



Adult Critical Care Transfer Service Cymru
Gwasanaeth Trosglwyddo Gofal Critigol Oedolion Cymru

Critical Care Summit October 2021

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EMRTS
Cymru



Background

- Critically unwell adult patients should receive the same high standard of intensive care regardless of their location – from point of onset of illness or injury through to discharge from the Intensive Care Unit (ICU), including intra- and inter-hospital transfer¹.
- The Welsh Government Task and Finish Group on Critical Care² set out the case for improvement to specific aspects of critical care services in Wales, including establishment of an inter-hospital transfer service for critically ill adult patients.

“Critical care is a process not a location”

Mission statement

To provide uninterrupted provision of high quality patient centred critical care for adult patients undergoing inter-hospital transfer



Service aims

- Deliver equity of access to all critically unwell adult patients requiring transfer
- Streamline and expedite access to specialist care pathways, specialist decision-making and advice
- Facilitate patient flow in all directions, including repatriation of critical care patients within and between Critical Care Networks
- Maintain the highest standards of critical care throughout the patient journey from initial referral to handover in the receiving hospital
- Facilitate transfer outside of a network for specialist treatment or capacity should these not be available within usual referral pathways.

Clinical Scope

1. Escalation

Patients requiring specialist care not available in the referring hospital
(A number of these patients are classified as time critical transfers)

2. Repatriation

to maintain adult critical care flow and return patients closer to their home and family

3. Capacity

Transfer from areas of high to low operational activity to ensure equity of access to high quality critical care, as seen during periods of surge and super-surge.

Clinical interventions

- Advanced airway management
- Tracheostomy care
- Non Invasive ventilation
- Nasal High flow
- Mechanical ventilation (inc APRV)
- Haemodynamic monitoring
- Vasopressors
- Inotropes
- Pacing
- Mechanical CPR
- Advanced analgesia
- TPN
- Blood Transfusion
- POC arterial blood gas analysis
- Point of care Ultrasound
- Bronchoscopy

ACCTS team composition

**Retrieval and
Transfer
Physician**

**Retrieval and
Transfer
Practitioner**

**Critical Care
Transfer
Assistant**

3rd Seat

Retrieval and Transfer Practitioner

- Band 6 practitioner
- Critical care background
- Local vs national recruitment
- Supporting retention of nursing workforce
- 7 WTE across Wales
- Blended role – Clinical vs Co-ordination
- Substantive with bank staff for resilience

Retrieval and Transfer Physician

- Critical care / Anaesthetics consultant and ST4 + fellows
- Health boards across Wales
- Shared job plans with local health boards for substantive consultants
- North Wales roles 50/50 job plan between BCUHB and ACCTS
- Supporting recruitment into North Wales hospitals

Critical Care Transfer Assistant

- Experienced emergency response ambulance drivers
- Demonstrable aptitude for critical care transfer
- Integrated novel hybrid role
- Forms part of 3 person clinical team
- Undergone identical induction / familiarisation process
- Key roles in crisis management and emergency drills
- Developing clinical knowledge and insight
- Flattened hierarchy enhancing patient safety

Operational Model ACCTS Cymru

South

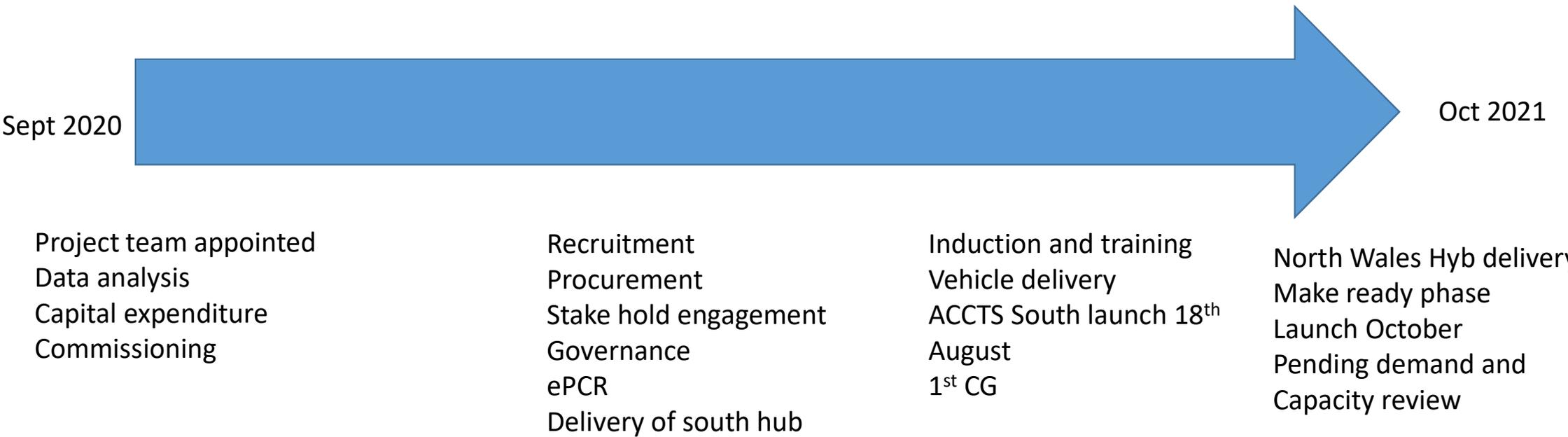
0800-2000 – Cardiff Heliport

North

24/7 – YG North Wales Retrieval Hub (Oncall 1800-0800 am)

