

NHS BLOOD AND TRANSPLANT

CARDIOTHORACIC ADVISORY GROUP – HEART

ADJUDICATION PANEL REFERRALS 01 MARCH 2020 – 28 FEBRUARY 2023

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 maintained records of all Adjudication Panel referrals and whether the request was approved or rejected.
5. This paper reports on Heart Adjudication Panel referrals between 01 March 2020 and 28 February 2023. It also reports on urgent heart-lung adjudication panel referrals, which must be referred to the Lung Adjudication Panel but may also be referred to 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 01 March 2020 and 28 February 2023, there were 79 adult referrals and 21 paediatric referrals to the Heart Adjudication Panel for urgent or super-urgent listing.
7. Of the 79 adult appeals, 75 were for urgent listing and 4 for super-urgent listing with approval rates of 85.3% and 25.0% 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 75 urgent adult appeals, 44 (58.7%) of the recipients had a long-term VAD implanted at time of application. Within the time period, Newcastle had the highest number of urgent adult appeals and also the highest number of urgent registrations.
9. For the super-urgent adult appeals, none of the 4 cases had a long-term VAD implanted at time of application and Papworth had the most registrations over this period.
10. Between 01 March 2020 and 28 February 2023, 8 appeals were made for heart-lung listing, which were all for urgent listing. Of the total of 8 appeals, 7 (87.5%) were approved as shown in **Table 4**. In the time period, Birmingham and Harefield had the highest number of heart-lung appeals and Birmingham and Papworth had the highest number of urgent heart-lung registrations.

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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Statistics and Clinical Research

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Table 1 Urgent adult heart adjudication panel appeals and all urgent adult heart registrations by centre, 01 March 2020 – 28 February 2023				
Centre	Number of appeals (On long-term VAD¹ at time of application)	Number approved		All urgent registrations
		N	%	
Birmingham	7 (5)	6	85.7	53
Glasgow	2 (2)	2	100.0	48
Harefield	19 (11)	16	84.2	85
Manchester	11 (10)	11	100.0	44
Newcastle	25 (11)	18	72.0	93
Papworth	11 (5)	11	100.0	52
Total	75 (44)	64	85.3	375

¹Including TAH

Table 2 Super-urgent adult heart adjudication panel appeals and all super-urgent adult heart registrations by centre, 01 March 2020 – 28 February 2023				
Centre	Number of appeals (On long-term VAD¹ at time of application)	Number approved		All super-urgent registrations
		N	%	
Birmingham	1 (0)	0	-	23
Glasgow	0 (0)	0	-	15
Harefield	1 (0)	0	-	32
Manchester	0 (0)	0	-	14
Newcastle	1 (0)	0	-	17
Papworth	1 (0)	1	100.0	37
Total	4 (0)	1	25.0	138

¹Including TAH

Table 3 Urgent paediatric heart adjudication panel appeals and all urgent paediatric heart registrations by centre, 01 March 2020 – 28 February 2023				
Centre	Number of appeals	Number approved		All urgent registrations
		N	%	
Great Ormond Street Hospital	14 ¹	14	100.0	45
Newcastle	7 ²	6	85.7	43
Total	21	20	95.2	88

¹ Includes 1 application submitted by GOSH for paediatric recipients to be listed on the super urgent adult list at Harefield. The appeal was approved, however, the recipient had received a transplant on the urgent scheme the same day of the approval, so not listed on the super urgent list.

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, 01 March 2020 – 28 February 2023				
Centre	Number of appeals	Number approved		All urgent HL registrations
		N	%	
Birmingham	2	2	100.0	3
Great Ormond Street Hospital	1	1	100.0	2
Harefield	2	1	50.0	0
Manchester	1	1	100.0	1
Newcastle	1	1	100.0	1 ¹
Papworth	1	1	100.0	3
Total	8	7	87.5	10

¹ Two patients registered for urgent HL without panel approval, since removed