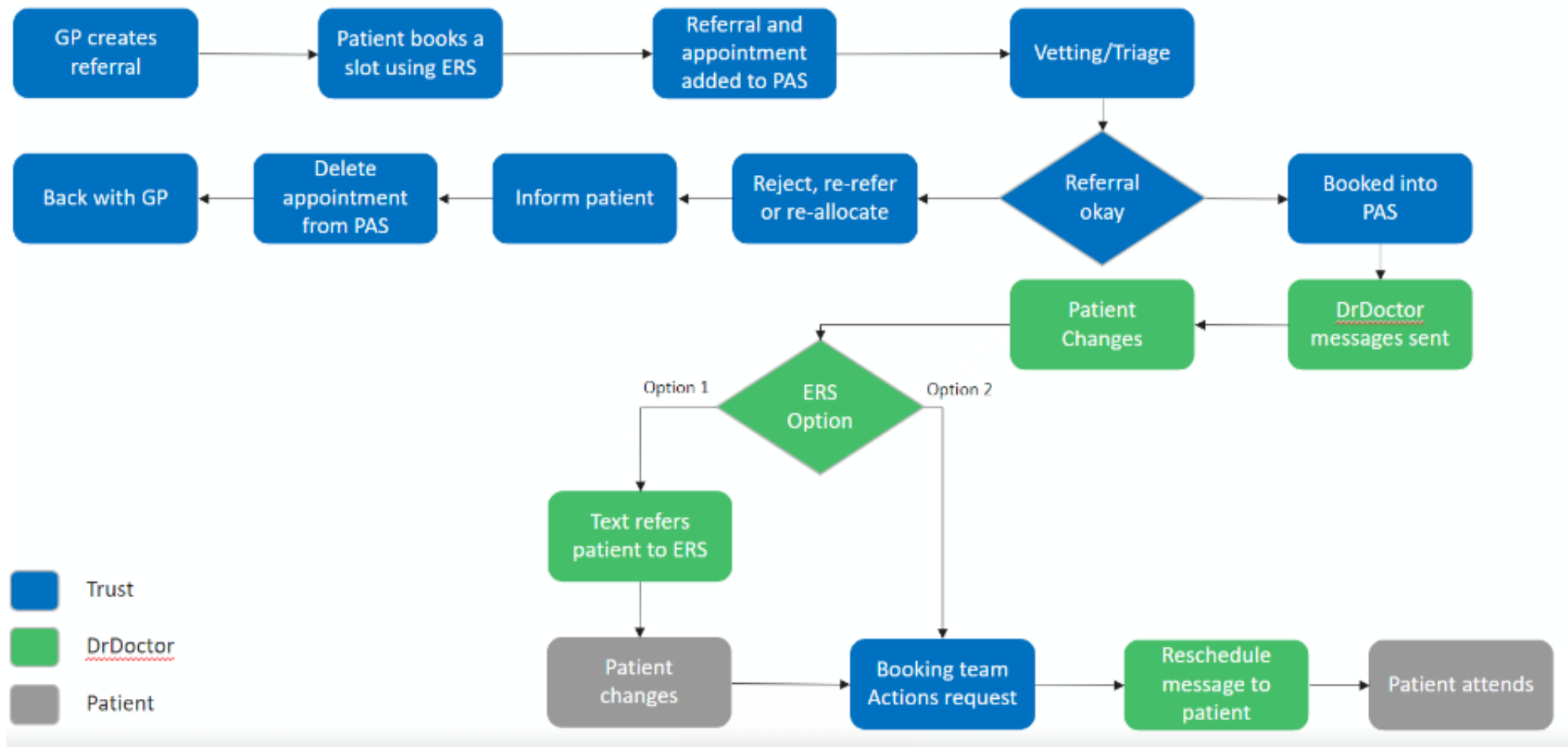


## Broadcast Message

Rapid communication to individuals or cohorts. Non-integrated, customizable messaging.



# E-Referral Service (e-RS) Patient Flow



# DNA

Message reminders deployment date  
July 2022 DNA rate 8%

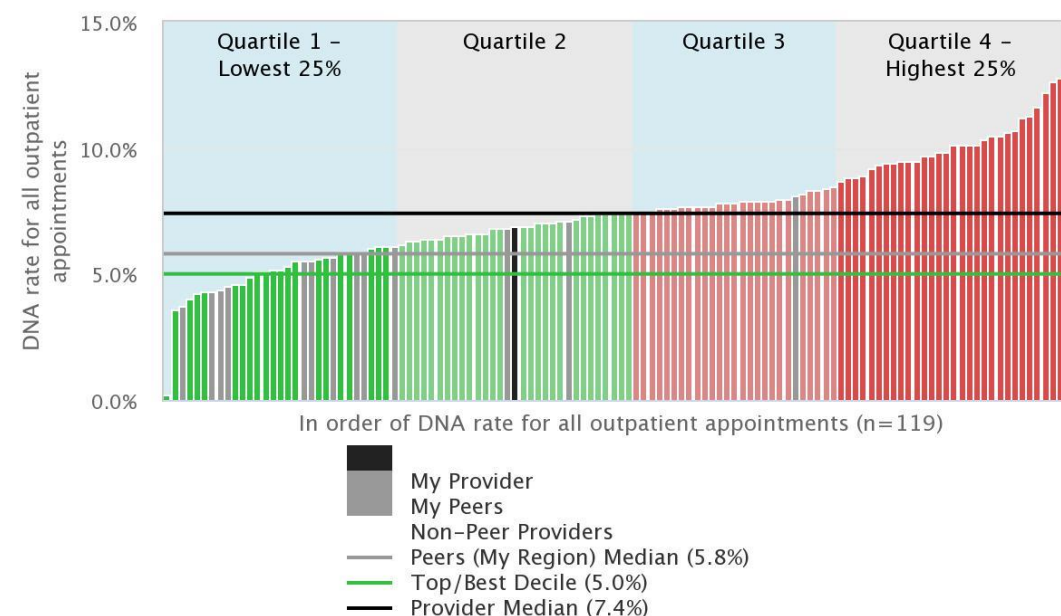
DNA now 6.5% - same as average DNA  
rate for 2019/20

13,500 appointments per year

Stretch target 5%

## March 2023 Model Health System Data

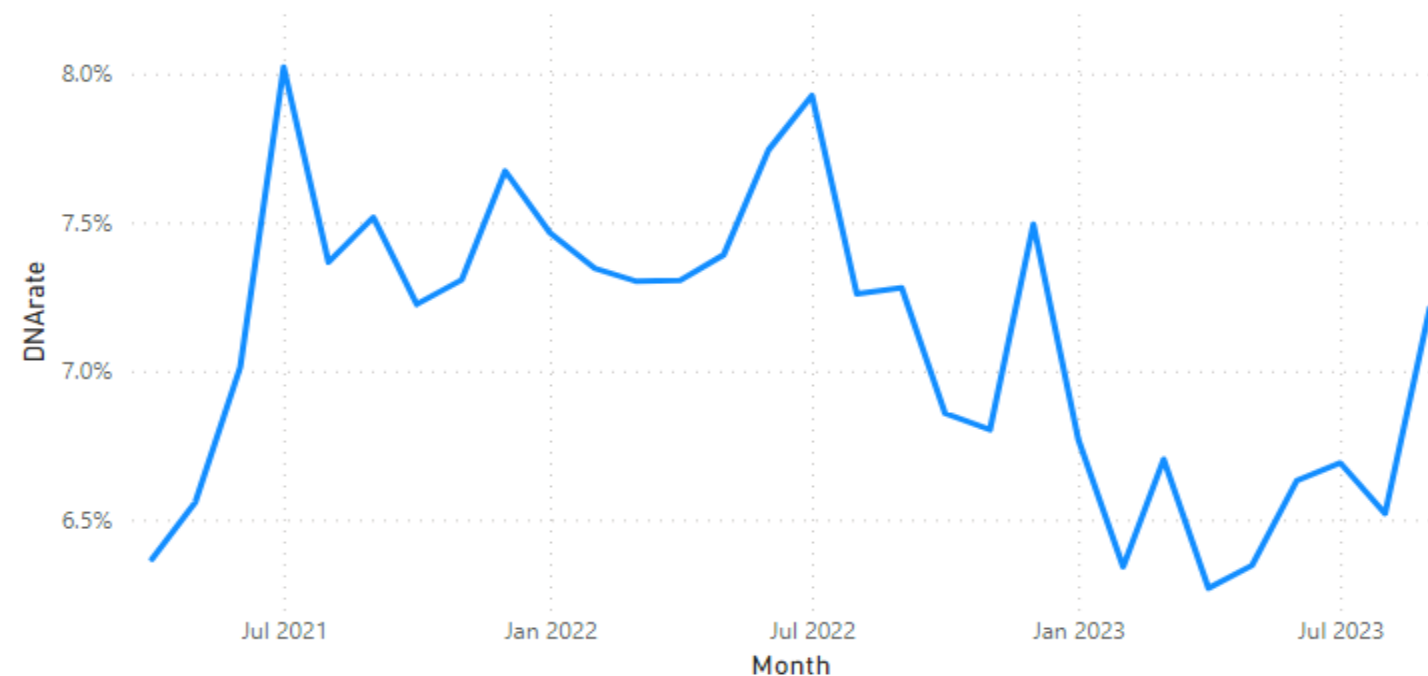
DNA rate for all outpatient appointments, National Distribution



