

NHS BLOOD AND TRANSPLANT

CARDIOTHORACIC ADVISORY GROUP – HEART

ADJUDICATION PANEL REFERRALS 26 OCTOBER 2016 – 31 AUGUST 2020

INTRODUCTION

1. Patients are referred to the CTAG Heart Adjudication Panel where they do not meet the standard listing criteria for urgent or super-urgent heart transplant listing.
2. The Adjudication Panel is made up of the CTAG Chair plus one representative from each of the 7 designated heart transplant centres. The registering centre must provide the panel with relevant details by email. The patient may be registered if the majority agree on the case for listing but if the panel cannot reach a consensus, the CTAG Chair has the casting vote.
3. For paediatric patients requiring small donors (a maximum acceptable donor size has been specified to be <160cm in height and <60kg in weight), rather than the full Adjudication Panel, the case must be referred to the CTAG Chair and a representative from the other paediatric centre for approval.
4. Since October 2016, Statistics and Clinical Studies have kept records of all Adjudication Panel referrals and whether the request was approved or rejected.
5. This paper reports on Heart Adjudication Panel referrals between 26 October 2016 (the date of the introduction of the super-urgent heart allocation scheme) and 31 August 2020. It also reports on urgent heart-lung adjudication panel referrals between 26 October 2016 and 31 August 2020, which are referred to the Lung Adjudication Panel but sometimes also the Heart Adjudication Panel, if standard urgent heart listing criteria are not met. Referrals for Total Artificial Heart (TAH) implantation are not presented.

RESULTS

6. Between 26 October 2016 and 31 August 2020, there were 99 adult referrals and 23 paediatric referrals to the Heart Adjudication Panel for urgent or super-urgent listing.
7. Of the 99 adult appeals, 82 were for urgent listing and 17 for super-urgent listing with approval rates of 82.9% and 47.1% respectively as shown in **Table 1** and **Table 2**. All except one of the paediatric appeals were approved and are shown in **Table 3**. The number of urgent or super-urgent registrations (both via the panel and those meeting standard listing criteria) are provided for reference in the tables.
8. Of the 82 urgent adult appeals, 64 (78%) of the recipients had a long-term VAD implanted at time of application. Within the time period, Harefield had the highest number of urgent adult appeals and also had the highest number of urgent registrations.
9. For the super-urgent adult appeals, 8 (47%) of the 17 cases had a long-term VAD implanted at time of application and again Harefield had the most registrations over this period. Four of the paediatric heart patients had a long-term VAD at time of appeal; one from Newcastle and three from Great Ormond Street.

10. Between 26 October 2016 and 31 August 2020, 27 appeals were made for heart-lung listing, 22 of which were for urgent listing and 5 for super-urgent listing. Of the total of 27 appeals, 19 (70.4%) were approved as shown in **Table 4**. In the time period, Harefield had the highest number of heart-lung appeals and also the highest number of urgent heart-lung registrations (including two super-urgent).
11. Please note that when referring to the tables below, a patient whose appeal was approved may still not be registered due to reasons such as deteriorated health.

ACTION

12. This report is provided for information and to monitor the number of Adjudication Panel referrals and the approval rates. Members are welcome to make any comments.

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Table 1 Urgent adult heart adjudication panel appeals and all urgent adult heart registrations by centre, 26 October 2016 – 31 August 2020				
Centre	Number of appeals (On long-term VAD¹ at time of application)	Number approved		All urgent registrations
		N	%	
Birmingham	8 (8)	7	87.5	110
Glasgow	3 (1)	3	100.0	39
Harefield	28 (23)	19	67.9	119
Manchester	13 (10)	12	92.3	71
Newcastle	18 (16)	16	88.9	101
Papworth	12 (6)	11	91.7	98
Total	82 (64)	68	82.9	538

¹Including TAH

Table 2 Super-urgent adult heart adjudication panel appeals and all super-urgent adult heart registrations by centre, 26 October 2016 – 31 August 2020				
Centre	Number of appeals (On long-term VAD¹ at time of application)	Number approved		All super-urgent registrations
		N	%	
Birmingham	0 (0)	0	-	29
Glasgow	4 (1)	1	25.0	19
Harefield	5 (4)	2	40.0	45
Manchester	4 (0)	3	75.0	23
Newcastle	4 (3)	2	50.0	19
Papworth	0 (0)	0	-	33
Total	17 (8)	8	47.1	168

¹Including TAH

Table 3 Urgent paediatric heart adjudication panel appeals and all urgent paediatric heart registrations by centre, 26 October 2016 – 31 August 2020				
Centre	Number of appeals	Number approved		All urgent registrations
		N	%	
Great Ormond Street Hospital ¹	17	17	100.0	72
Newcastle ²	6	5	83.3	75
Total	23	22	95.7	147

¹ Includes 3 applications submitted by Great Ormond Street for paediatric recipients to be listed on the urgent adult list at Harefield (including one appeal for super-urgent listing). All 3 appeals were approved.

² Includes 1 application for a paediatric patient to be listed on the adult list. This appeal was not approved.

Table 4 Urgent heart-lung adjudication panel appeals and all urgent heart-lung registrations by centre, 26 October 2016 – 31 August 2020				
Centre	Number of appeals¹	Number approved		All urgent HL registrations
		N	%	
Birmingham	3	3	100.0	3
Great Ormond Street Hospital	3	3	100.0	3
Harefield	8	5	62.5	6 ²
Manchester	4	3	75.0	3
Newcastle	2	2	100.0	4 ³
Papworth	7	3	42.9	2
Total	27	19	70.4	21

¹ Includes 5 super-urgent heart-lung appeals, 2 from Harefield, 1 from Manchester and 2 from Papworth (same patient), all rejected

² Two patients registered for super-urgent HL without panel approval and transplanted (one was approved for urgent listing)

³ Two patients registered for urgent HL without panel approval, since removed