

NHS BLOOD AND TRANSPLANT

CARDIOTHORACIC ADVISORY GROUP – HEART

ADJUDICATION PANEL REFERRALS 26 OCT 2016 – 31 JUL 2021

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 Research 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 July 2021. It also reports on urgent heart-lung adjudication panel referrals during the same time period, 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 July 2021, there were 125 adult referrals and 26 paediatric referrals to the Heart Adjudication Panel for urgent or super-urgent listing.
7. Of the 125 adult appeals, 106 were for urgent listing and 19 for super-urgent listing with approval rates of 84.0% and 47.4% respectively as shown in **Table 1** and **Table 2**. All except one of the paediatric appeals were approved as 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 106 urgent adult appeals, 78 (74%) 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 both Harefield and Newcastle had the highest number of urgent registrations.
9. For the super-urgent adult appeals, 8 (42%) of the 19 cases had a long-term VAD implanted at time of application and Harefield and Manchester had equally the highest number of appeals and Harefield had the most registrations over this period.

10. Between 26 October 2016 and 31 July 2021, 28 appeals were made for heart-lung listing, 23 of which were for urgent listing and 5 for super-urgent listing. Of the total of 28 appeals, 20 (71.4%) 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 July 2021				
Centre	Number of appeals (On long-term VAD¹ at time of application)	Number approved		All urgent registrations
		N	%	
Birmingham	10 (10)	9	90.0	125
Glasgow	4 (2)	3	75.0	52
Harefield	31 (24)	21	67.7	137
Manchester	18 (14)	17	94.4	80
Newcastle	27 (20)	24	88.9	137
Papworth	16 (8)	15	93.8	116
Total	106 (78)	89	84.0	647

¹Including TAH

Table 2 Super-urgent adult heart adjudication panel appeals and all super-urgent adult heart registrations by centre, 26 October 2016 – 31 July 2021				
Centre	Number of appeals (On long-term VAD¹ at time of application)	Number approved		All super- urgent registrations
		N	%	
Birmingham	0 (0)	0	-	38
Glasgow	4 (1)	1	25.0	23
Harefield	5 (4)	2	40.0	52
Manchester	4 (0)	3	75.0	28
Newcastle	5 (3)	2	40.0	24
Papworth	1 (0)	1	100.0	41
Total	19 (8)	9	47.4	206

¹Including TAH

Table 3 Urgent paediatric heart adjudication panel appeals and all urgent paediatric heart registrations by centre, 26 October 2016 – 31 July 2021				
Centre	Number of appeals	Number approved		All urgent registrations
		N	%	
Great Ormond Street Hospital	19 ¹	19	100.0	81
Newcastle	7 ²	6	85.7	87
Total	26	25	96.2	168

¹ Includes 3 applications submitted by GOSH 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 appeal for a large paediatric that was rejected by most of the adult centres.

Table 4 Urgent heart-lung adjudication panel appeals and all urgent heart-lung registrations by centre, 26 October 2016 – 31 July 2021				
Centre	Number of appeals	Number approved		All urgent HL registrations
		N	%	
Birmingham	3	3	100.0	3
Great Ormond Street Hospital	3	3	100.0	5
Harefield	8	5	62.5	6 ²
Manchester	4	3	75.0	3
Newcastle	3	3	100.0	5 ³
Papworth	7	3	42.9	3
Total	28¹	20	71.4	25

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