# DNA

## DNARate

BY MONTH



Target 5%

August 6.5%

DNA assessment surveys to understand reason for DNA

Roll out of digital patient letters

Pilot patient led booking

Improve data quality

# DNA – diagnostic pathway

30% recent DNA rate

Feedback from pt

Data on pathway

Patient platform actively – reminders

Prioritised cancellations and rebooking



# DNA – diagnostic pathway

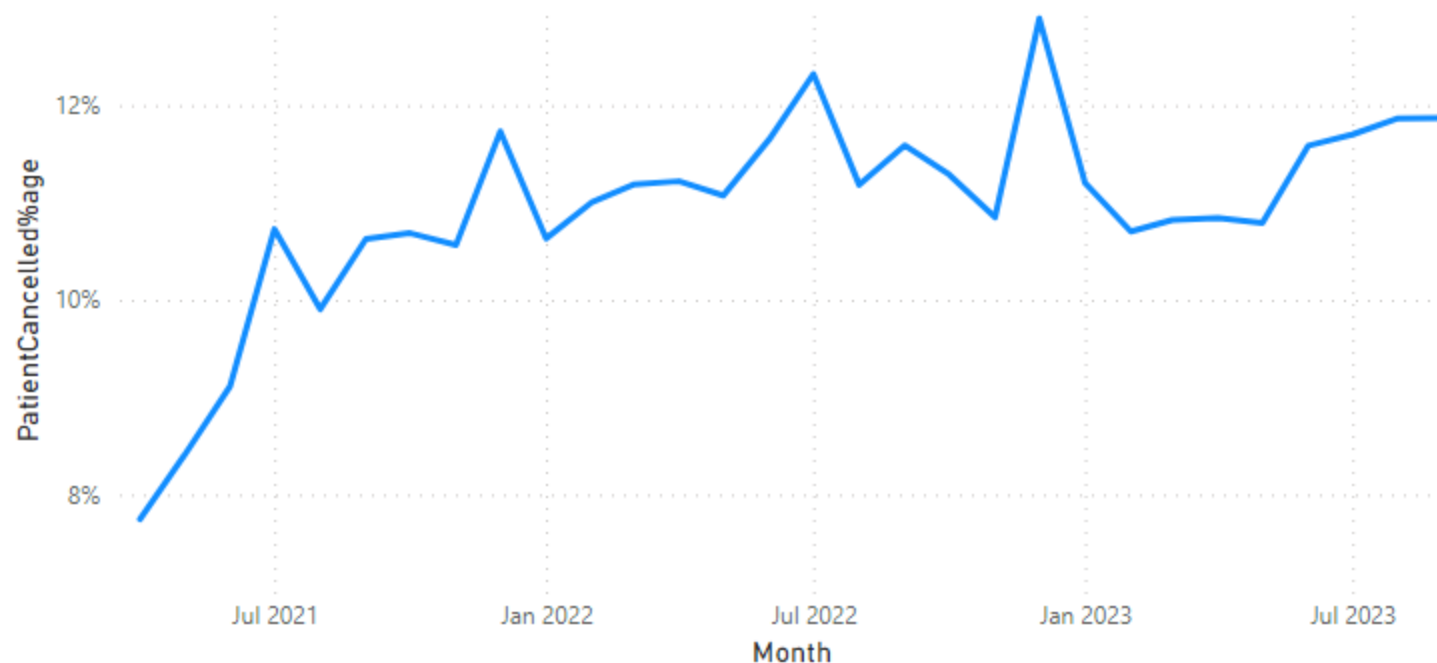
DNARate by Month



# Patient cancellation rate

PatientCancelled%age

BY MONTH



Target 10% Aug 11.9%

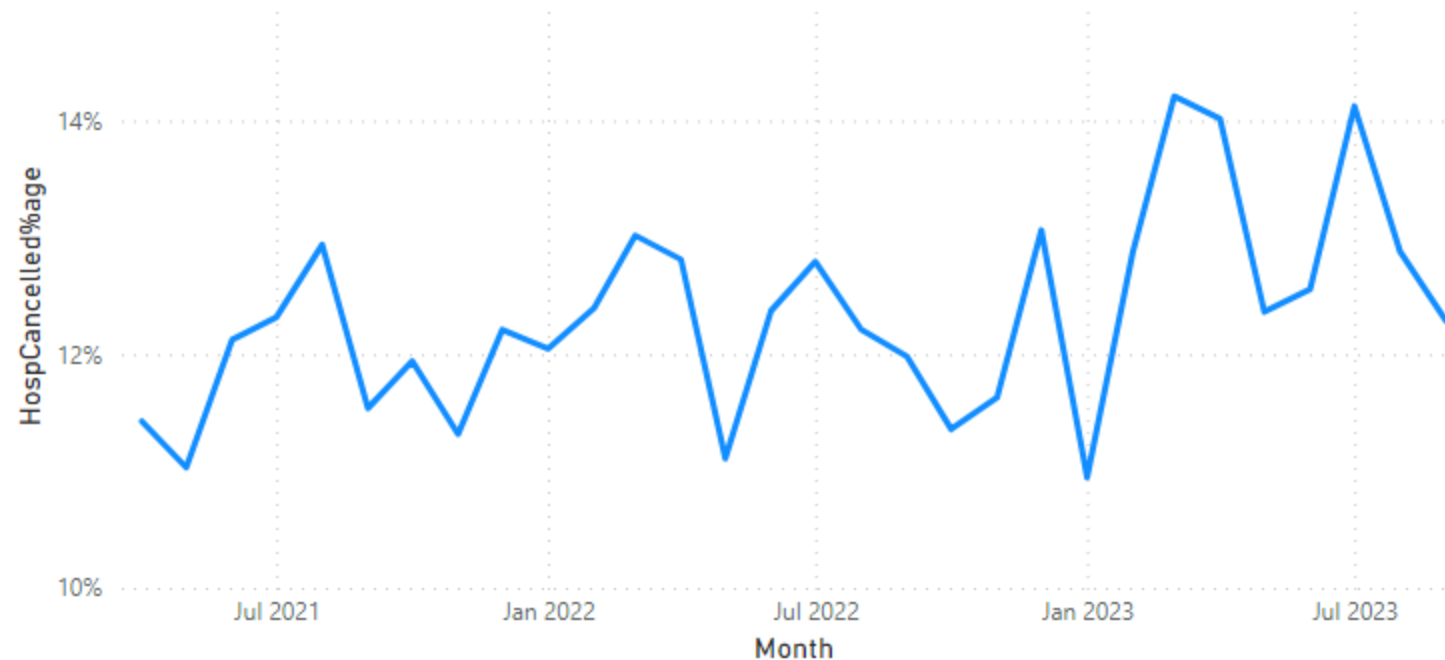
Pilot patient led  
booking

Pilot appointment  
rebooking

# Hospital Cancellation

HospCancelled%age

BY MONTH



Target 10% Aug 12.9%

Clinic capacity and demand planning

Consultant job planning

Impacted upon by IA



# Patient portal digital letters



Pilot of digital letters with Glaucoma service

16% of details in PAS have data quality issues

57% patients viewed letters in the portal

16% patients requested to receive paper communications

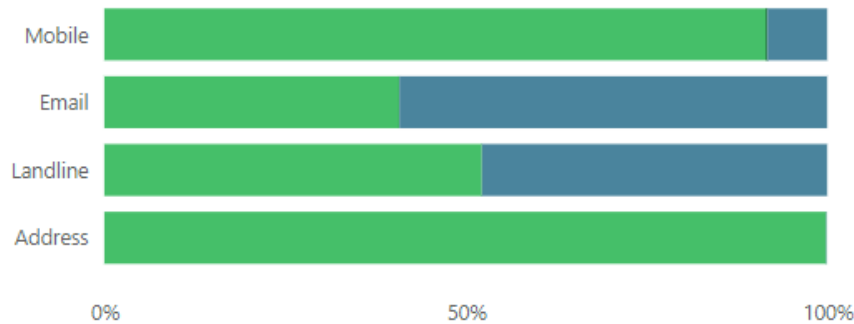
Focus group – to test accessibility

Large scale roll out planned – with patient communications

# Patient contact preferences

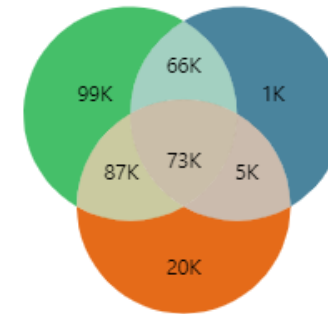
Patients by Contact Preferences

Opt In Status ● Opted In ● Opted Out ● No Contact Details

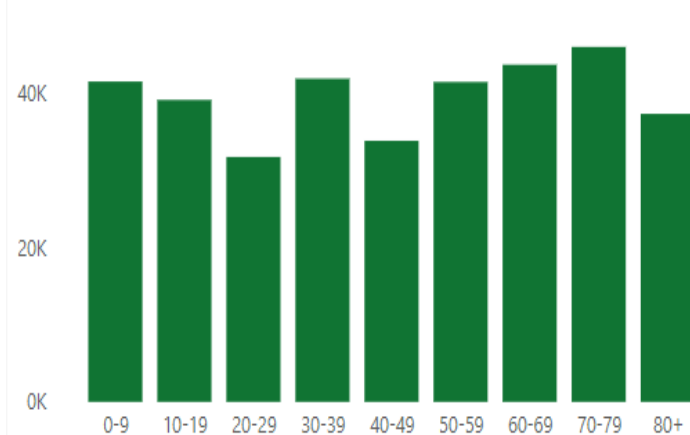


Opt In Combinations

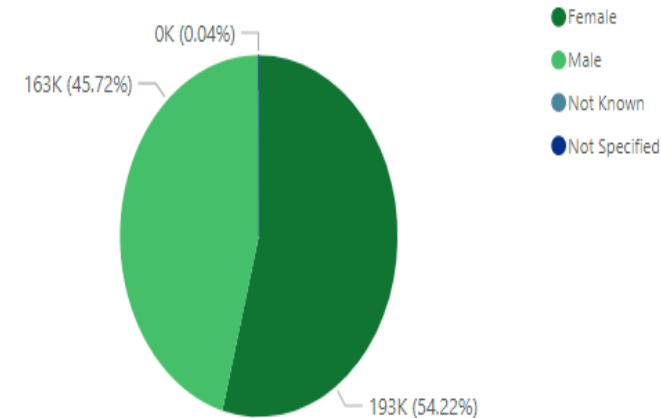
● Mobile Opt In ● Email Opt In ● Landline Opt In



Patients by Age Band



Patients By Gender

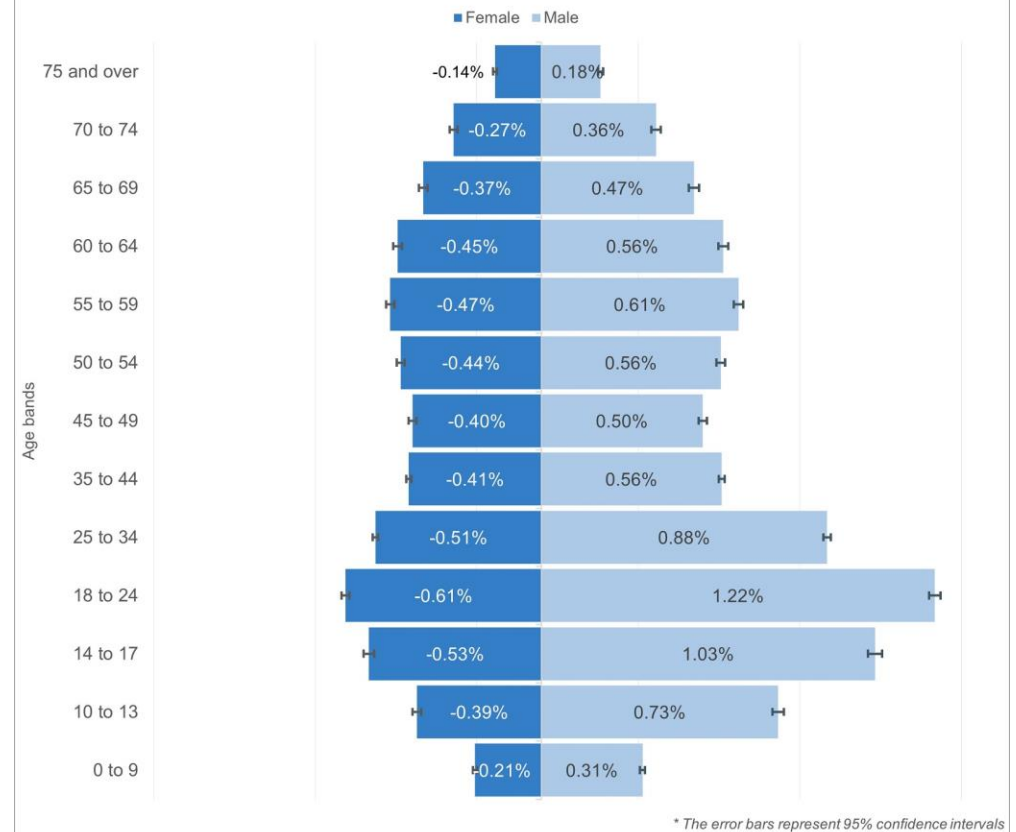


# Patient Portal next steps

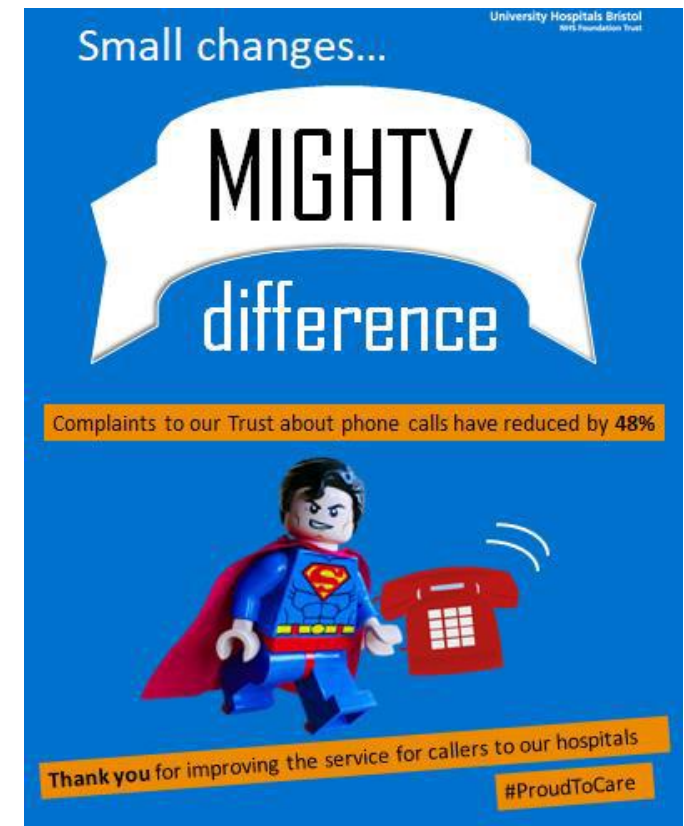
**Keep staff**



**Fig 2: Percentage registered patients on the Learning Disabilities Register, by age and sex, 2021-22**



Thank you  
Remember  
Takephonership





**Up Next...**



**Outpatient  
Transformation  
Conference  
South 2023**

Communitas  
Clinics



**Outpatient  
Transformation  
Conference  
South 2023**

**Slido**

Please scan the QR Code on the screen. This will take you through to Slido, where you can interact with us.



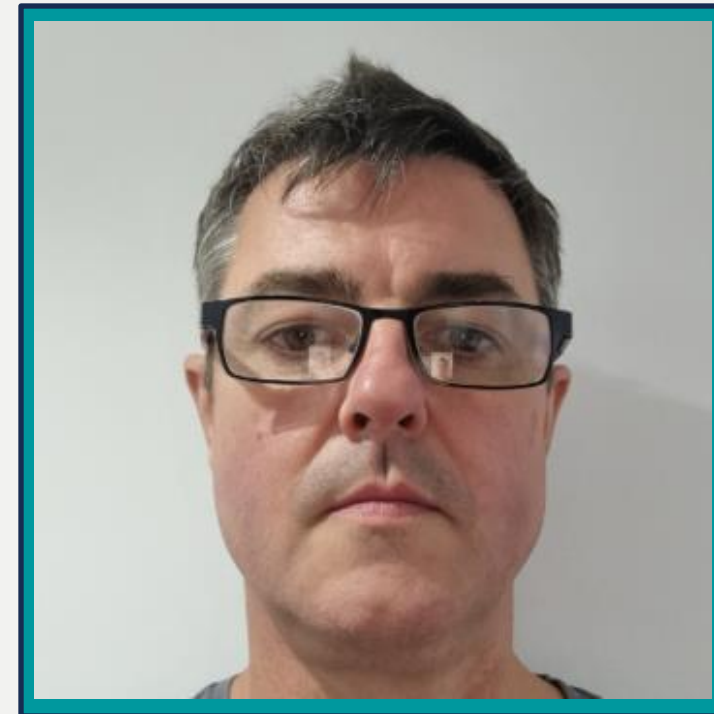




Speaking Now...



**Outpatient  
Transformation  
Conference  
South 2023**



**Kieran McHugh**  
Head of Service Development -  
Communitas Clinics



# **NHS Outpatient Conference**

## **Case Study: Community ENT in Tower Hamlets, Newham and Waltham Forest**

**Barts Health, TNW CCGs & Communitas  
Clinics**

**Kieran McHugh – Head of Service Development**

# What we will demonstrate in this presentation

- Process for ENT recovery
- The steps to implement a community ENT service
- Hurdles/barriers
- Background
- Benefits

# Your challenges

Does this sound familiar?

- Significant backlog of patients waiting for a first appointment
- Wait times over 18 weeks
- 52+ week waits not reducing quickly enough
- GPs unable to refer to outpatient clinics
- Patients at risk of clinical harm
- Lack of capacity to address the issues



# Solution?



# Transform the service!



# Transformation

You are not going to get the opportunity to transform your service unless and until you can:

- Explain why it's important
- Describe what you plan to do
- Demonstrate agreement from a range of colleagues
- Show how much it will cost
- Project the impact that your transformation will have

How are you able to do that?



## Luckily...

There is a solution to that particular problem



**Write a business case!**



# Business Case

## **Project Brief/Background:**

- What are we planning to do?
- Give a brief outline of the problem we are trying to solve and how the problem has arisen
- Demonstrate why this is a problem that needs to be solved
- The Burning Platform

All organisations, inside and outside healthcare, have priorities and limited resources to meet those priorities.

Why should this business case be prioritised?



# Business Case

**Sponsors including acute/commissioner sponsor, clinical sponsor, finance lead:**

- For each of the different domains covered name the subject matter expert that has been consulted and contributed to the business case.
- Depending on your specific organisation this could mean:
  - specialist consultants
  - general practitioners
  - nurses
  - pharmacists
  - accountants
  - quality leads
  - contract and procurement leads

# Business Case

## **Options Analysis with recommended option:**

- What options are available that meet the same need in a different way
- Each of these should be appraised and ruled out if they are not effective in meeting the identified need

## **Financials:**

- How much will the proposed change cost
- Bear in mind things such as recurrent/non recurrent costs, full year effects and capital/revenue funding



# Business Case

## Impact Assessment:

- What are the desired outcomes and benefits to patient, what will happen as a result of the change in practice?
- Over what time period?
- Are there any knock on effects that need to be considered?

Which metrics/KPIs will be used to measure success?

- Waiting times, Did Not Attends, OPFA:OPFUP ratio, Patient Satisfaction...

# Business Case

## **Contract management/Procurement strategy:**

- How long is the intended contract period?
- Is the payment mechanism agreed and appropriate?
- Is there a clear route to a procurement?

