

NHS BLOOD AND TRANSPLANT

CARDIOTHORACIC ADVISORY GROUP

VAD REPORTING AUDIT

BACKGROUND

- 1 Each month, centres and NHS Blood and Transplant (NHSBT) submit activity numbers for VADs in the current financial year, broken down by month, to NHS England and NHS Scotland. These two sets of numbers should coincide, however they often do not.
- 2 At the beginning of this year, an audit of the VAD data held by NHSBT on the VAD database was conducted at the request of NHS England due to concerns with reporting. This showed large discrepancies between the number of devices reported on the VAD database and on centre records. Despite regular reminders to the centres, reporting has not improved which has led to the decision to postpone the publication of the 3rd NHSBT Annual VAD Report earlier this month.
- 3 This report presents the results of a second audit between NHSBT figures and NHS England and NHS Scotland figures for activity in the most recent financial year (2015/2016). NHSBT figures were extracted from the VAD database on 15 September 2016 and NHS England and NHS Scotland figures were reported by the centres in April 2016. Please note the numbers reported here for Glasgow do not correspond exactly with those reported to NHS Scotland as some ECMO procedures are not applicable to the NHSBT audit.

RESULTS

- 4 **Table 1** details the numbers by centres as reported to NHS England and NHS Scotland by centres and those extracted from the VAD database to the same criteria, and the scale of discrepancy between these numbers (Centre numbers minus NHSBT numbers). Please note that two Harefield patients and five Birmingham patients did not give consent for use of their data and so are excluded from the NHSBT numbers. Across all English centres, there were differences in the numbers reported, with some to a greater extent than others.

ACTION

- 5 Centres are reminded that they are contractually required to submit data to NHSBT as part of a continuous evaluation and audit. If there are any issues preventing timely submission of data to the VAD database centres should inform NHSBT so it can be accounted for.

Table 1 Summary of numbers reported to NHS England and NHS Scotland by centres and by NHS Blood and Transplant by centre and measure, 1 April 2015 – 31 March 2016

Centre	Measure	Reported by centres	Reported by NHSBT	Discrepancy
Glasgow	ST Procedures	7	7	0
	LT Procedures	3	3	0
	ST Devices	9	9	0
	LT Devices	3	3	0
Papworth	ST Procedures	11	7	4
	LT Procedures	8	8	0
	ST Devices	44	11	33
	LT Devices	8	8	0
Harefield	ST Procedures	0	11	-11
	LT Procedures	39	36	3
	ST Devices	40	12	28
	LT Devices	39	36	3
Newcastle Adult	ST Procedures	0	0	0
	LT Procedures	25	25	0
	ST Devices	8	4	4
	LT Devices	25	25	0
Birmingham	ST Procedures	35	16	19
	LT Procedures	22	22	0
	ST Devices	51	23	28
	LT Devices	22	22	0
Manchester	ST Procedures	22	17	5
	LT Procedures	19	18	1
	ST Devices	42	28	14
	LT Devices	18	18	0
GOSH	ST Procedures	0	1	-1
	LT Procedures	15	12	3
	ST Devices	0	2	-2
	LT Devices	31	14	17
Newcastle Paediatric	ST Procedures	0	5	-5
	LT Procedures	8	4	4
	ST Devices	5	8	-3
	LT Devices	9	5	4
TOTAL	ST Procedures	75	64	11
	LT Procedures	139	128	11
	ST Devices	199	97	102
	LT Devices	155	131	24

Note: A procedure is defined as an event leading to an implant. Devices are counts of devices used. A BiVAD implant would count as one procedure but two devices. LVAD or RVAD only implants count as one procedure and one device.