

Psychology Support for Cardiothoracic Transplant Patients

1. Introduction

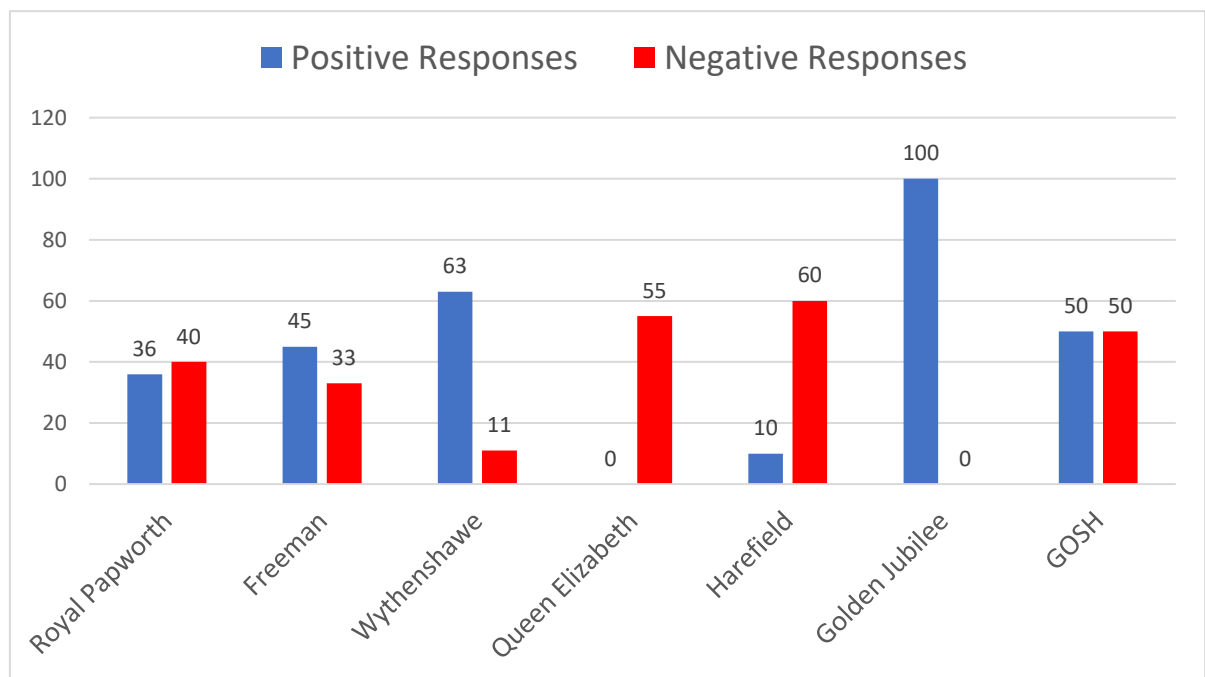
1.1 The CTPG Chair worked with the Psychological Association for Cardiothoracic Transplant (PACT) to undertake a detailed analysis of psychological need and provision.

1.2 Three specific pieces of work were undertaken, a patient survey, a review against current service standards and a psychology needs analysis

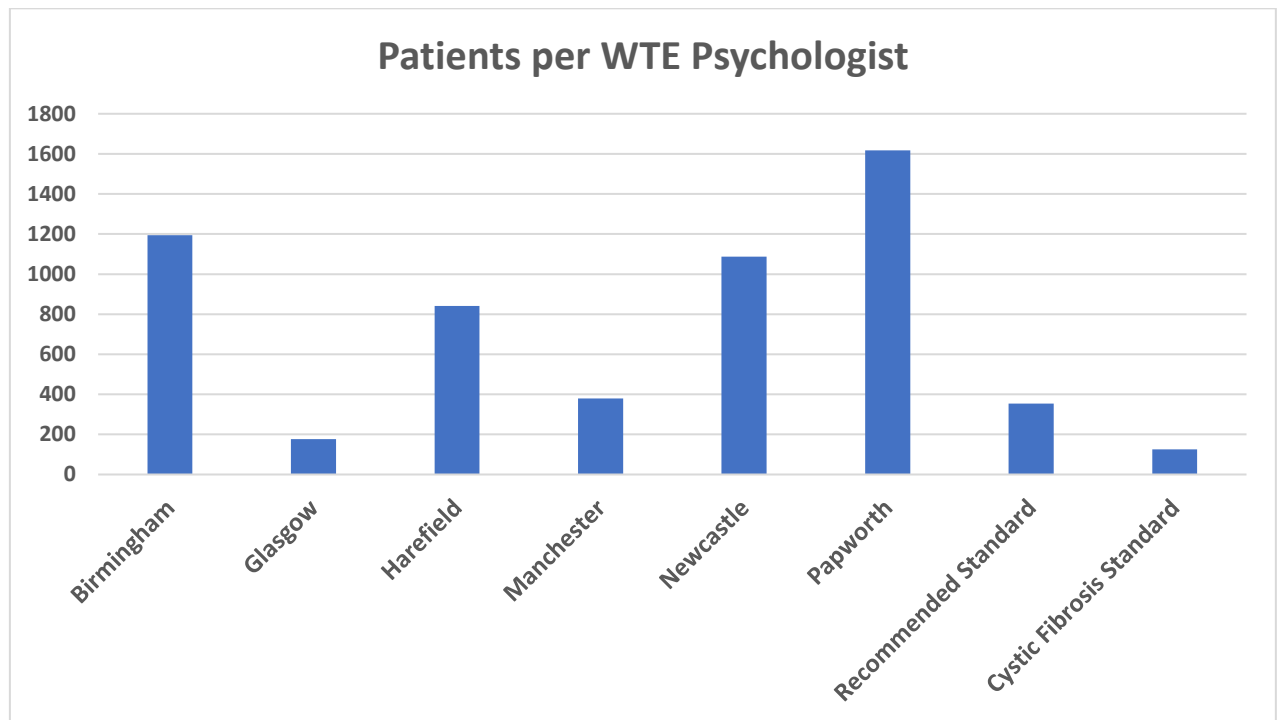
2. Summary of Findings

2.1 In summary psychology provision was shown to be insufficient in most centres. Many service standards were not being met and large numbers of patients were reporting that their psychological needs were not being met.

2.2 The chart below shows the patient response on whether they had received sufficient psychological support (percentage)



2.3 Provision varied significantly between centres and is poor when compared to the commissioned standards of a comparable service, as shown in the chart below



3. Recommendations

3.1 This analysis was presented at the June 2022 CTPG who approved all recommendations, including the setting of a new standard for psychology provision of 1WTE psychologist per 350 patients.

3.2 The issue has been recognised by CTAG and commissioners but is currently not a high priority.

3.3 Centres are asked to review their psychology provision and consider immediate actions to increase resources. These could include the reallocation of resources from existing Trust budgets or seeking additional funding from local, hospital or national charities.