# Business Case

## **Proposed timeframes:**

- How long will the whole process take?
  - Governance
  - Procurement
  - Awarding contract
  - Mobilisation

## **Risk register and mitigations:**

- What are the risks to this proposal achieving its intended outcomes
- How can we reduce these risks?



# Hurdles You Will Face

# Consensus

- Find out about Clinical Reference Groups, (CRG), in your ICB
- CRGs will have representation from primary and secondary care as well as decision makers in commissioning and provider teams



# Governance

- Clinical governance
  - Clinical Reference Group sign off
- Information governance
  - How will patient information be safely shared and stored?
  - Speak to your IG lead
- Financial governance
  - Speak to your finance lead about strategic planning
  - There will be a planning cycle to identify the various needs to be met and the total funding to meet those needs

# Communications

- During any change project communication is vital across a range of stakeholders at all times in the process
- Engage with patient groups, speak to primary care teams and ensure communications go out regularly and in the right format to ensure everyone knows your plans and has a chance to comment on them
- Emails, leaflets, webinars...



# Estates

- One of the benefits of a well run community ENT service is provision of service closer to home
- Good quality NHS estates may not be abundant in our local areas
- Dialogue between the various organisations is really important in identifying locations early



# **The outcomes of this project, the benefits, the reason why**

It might sound like a lot of work.

It might sound like the process is difficult, lengthy and time consuming.

It can be done and it has been done.

The results demonstrate the reason why the community solution in ENT can sustainably improve services for your patients.



# Evidence from the Case Study

# Background to Barts Health/TNW CCGs ENT service

- In March 2021, the backlog had risen to ~6,000 adults
- The service was not meeting the 18 weeks referral to treatment, (RTT), standard even prior to the pandemic
- The backlog and RTT position only worsened as a result of the pandemic
- There was an increase in 52 week wait breaches
- There was significant variation in referral rates into the ENT service from different GP practices within TNW



# Objectives

**The main objectives set out in the Business Case were to:**

- Sustainability
- Reduce the waiting list backlog and average wait time
- Standardised pathways across TNW
- Services closer to patients homes
- Patients seen in the most appropriate care setting and by the right clinician first time
- Reduce avoidable hospital appointments

## The service

- Communitas Clinics was commissioned to provide a single point of access clinical triage for all routine ENT referrals
- The service was mobilised in 10 weeks from the issuing of a contract
- A joint working group was established drawing from the GPs, the CCGs, Barts Health, (ENT, audiology, radiology), and Communitas
- See and treat, non complex, non surgical cases, 5+ years
- Exclusion criteria agreed by clinical teams
- ENT outpatient procedures including diagnostic audiometry, excluding urgent and suspected cancers
- One stop clinics in each locality
- Weekly demand and capacity monitoring



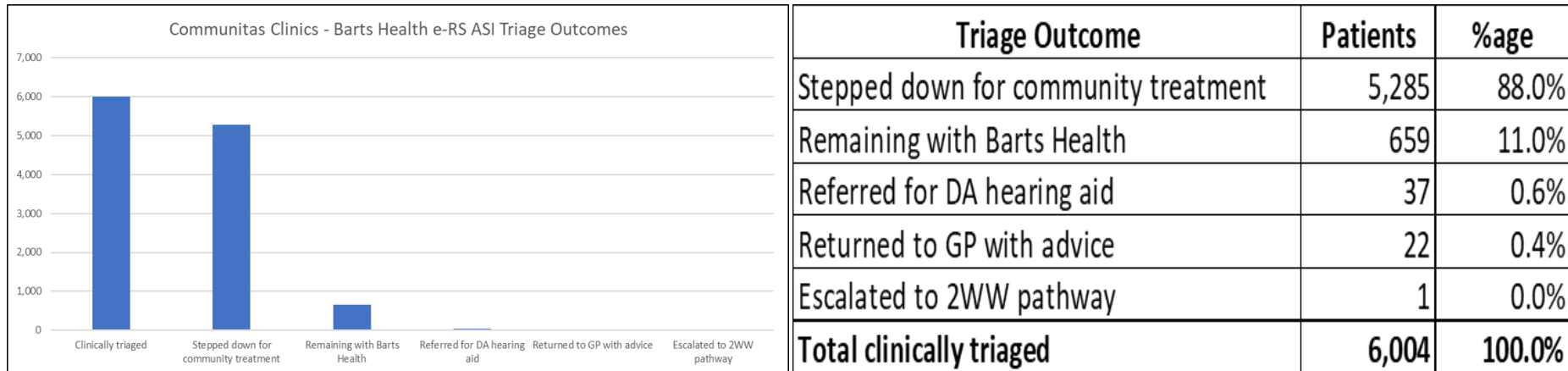
**So... did we succeed?**

## TNW Community ENT Service: Pilot

- The Communitas community ENT service went live in September 2021
- Provision of a single point of access, one stop service for all routine ENT referrals for patients over 5 years of age
- Over 6,000 Barts Health non-admitted pathways were stepped down for triage and treatment to tackle the backlog

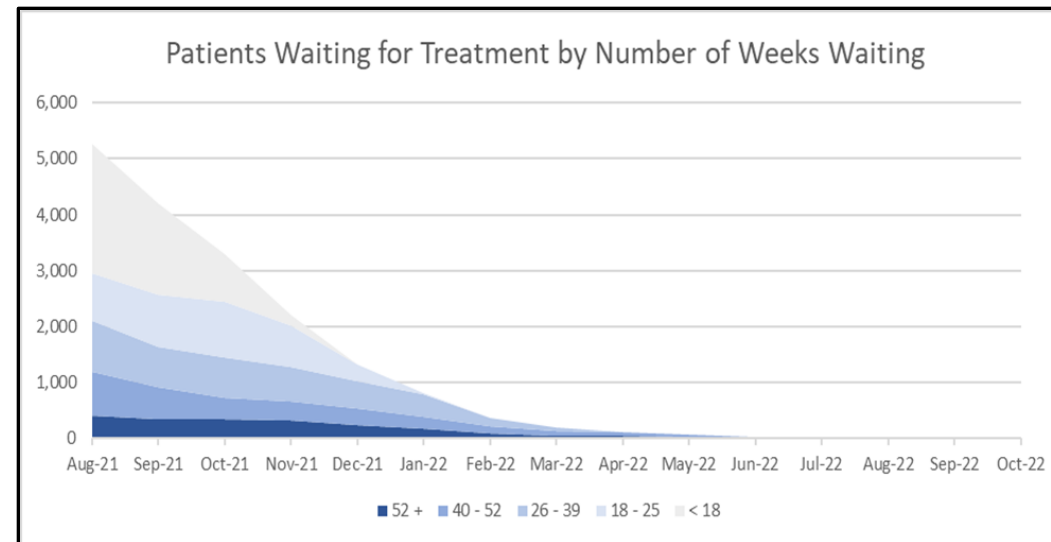
# Triage Outcomes

- A total of 6,149 patients were on Barts ASI at the start of the project in July 2021
- 5,285 (88%) patients were stepped down to community treatment and 659 (11%) remained with Barts Health. 145 were found to be duplications



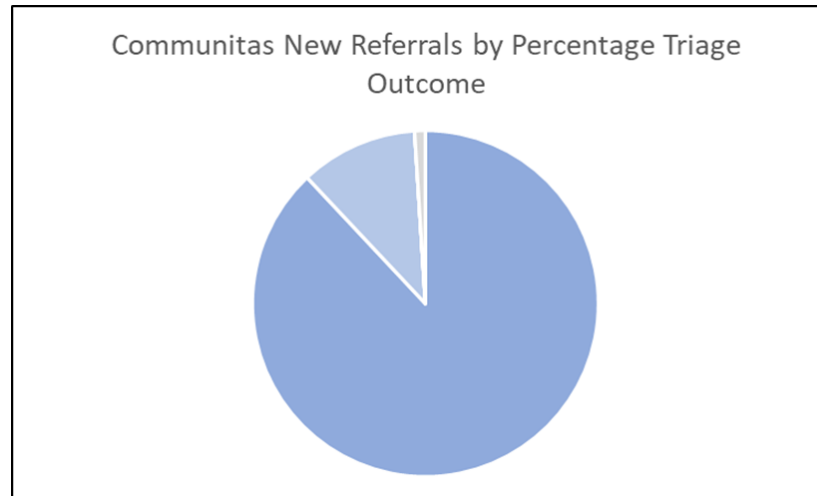
# ENT ASI Activity Analysis

- 5,285 patients were stepped down for community treatment in September 2021. By March 2022 96% of that backlog had been cleared
- The data conclusively demonstrates that the community service had successfully and rapidly cleared the backlog of ENT ASI patients



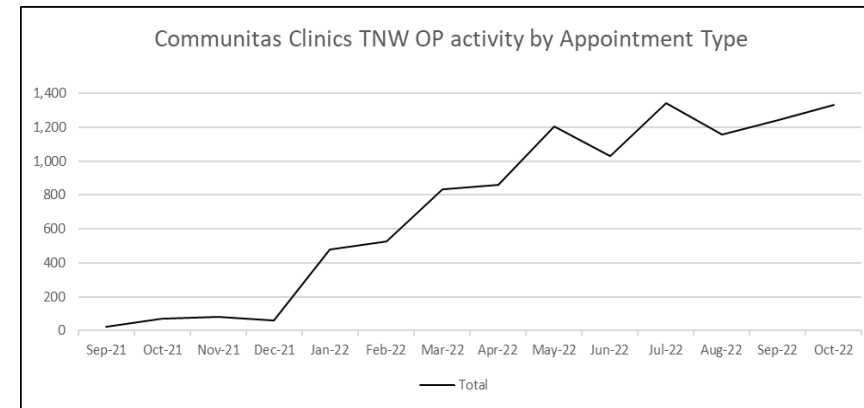
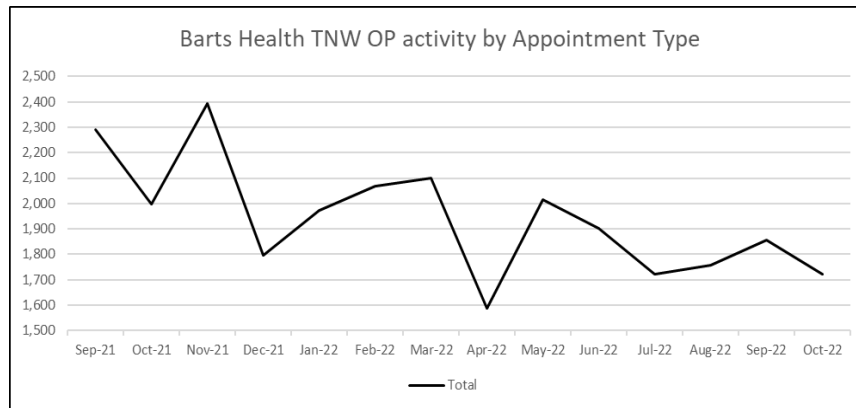
## New Referrals into Communitas Clinics

- Triaging for new referrals was consistent with the results of patients that were stepped down from the Barts Health ASI list
- 88% remained within community and 11% were referred to Barts Health, effectively reducing demand for secondary care services



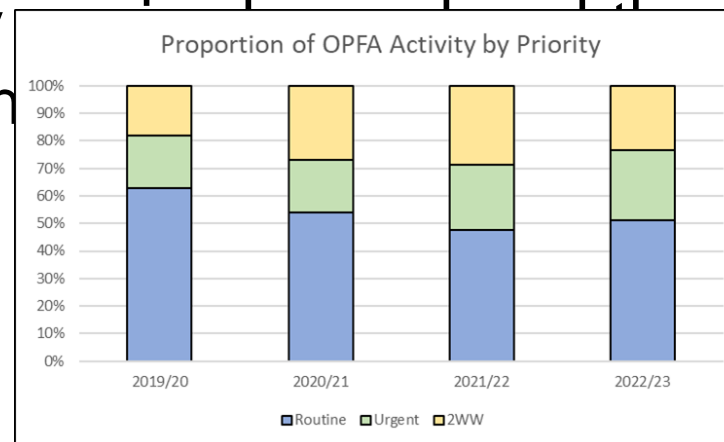
# ENT Outpatient Activity

- There has been a general decrease in outpatient activity at Barts for TNW from September 2021 and an increase in outpatient activity in the Communitas Clinics community ENT service.



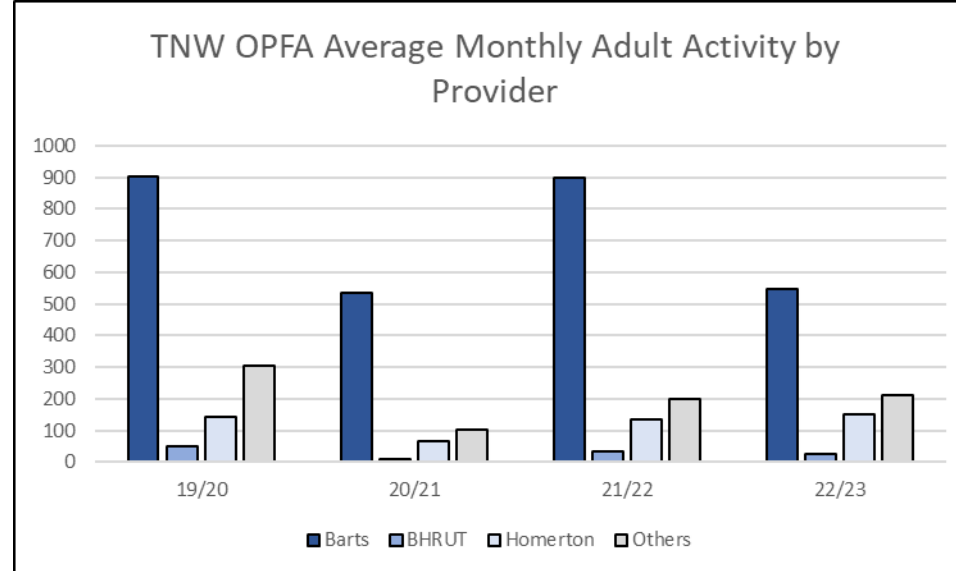
# Barts Health ENT OPFA Activity by Priority

- The chart below shows the reduction of urgent TNW activity at Barts Health associated with the community service
- The proportion of urgent activity has increased since pre-pandemic
- This cohort of patients is not be eligible for the community setting
- The community volume of routine activity has decreased by 10 percentage points and the volume of urgent activity has increased by 15 percentage points since pre-pandemic



# North East London Outpatient Activity for TNW

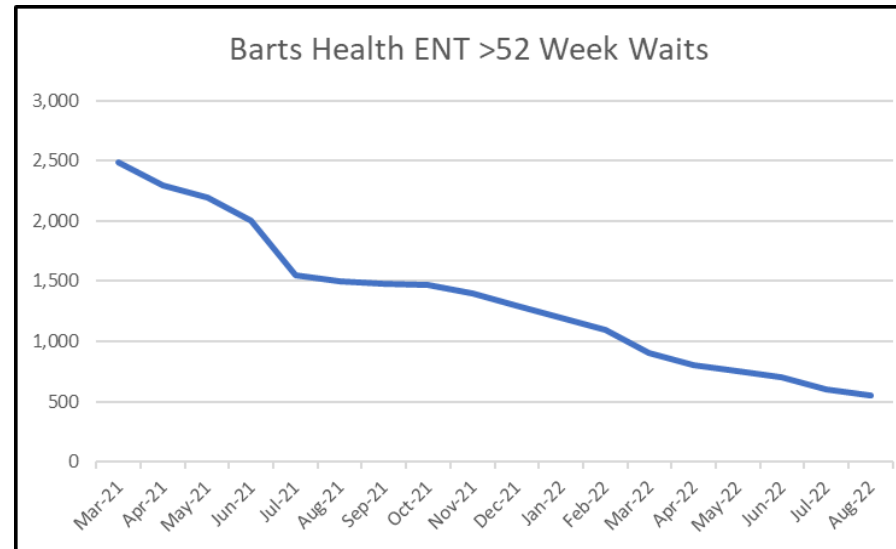
- TNW CCGs outpatient first attendance activity across all providers shows a marked decrease of OPFA activity at Barts Health without any impact on BHRUT or the Homerton





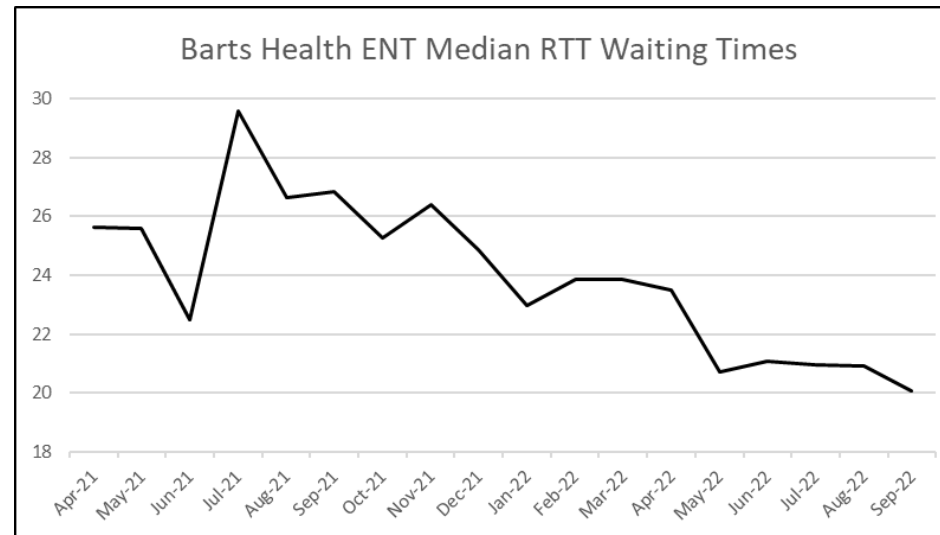
## Barts Health ENT 52+ Week Waits

- The number of Non-Admitted 52+ week waits significantly increased during the pandemic, rising to a peak of 2,489 in March 2021 which continues to date



## Barts Health Median Waiting Times

- The median waiting times have gradually reduced over time from 26.83 weeks in September 2021 to 20.09 in September 2022 a reduction of 6.74 weeks
- For July 2023 the median wait time published by NHS England for Barts Health ENT was 8.6 weeks



## Patient Experience

- Friends and Family Test results are consistently above 85% positive
- Patient complaints are below 0.1% of total patients seen

## GP Experience

- GPs have responded positively to the service with 90% stating that they found it easy to refer into the service and that they would recommend the service to family and friends



## Contact Communitas Clinics

Come and see us today to find out more

If you would like a copy of the detailed case study or support on how to set up a community service, contact myself or Anna Bernard on the details below:

Anna Bernard, Chief Service Development Officer –  
[anna.bernard@nhs.net](mailto:anna.bernard@nhs.net)

Kieran McHugh, Head of Service Development –  
[kieran.mchugh6@nhs.net](mailto:kieran.mchugh6@nhs.net)





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# Q&A Panel



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**Lunch &  
Networking**



## Chair Afternoon Reflection



**Outpatient  
Transformation  
Conference  
South 2023**



**Katrina Davies**

Outpatient Transformation  
Programme Director - Barts Health





# Up Next...



**Outpatient  
Transformation  
Conference  
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The Accurx logo consists of a stylized 'a' made of two overlapping teal shapes, followed by the word 'accurx' in a dark teal, lowercase, sans-serif font.





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**Slido**

**Please scan the QR Code on the screen. This will take you through to Slido, where you can interact with us.**





**Outpatient  
Transformation  
Conference  
South 2023**

**Speaking Now...**



**Dr. Satya Raghuvanshi**  
VP of Clinical at Accurx -  
Accurx



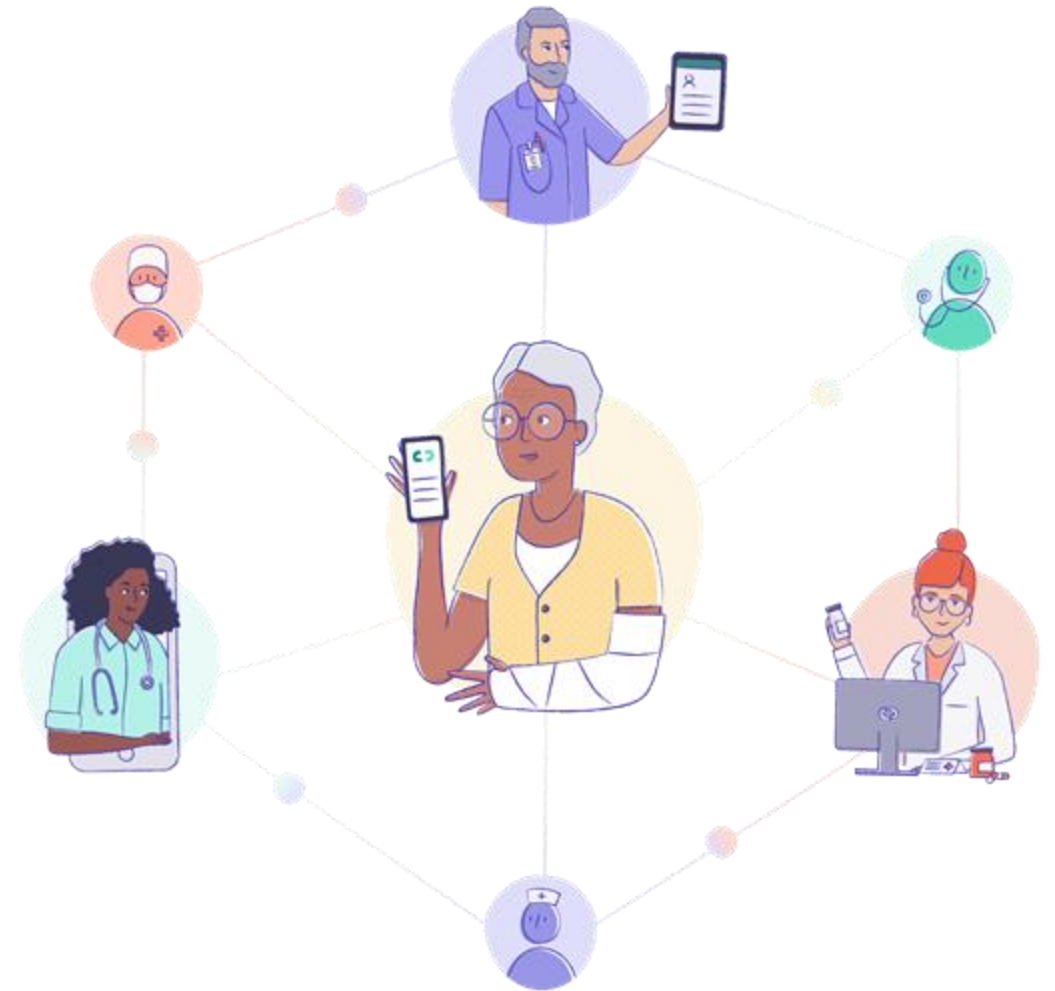
## Waiting list validation: a University Hospitals of Leicester & Accurx case study



University Hospitals of Leicester  
NHS Trust

# We're on a mission...

To make sure everyone involved in a patient's care can communicate with each other



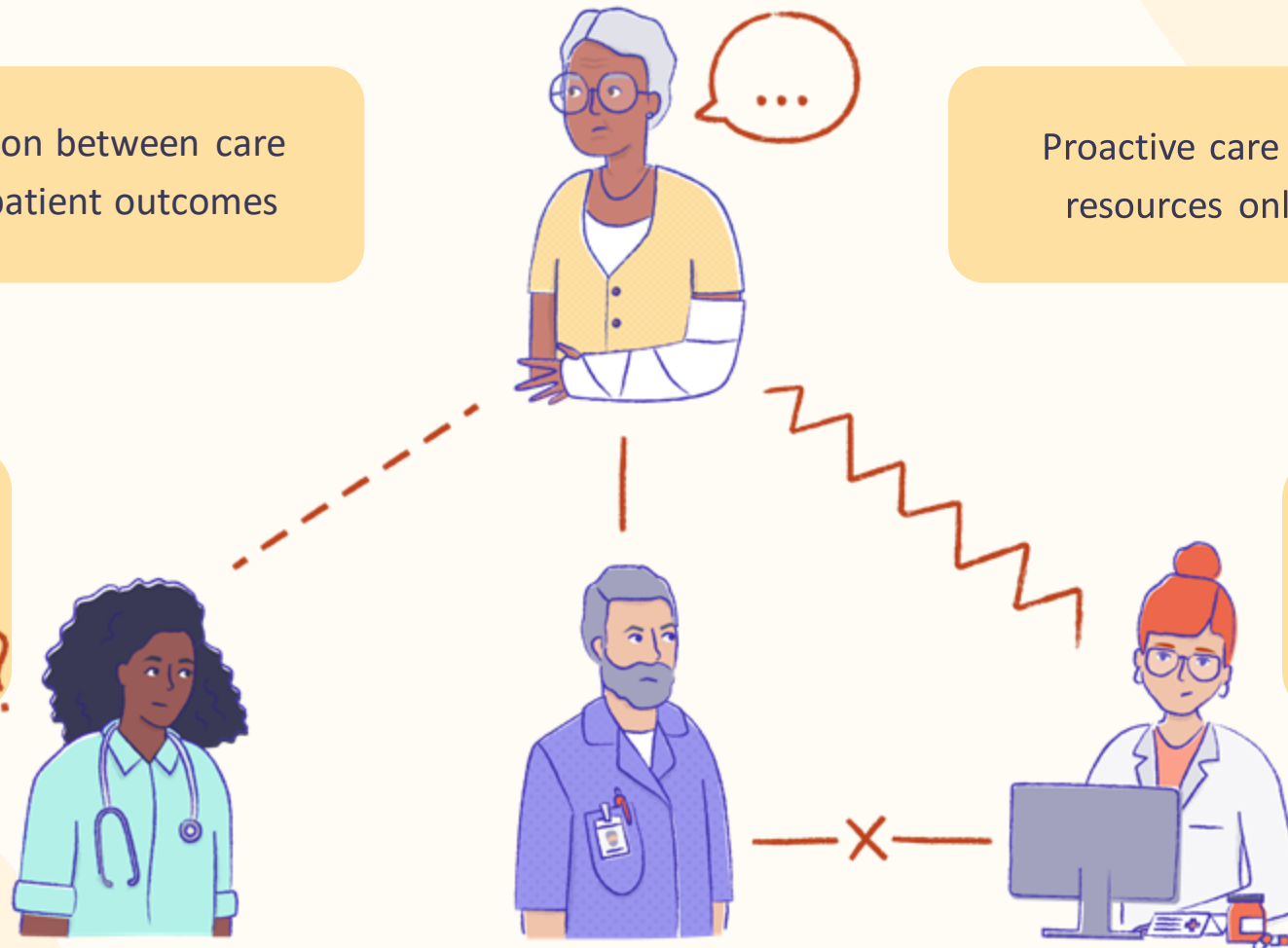
# Communication is fragmented

Poor communication between care settings impacts patient outcomes

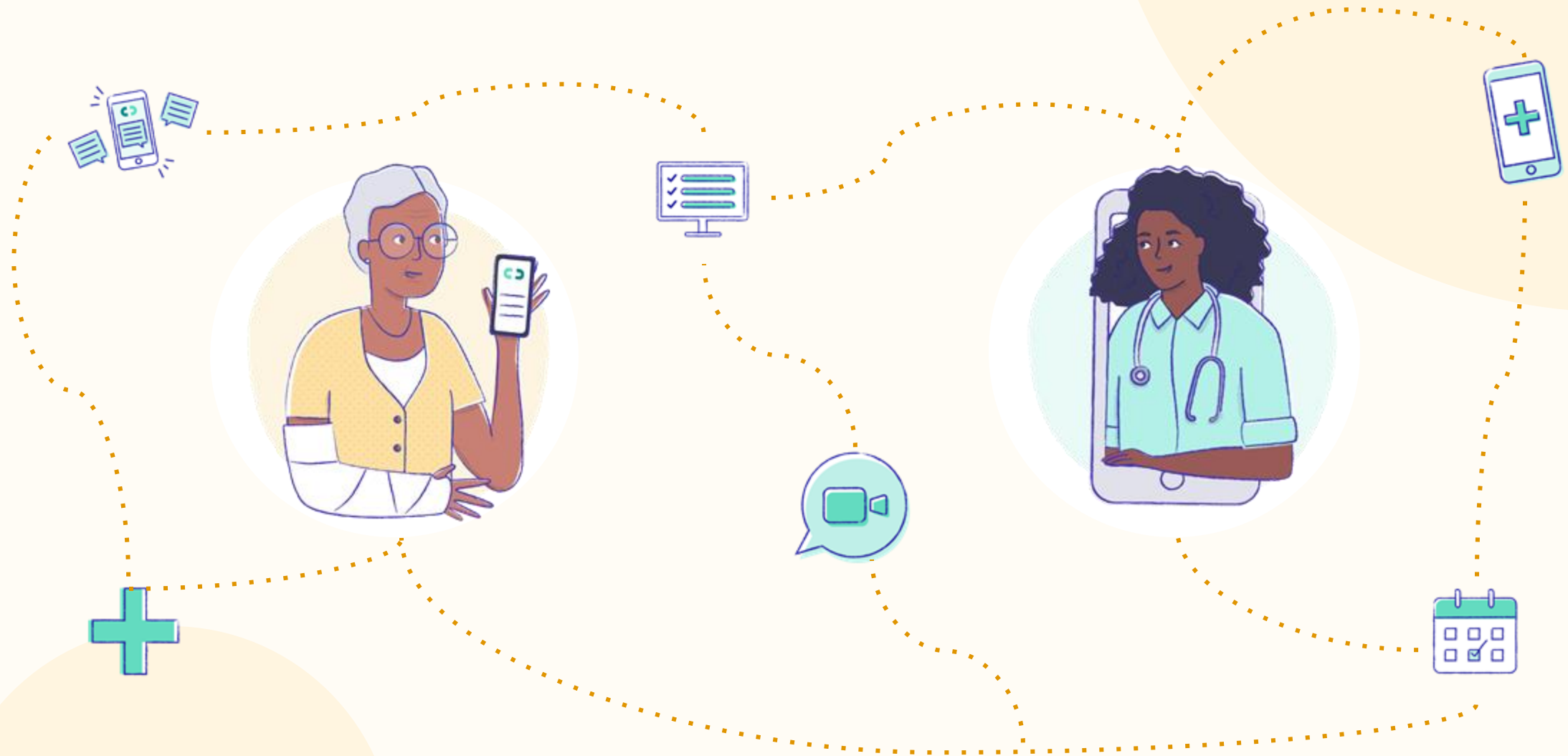
Proactive care is near impossible when resources only allow for urgent care

GPs & Trusts are inundated by inbound requests for care

Staff are overwhelmed by the volume of administrative tasks



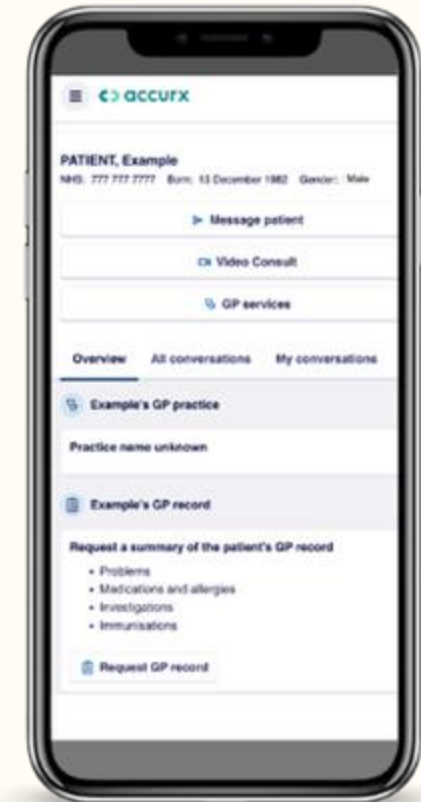
# An integrated solution for healthcare communication





# Quick and reliable patient communication

- ✓ **SMS messaging** for quick and reliable communication with patients, sent one-by-one or in batch
- ✓ **Attachments and questionnaires** include leaflets and documents or digital patient questionnaires
- ✓ **Request reply** when you need patients to respond with a text and optional image
- ✓ **Accumail** that removes care barriers for patients and saves time



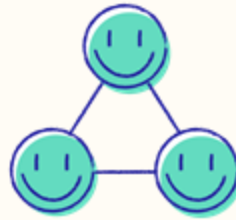
# Our Impact



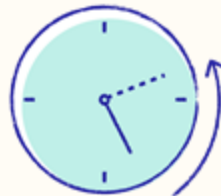
**98% of GP practices &  
68% of Trusts**  
who use us every week



**20,000 patients**  
removed from the waiting list at  
UHL



**Over 350,000  
NHS users**



**5 hours**  
staff time saved every week



**58 million patients**  
contacted via Accurx.. and  
counting!



**343,127**  
clinical questionnaires sent in  
the last 7 days





# NHSE's elective recovery ask

Ensure that at least 90% of patients who have been waiting over 12 weeks are contacted and validated by 31 October 2023

NHS England  
Protecting and expanding elective capacity  
4 August 2023



# The challenge

**31st October is only 3 weeks away.**

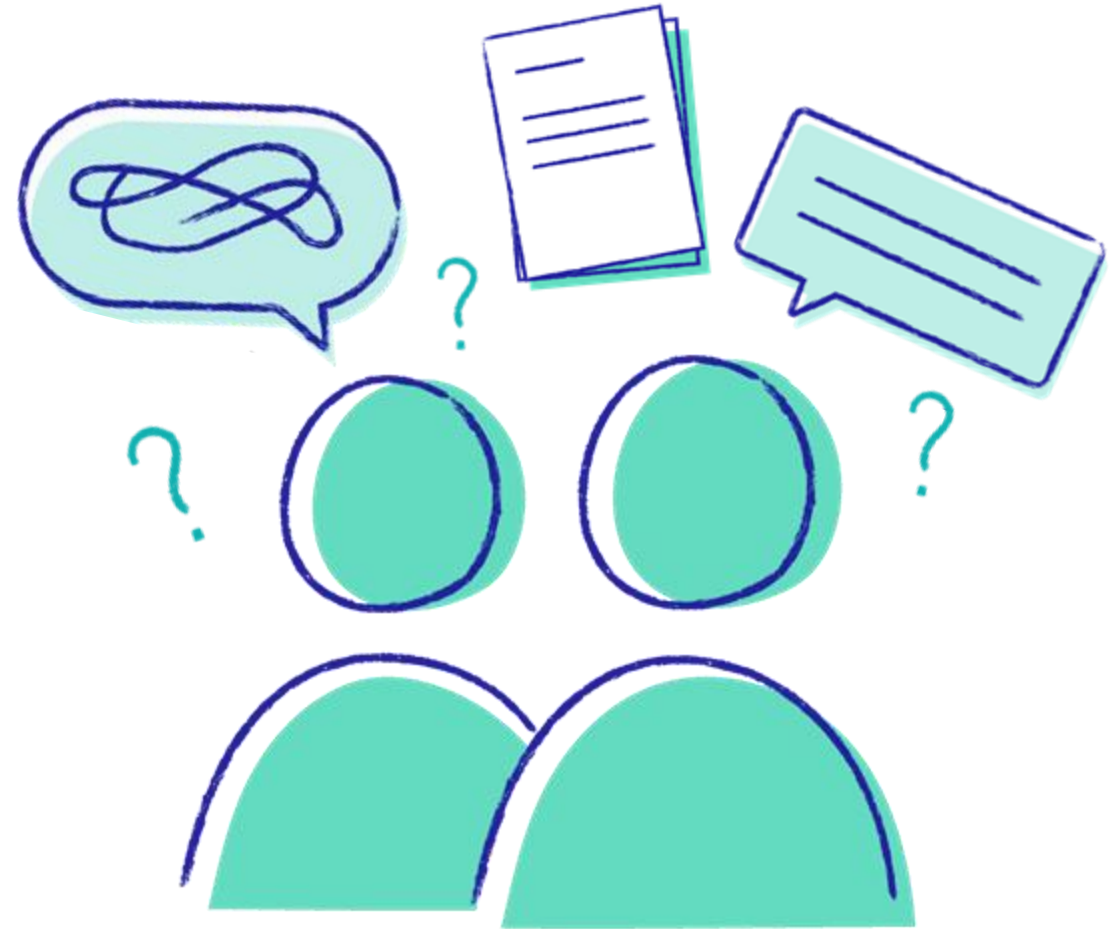
**RTT lists are larger than ever.**

**There's unprecedented disruption.**

As such, waiting list management has become more complex and resource intensive.

Traditional methods of communicating with patients can't keep up.

'Digital solutions' too often add complexity and take months to implement, let alone deliver results.



**Digital tooling and  
transformation support can  
help get control of waiting lists.**

**Fast.**



# Three key ways tech can support

1

**Administrative  
waiting list validation**  
*to keep your waiting list up  
to date*

2

**Clinical waiting list  
validation**  
*to prioritise patients by  
need*

3

**Digital Patient-Initiated  
Follow-Up**  
*to reduce unnecessary  
appointments*



# 1. Administrative waiting list validation to keep waiting lists up to date



Contact all  
patients on  
waiting list at  
scale

Easily collate  
patients who  
don't need to be  
seen

Resolve data  
quality issues

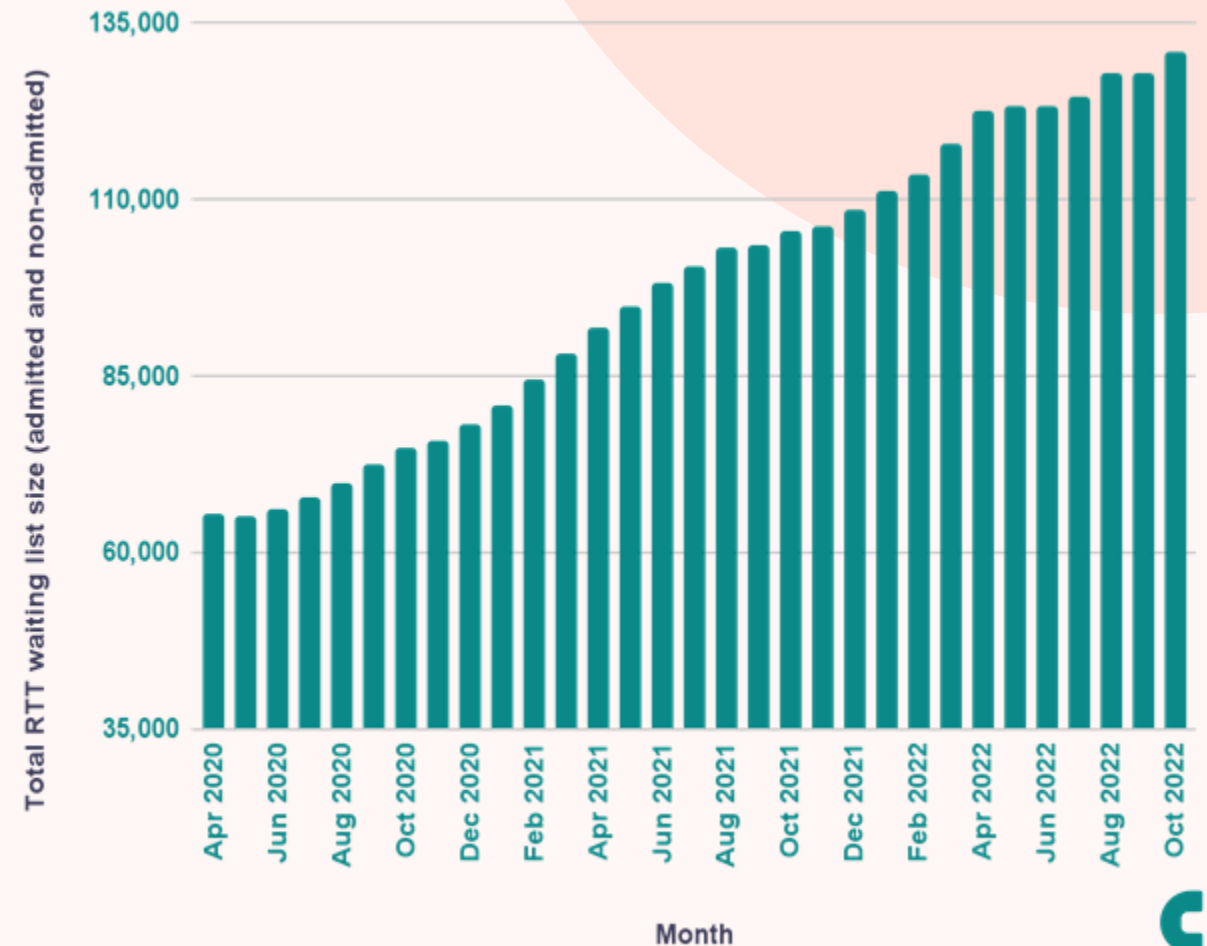
See results  
quickly

# 1. Administrative waiting list validation



## UHL background

- UHL's RTT waiting list grew by 85% during COVID pandemic.
- One of the most challenging recovery trajectories of all acute trusts.
- Teams were struggling to get on top of their waiting lists via letters or phone calls.
- Resulting in ineffective use of resources and clinical time.
- So UHL partnered with Accurx to turn things around.



# 1. Administrative waiting list validation



## How does it work?

- Patients sent text message with link to questionnaire
- Reasons for no longer requiring an appointment are captured.
- Patients can be offered additional options (e.g. PIFU / Travel)

A smartphone screen displaying a questionnaire. The status bar at the top shows the time 9:41, signal strength, Wi-Fi, and battery. The questionnaire has two main sections. The first section asks '1. Do you still require this appointment?' with two buttons: 'Yes' (with a checkmark icon) and 'No' (with an 'X' icon). The second section asks '2. Please tell us why you no longer require this appointment' and includes the text 'This helps us to ensure our records are accurate'. Below this are four buttons: 'I have had care somewhere else', 'My symptoms have resolved' (which is highlighted in blue), 'I do not wish to be seen anymore', and 'I do not want to give a reason'.



# 1. Administrative waiting list validation

**67**

Services at UHL using  
Accurx

**70%**

Response rate

**20,000**

Patients removed





# 1. Administrative waiting list validation



*"Accurx's messaging service is a really quick, effective and efficient way to communicate with patients around waiting lists, as well as reminding them about upcoming appointments. This has saved our department so much time and it is so easy to use. We absolutely love using this system and it really is amazing - I would highly recommend it."*

**Service Manager for General Surgery**

*"It was a relief to receive the text, as I was wondering if my child had been lost in the system."*

**Patient**

## 2. Clinical waiting list validation to triage patients to the most appropriate care pathway



**Before:** Patients with rectal bleeding were seen in clinic prior to receiving a diagnostic test for their symptoms, resulting in long waiters and inflated OP activity.

**Now:** They receive a questionnaire asking for more information about their symptoms, and whether they would like to be referred for a colonoscopy, an appointment, or no preference.

Clinician triages  
referral



Patients receive a  
questionnaire



Patient booked in for a  
test or appointment



**Direct to  
test**

**Appointment  
first**

**No preference  
28%**

### 3. Digital PIFU to reduce the volume of F2F appointments



Over six months:

- **853 patients** were sent a digital PIFU contact link for dermatology
- **71 of these patients (8%)** submitted a request (*39 medical; 32 admin*)
- Around **half** of these requests were **resolved digitally**, the remainder were booked an appointment

*“Receiving patient requests via online is quicker than phone calls. Calls are difficult to answer if we’re busy, and also means there’s no record of the request.”*

Dermatology Clinic Coordinator

*“The digital requests has definitely reduced the volume of phone calls that we’re receiving, and these online requests are much easier and quicker to respond to than phone calls.”*

Dermatology Admin Manager

*“I’m pleased to see an alternative and successful form of being able to make necessary contact, with no waiting involved.”*

Patient who submitted a request

# Partnership working: the Accurx approach



# How we approach partnerships

## Product Development

We build new features for Trusts and work with you to prioritise the product roadmap

## Transformation & Implementation Team

We lead project management, training, implementation, evaluation, scaling & scoping of future work

## Specialist Advisors

We give advice on areas such as clinical safety, information governance, data and behavioural science

## Hear it from our Innovation Partner...



*“Working with Accurx has felt like a true partnership. From the weekly implementation meetings to fortnightly check-ins, the work feels genuinely co-produced.”*



# Thank you



For more information, or to receive your bespoke waiting list validation plan, and validate your entire waiting list by 31st October, please get in touch.

[partnerships@accurx.com](mailto:partnerships@accurx.com)



Speaking Now...



**Outpatient  
Transformation  
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South 2023**



**Mr Sunil Jain**

Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon -  
Medway NHS Foundation Trust



# Video consultations

Sunil Jain

Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon & CCIO

Medway NHS Foundation Trust

# Pre-pandemic status

## Capacity

- Long outpatient waiting times
- Crowded clinical areas - patients, staff
- Constrained hospital space, off-site facility debated
- Car park queues
- Traffic

## Patient convenience:

- cost
- time
- preferences

## Environment

- pollution from journeys

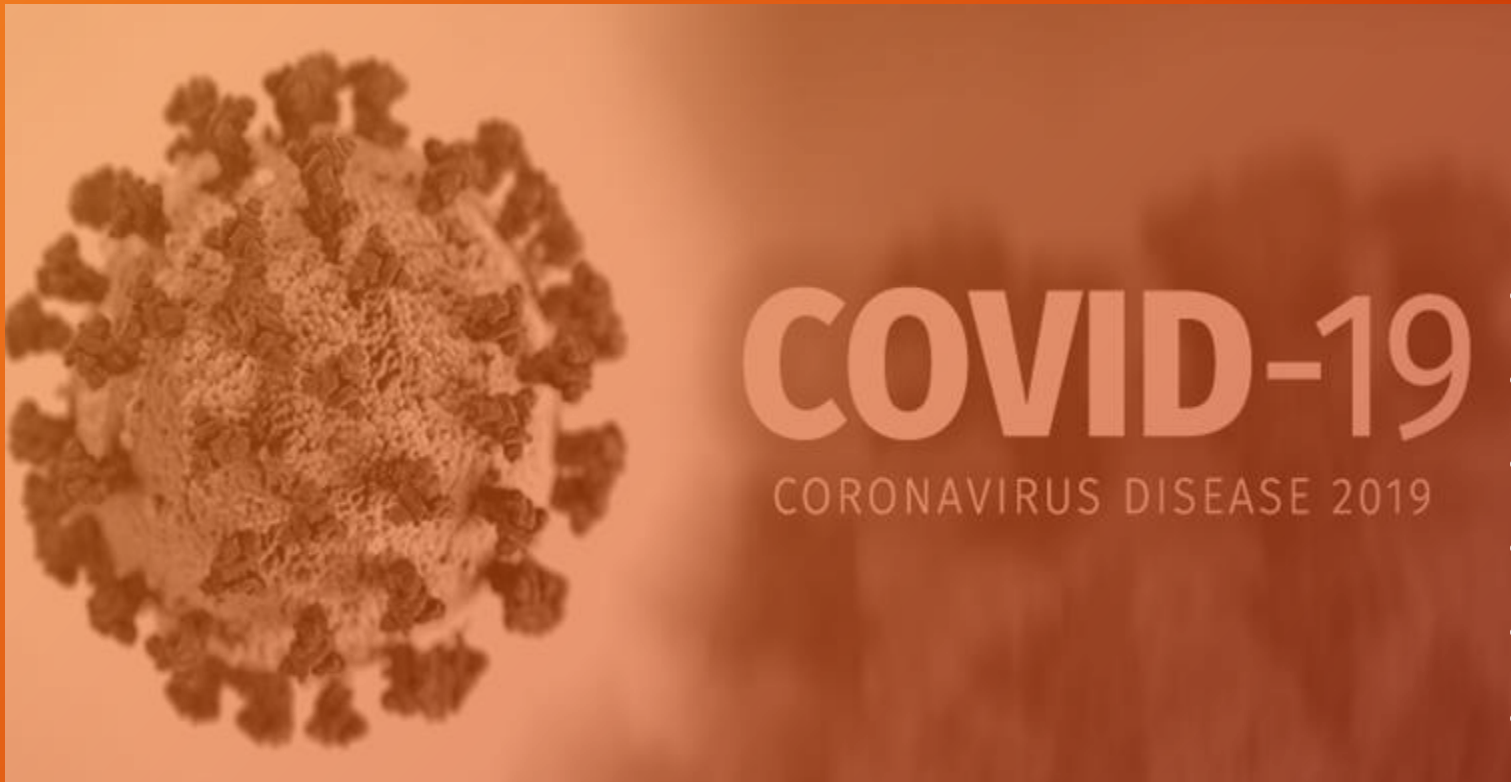
## Revenue

- Outpatient Clinics costs - reception, nurses, chaperone, file transfers, energy costs, maintenance, overheads (compare private clinic rooms)

# Telemedicine

- In practice for almost 20 years in different forms
- Telephone, web, skype, emails, text, video, wearables
- In 2014, UK Government made a commitment to spend £3.6M on the introduction on video calling consultations in general practice
- VOCAL study (BMJ open; Jan. 2016) explored existing evidence base for virtual online consultations
- Numerous publications, selective uptake for specific purposes

# The Pandemic



## Inherent challenges

- High transmissibility / ventilation
- Virulence
- Mutations
- Vaccination effectiveness over time
- Population behavior
- Newer unknown risks



# Support for Secondary Care

To help accelerate the uptake, NHS England and NHS Improvement procured 12-month licences for video consultation tool 'Attend Anywhere', free of charge to all NHS secondary care providers.

£20,000 of capital funding became available to support NHS secondary care providers who were using video consulting to purchase any hardware they need. NHS England and NHS Improvement produced a range of support materials.

Widespread adoption of 'Attend Anywhere' during April 2020

# 'post-pandemic'

- Variable adoption, patchy uptake
- Variably mandated initiative from the centre
- Virtual = telephone for most
- Largely locally driven



# My experience

Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Mar	Apr

- Phase 0 - 23 March 2020 - 30 April 2020
  - telephone consultations for follow up - conducted by registrar - some supervised or monitored by consultant
  - Highlights - 1. initial learning phase 2. unclear & evolving understanding & goals 3. indirectly managed
- Phase 1 - 1 May 2020 - 15 Aug. 2020
  - Rapid implementation, video clinics from home, pathway coordinator
- Phase 2 - 16 Aug 2020 - 31 Mar 2021
  - Loss of usual support, euphoric mindset re Covid in first quarter, mixture of on-site & home working, largely telephone consultations



2021-22

A timeline diagram for the 2021-22 period. At the top, a double-headed arrow spans from April 2021 to June 2022, with '2021' and '2022' labeled above it. Below this, a table shows months from April to June for both years. A red bar highlights the period from April 2021 to October 2021. A blue bar highlights the period from November 2021 to June 2022. The table has three rows: the first row contains the month names, the second row contains the colored bars, and the third row is empty.

Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Red bar							Blue bar							

- Phase 3 - Apr 21 - Oct 21
  - Return to mandated face to face consultations, later converted to telephone, some video with poor on-site infrastructure
- Phase 4 - Nov 21 - June 22
  - Completely unsupported off-site virtual consultations, ERS restrictions, loss of video platform after March 22
- Phase 5 - July 22 onwards
  - Final giving up, face to face consultations only, eClinic deployed recently with scanty uptake



# Lessons learned....

- Through success & failures
- Vast majority of patients are able to manage a good quality video consultation process - UK smart phone and digital penetration - 93% mobile internet users, rest friends and family

# Patient satisfaction

- Hospital based surveys show high acceptance and liking
- No complains
- Patients seen to be happy through almost all VCs

# Clinical Decision making algorithm

- It is not always necessary to follow the traditional sequence in clinical interaction. F2f assessment seldom necessary to lead to the next steps based on the likely or definitive diagnosis based on other parameters including imaging.
- There has been a learning curve and adaptation of clinical algorithm through experience during the early phase.
- Deep subject knowledge and experience - essential
- Beware pitfalls - regulatory guidelines



# Clinical interaction hierarchy (Tel, Video, f2f)

- Rapport : communication (except challenging situations \*)
- Demographics: age, gender, BMI, occupation, recreation
- History of condition: onset, progression, current symptoms, location, severity, frequency, impact on ADL, treatment received, comorbid conditions
- Examination: inspection, palpation, tests
- Investigations: imaging, biochemistry
- Discussion: explanation, working / differential diagnosis, natural history, options, benefits, risks, patient preference, agreement
- Action: further investigations, Advice & guidance, formal consent, booking, referrals, discharge

## Why Video (v/s Telephone)

- Effort required (hospital + patient) - equipment, training, support, digital infrastructure, cost
- Gains - patient and clinician experience, rapport, communication, visual clues - clinical (deformity, swelling, colour, joint movement, localization, body habitus, actions), body language

# Clinician On-site v/s off-site virtual

- Clinician - distancing, travelling, car park
- Staff: front door, reception, nurse, file management - distancing and costs
- Space: clinic room, energy & infrastructure, repurposing
- Benefits realization is higher with clinician off-site, an extension of the hospital facility, usually with no significant cost.



# Virtual appt booking on E-referral system

- Poor uptake
- Used as a barrier to more widespread adoption
- The worst-case scenario is considered, resulting in not selecting this option
- This is not an 'informed' choice

## QI - enhancing the VC gains

1. quality of primary care triage and referral process, conversion rate
2. Local process constraints, e.g. remote consent/booking
3. Resource allocation along GIRFT principles with necessary alignment from authorities
  1. Minimise waste (minimize DNA & failed video connections, appropriate bookings, patient instructions)
  2. Maximise gain (real time patient support, appropriate software and hardware, peer support, wider patient/public education)



# What not to do

- Not change with times
- Disrespect reasonable perspectives
- Restrict openness & healthy dialogue/debate
- Wait for the rest of the world to lead and normalize VC as BAU
- Expect automated processes without human input to achieve universally successful video consultations

# If / When / Now



- Next pandemic - how resilient are we
- Rising demand - what capacity can we spare
- Net zero
- Cost constraints



Speaking Now...



**Outpatient  
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**Aamena Salar**

Medical Director of Modality Outpatient  
services - Modality Partnerships

**Modality Group**  
*A Commitment to Care*

**Modality LLP Gynaecology  
and Contraception Service**

**Dr Aamena Salar**



- DFSRH
- DRCOG
- Bradford University - PG diploma in community gynaecology
- PG certificate in Diagnostic Hysteroscopy

- In March 2015, Modality Partnership was announced as one of 14 multi-speciality community provider (MCP) vanguards in NHS England's national New Care Models programme.
- The initial vanguard pilot covered a population of just over 160,000 across the Sandwell and West Birmingham area.
- Planning of the service
  - Clinical lead, Business Manager, Finance Manager
  - Local need (waiting times)
  - Support of local consultants (training, onward referrals, workforce)
- Launching the service - marketing and engagement
- Funding ended on 31st March 2018 and the existing services secured ongoing funding from SWBH



- New clinical lead Dr Randhawa
- Team of 3 GPSIs, 2 Nurses, 7 consultants and a GP trainee
- Clinics in 4 sites across Birmingham
- Subcontracted by Sandwell and West Birmingham and University Hospital Birmingham NHS Trusts
- Commissioned by BSol ICB
- Direct subspecialities appointments for menopause, urogynaecology and endometriosis



## Conditions Included

1. Menorrhagia
2. Irregular Bleeding
3. Intermenstrual Bleeding
4. Post Coital Bleeding
5. Primary/Secondary Amenorrhoea
6. Dysmenorrhoea
7. Oligomenorrhea
8. Polycystic Ovaries (PCOS)
9. Cyclical Pelvic Pain
10. Menopause
11. Chronic Vaginal Discharge
12. Lower Urinary Tract Symptoms
13. Primary fertility investigations
14. Uterine – prolapse
15. Vulval Disorders



## Conditions Excluded

1. Further fertility investigations
2. Children where the condition is complex
3. 2 week referrals



<b>Triage &amp; Advice &amp; Guidance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All Referrals screened by a GPSI service lead who directs the patient appropriately</li><li>• The GPSI will triage the referral within 5 days, review patient's clinical notes and make a decision</li><li>• If the referral is not appropriate the referring clinician will be provided with advice of further management.</li></ul>
<b>Efficient Service Pathway</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Availability of ultrasound screening on site</li><li>• Introduction of diagnostic hysteroscopy in the community</li><li>• All referrals seen within 3 weeks</li></ul>
<b>Clinically Sound Condition Management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clinician engaged in design and development</li><li>• Service run by a qualified GPSI overseen by a Consultant</li></ul>
<b>Ease of Access</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Choice of clinic sites 'closer to home'</li><li>• Remote consultations will be offered where clinically appropriate</li><li>• Direct Referral onto Secondary care for the appropriate cases</li></ul>



- Improved integration with secondary care through provision of a community based service supported by local consultants
- Better value for money for the NHS (80% of National PbR tariff)
- Reduced demand on secondary care and shorter waiting times for those patients that need to be seen in a hospital setting



- **Recruitment & Retention:** Equipping GPs and nurses with skills and opportunities to develop their extended roles to improve recruitment and retention in primary care
- **New Roles within the Local Healthcare System:** Developing new training opportunities in community through Post-CCT fellowships in partnership with Health Education England (HEE)
- **Shared Workforce:** Offering staff unique opportunities to work across primary and secondary care in shared roles
- **Best use of Resources:** Managing outpatient activity efficiently through collaborative working between GPwERs and Hospital consultants, hence bridging the gap between primary and secondary and leading to reduction in NHS waiting times
- **Upskilling Primary Care:** Delivering educational activities for GP's based on identified learning themes from community services such as improving referral quality and empowering clinicians with clear management plans

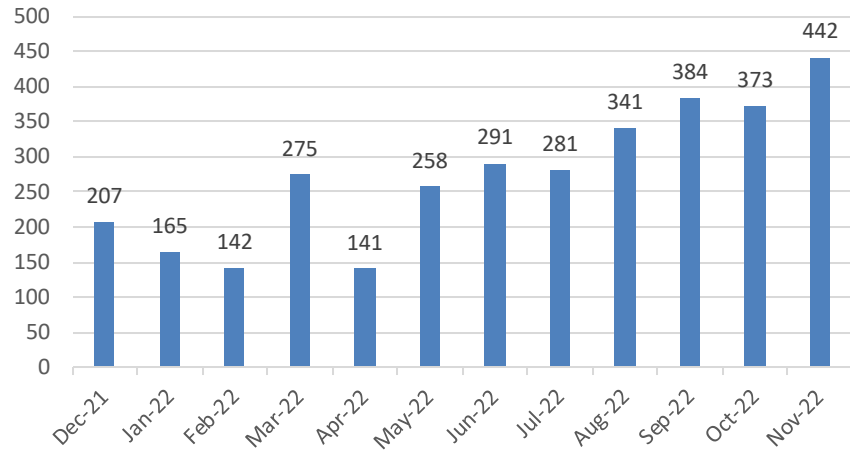


- **Earlier Diagnosis & Treatment:** Patients are seen within 4 weeks across our community services
- **Convenient Care:** Patients have choice of 4 community locations, including OOH clinic times with regular evening and weekend clinics and no parking charges
- **Integrated Care Pathways:** Patients consulted within community service requiring onward procedures get directly listed at local hospital, thus improving patient journey while reducing waiting times
- **Holistic approach**

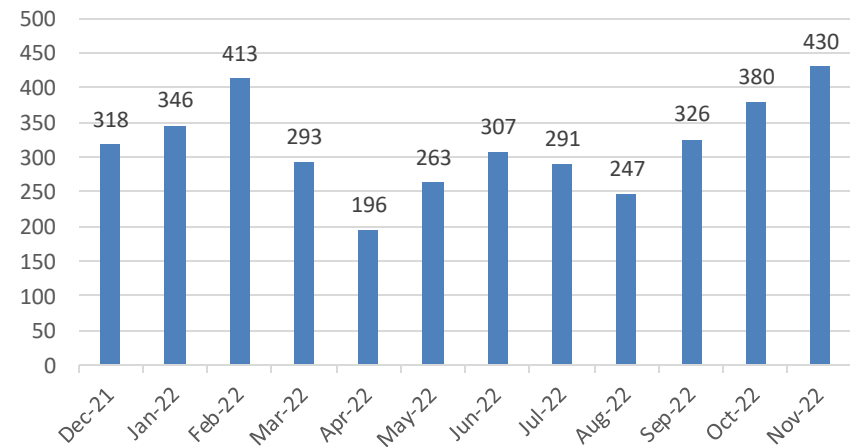
# Gynaecology KPI Dashboard

Gynaecology 12 Month Overview													
Month	KPI	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22
New Activity		165	142	275	141	258	291	281	341	384	373	442	457
Review Activity		346	413	293	196	263	307	291	247	326	380	430	290
Procedures		196	120	203	117	193	205	201	151	189	232	268	195
Triage Times	5 days	2 day(s)	2 day(s)	2 day(s)	0 day(s)	0 day(s)	0 day(s)	0 day(s)	0 day(s)	0 day(s)	0 day(s)	0 day(s)	0 day(s)
Referral to 1st Available Appointment	28 days	10 day(s)	10 day(s)	9 day(s)	7 day(s)	9 day(s)	11 day(s)	9 day(s)	9 day(s)	16 day(s)	12 day(s)	15 day(s)	6 day(s)
Referral to Patient Seen		31 day(s)	37 day(s)	19 day(s)	24 day(s)	22 day(s)	14 day(s)	16 day(s)	16 day(s)	35 day(s)	19 day(s)	22 day(s)	9 day(s)
DNAs	<10%	11.74%	11.20%	10.97%	16.17%	11.99%	14.08%	13.46%	12.50%	14.87%	9.50%	11.38%	13.04%
New to Review Ratio		2.1	2.91	1.07	1.39	1.02	1.05	1.04	0.72	0.85	1.02	0.97	0.63
Onward Referral Rate	<10%	4.31%	6.49%	4.23%	6.23%	6.33%	10.54%	5.94%	7.14%	10%	9.43%	7.80%	13.65%
PREM's		30	54	52	21	45	48	60	62	91	69	69	53
PROM's		2	5	4	0	2	4	0	2	3	3	3	5
Reporting Times	5 days	8 day(s)	5 day(s)	9 day(s)	3 day(s)	9 day(s)	4 day(s)	4 day(s)	3 day(s)	6 day(s)	5 day(s)	5 day(s)	9 days(s)

## New Activity



## Review Activity

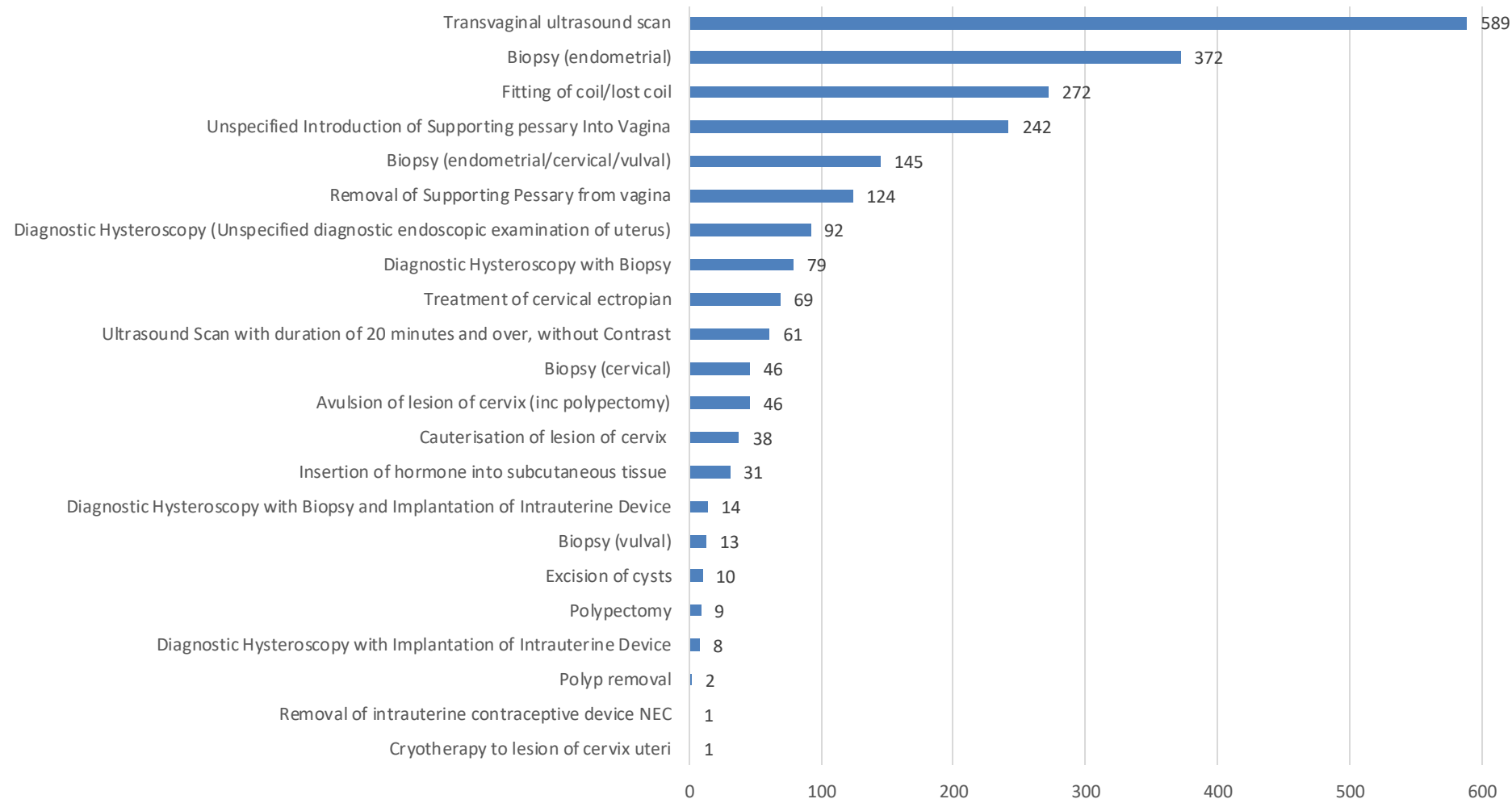


## Overview/KPIs

- **Triage Times:** Referral triaged on average within 0.6 days
- **Waiting Times:** 1<sup>st</sup> appointment available on average within 16 days
- **Patient Seen Times:** Patients seen for their 1<sup>st</sup> appointment on average within 23 days
- **New to Follow Up Ratio:** Average of 1.23
- **Letters/Reports:** Issued within an average of 5.8 days
- **Onward Referral:** 7.67% of patients are onward referred from the service

# Gynaecology Procedures: Jan – Dec 2022

## Procedures carried out



**Modality Group**  
*A Commitment to Care*

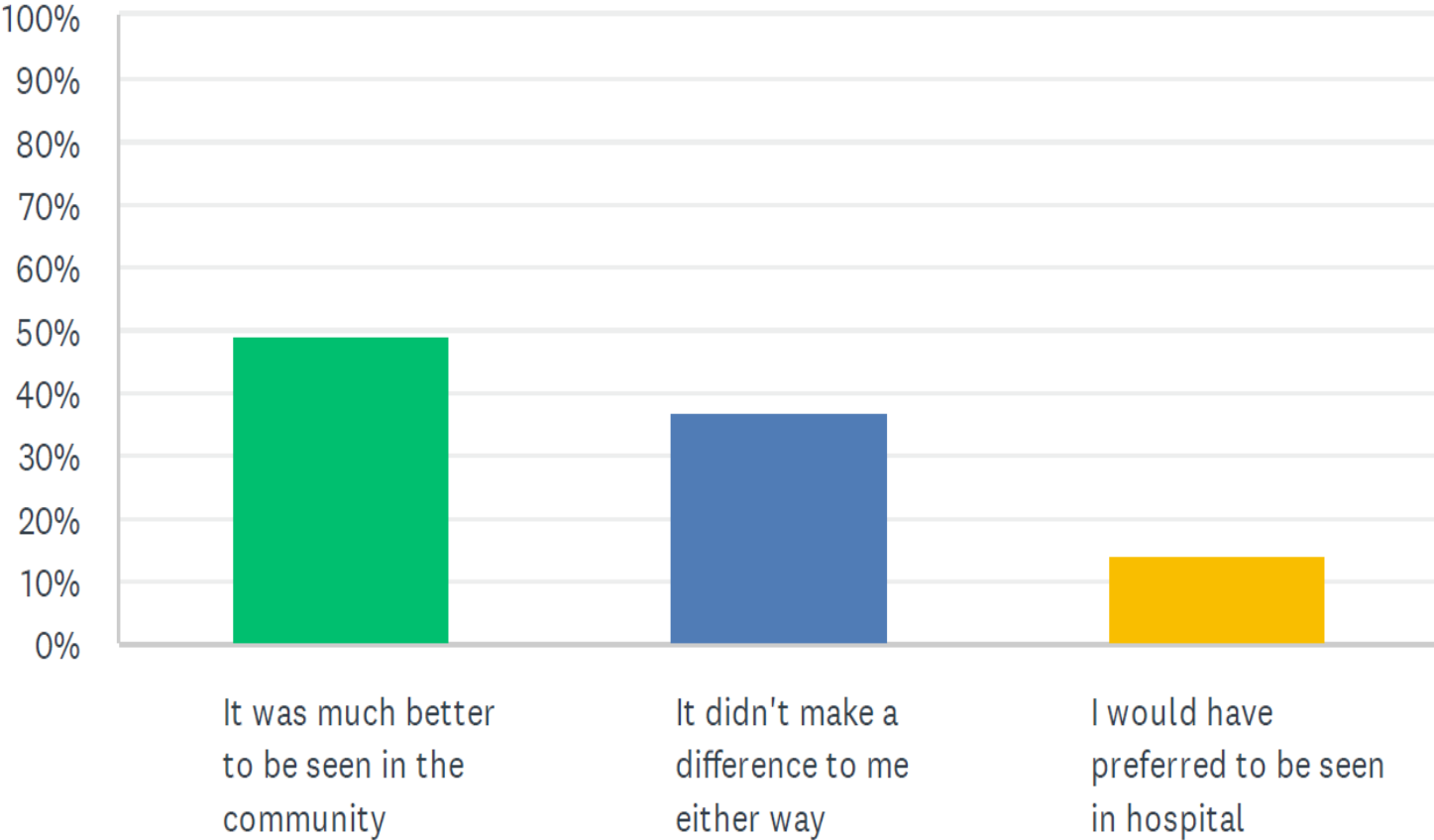
**Gynaecology Service  
Patient Feedback**

**2022 Annual Data**

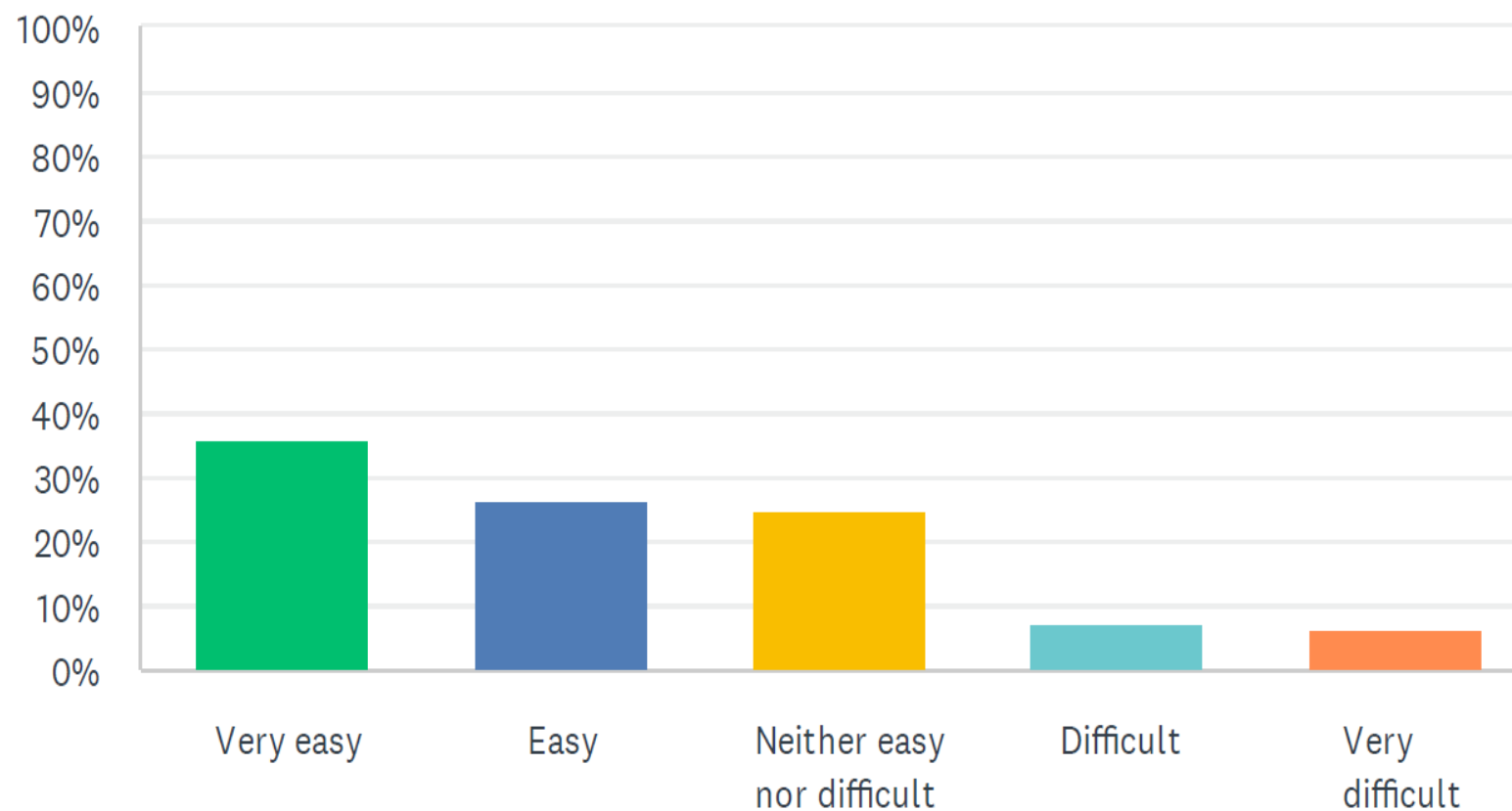




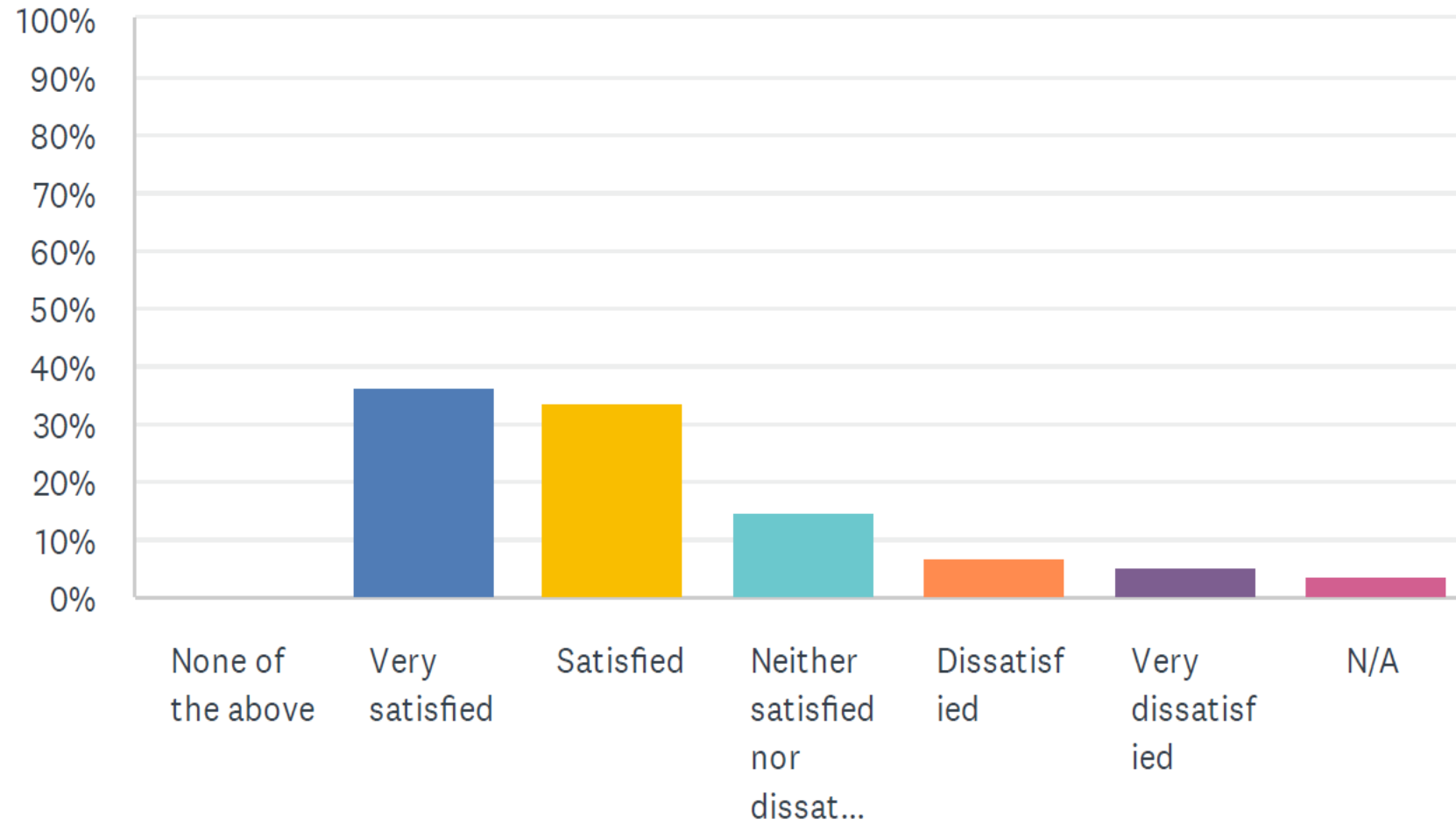
Was it better for you to access this service in the community than visiting hospital?



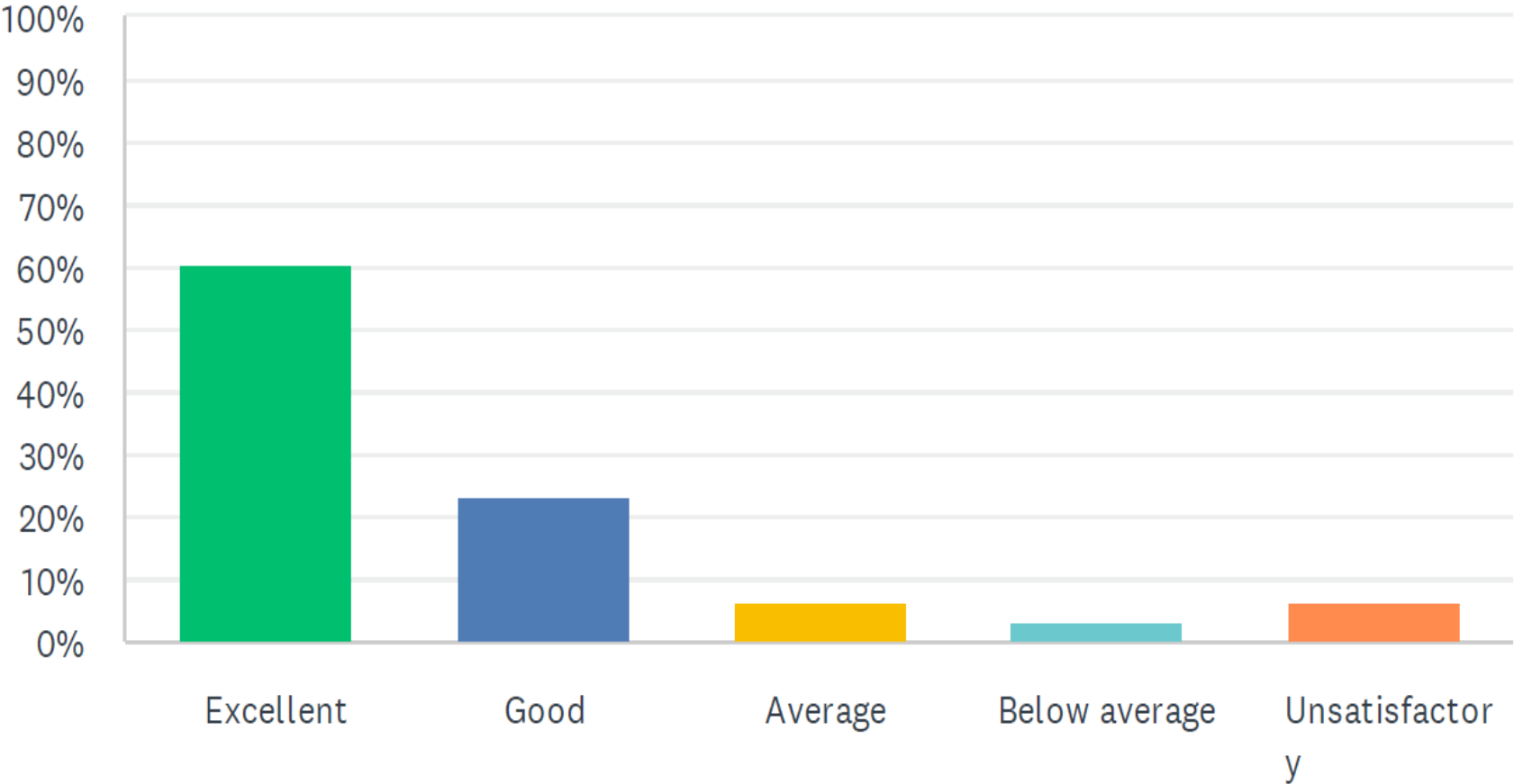
## How was your experience of booking your appointment?



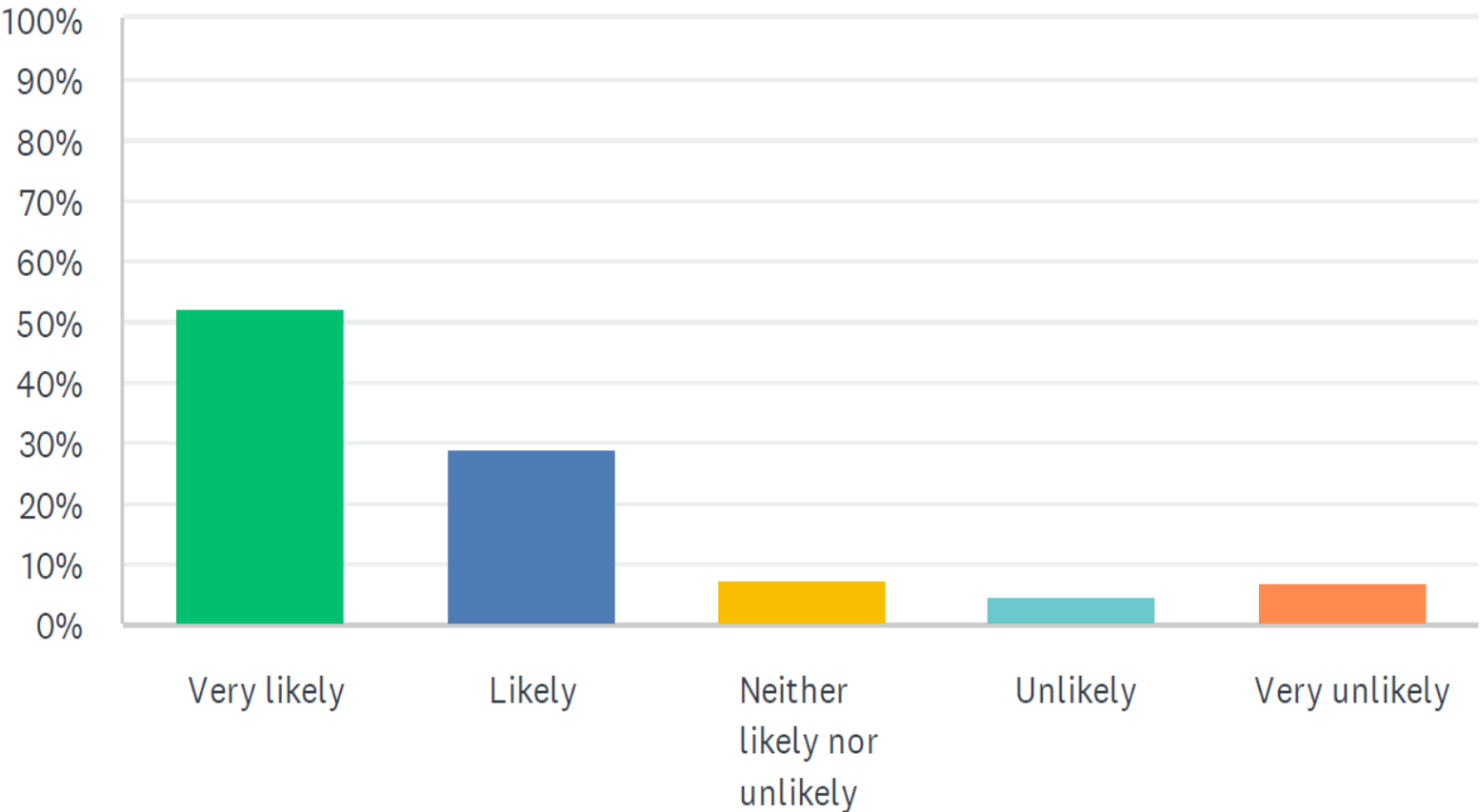
## How satisfied are you with the location of the service?



How would you rate the care you received from the clinician you saw?



How likely are you to recommend the service to your friends and family if they needed similar care or treatment?



*"The gynaecologist was friendly, put me at ease, was efficient & informative. Carried out the examination respectfully & took time to explain the outcome & my options for treatment / surgery"*

*"I was made very comfortable and with a clear plan of my care and follow up"*

*"Very friendly & informative & caring"*

*"Put me at ease throughout explained everything made the experience as comfortable as possible. Thank you!"*

*"Excellent service"*

*"Very pleased. Clinician was able to communicate in Punjabi which was very helpful. She explained everything very clearly"*

*"It was nice to see a doctor in person and discuss things staff were very polite and helped to put me at ease"*

*"Lovely staff. Very knowledgeable and put mind at rest. Patient and skilled"*

- Expand the hysteroscopy service to include polypectomies and ablation
- Research
- Post graduate training



**Outpatient  
Transformation  
Conference  
South 2023**

# Q&A Panel





**Outpatient  
Transformation  
Conference  
South 2023**

**Thank you for attending the  
Outpatient Transformation  
Conference!**



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Conference  
South 2023**

**Register for the next Outpatient  
Transformation Conference  
Conference in June 2024....**