- Dedicated Vehicles and equipment
- Dedicated Critical care teams
- Tasking via electronic booking / ECCH
- Access to EC 145 Airframe for long distance transfer (day)

ACCTS Timeline



Sept 2020

Oct 2021

Project team appointed
Data analysis
Capital expenditure
Commissioning

Recruitment
Procurement
Stake hold engagement
Governance
ePCR
Delivery of south hub

Induction and training
Vehicle delivery
ACCTS South launch 18th
August
1st CG

North Wales Hyb delivery
Make ready phase
Launch October
Pending demand and
Capacity review



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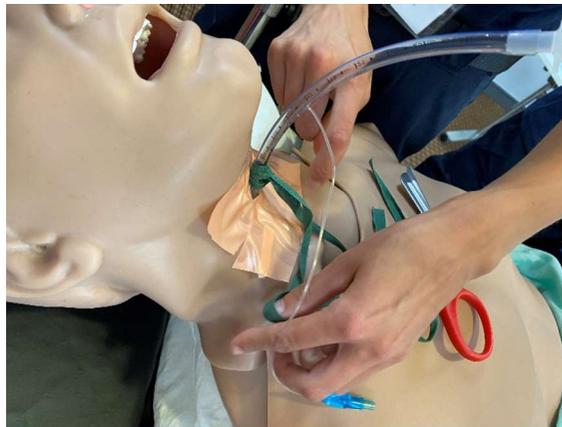
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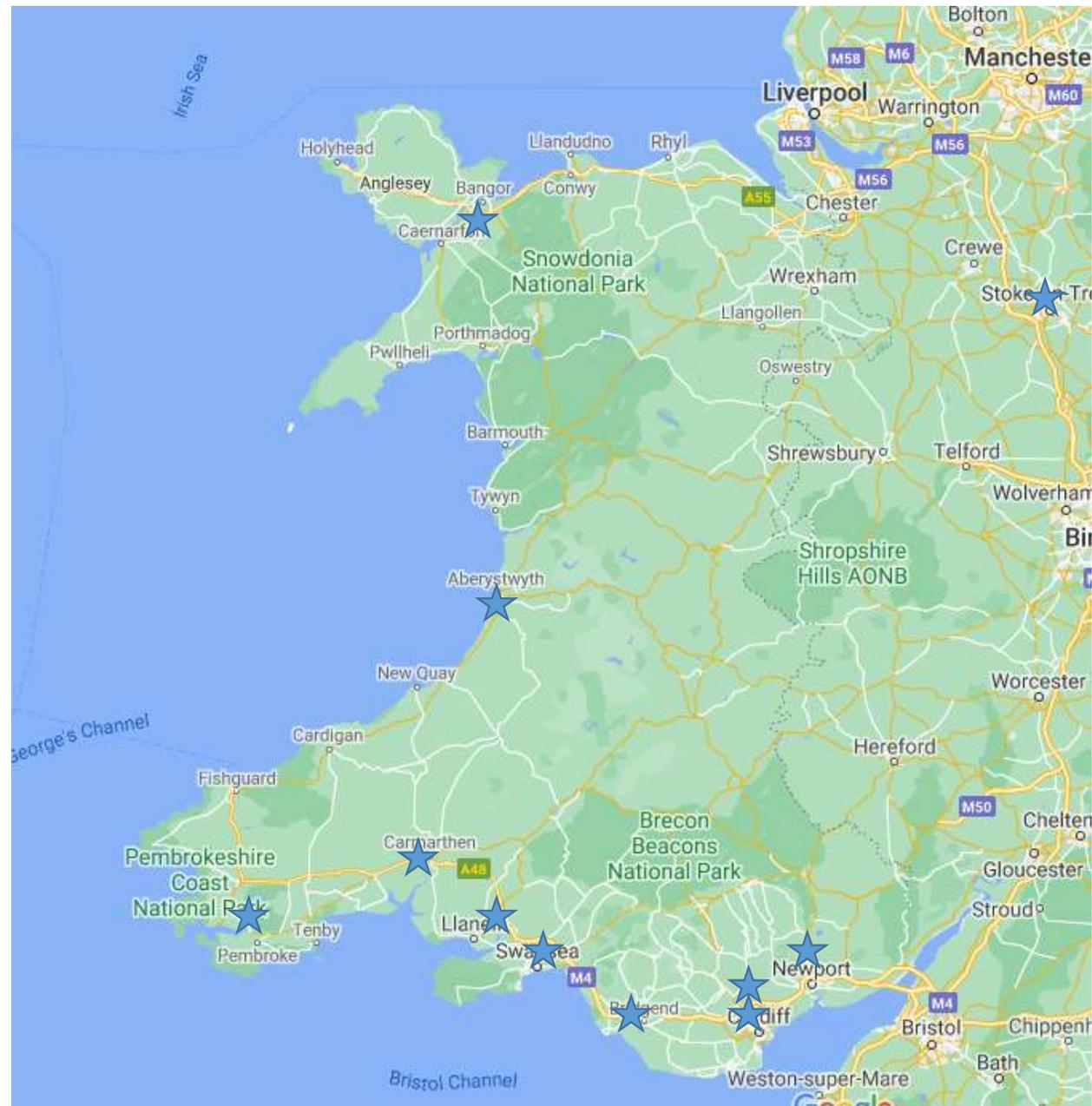
Operational activity overview

The story so far.....

16th August – 20th September 2021



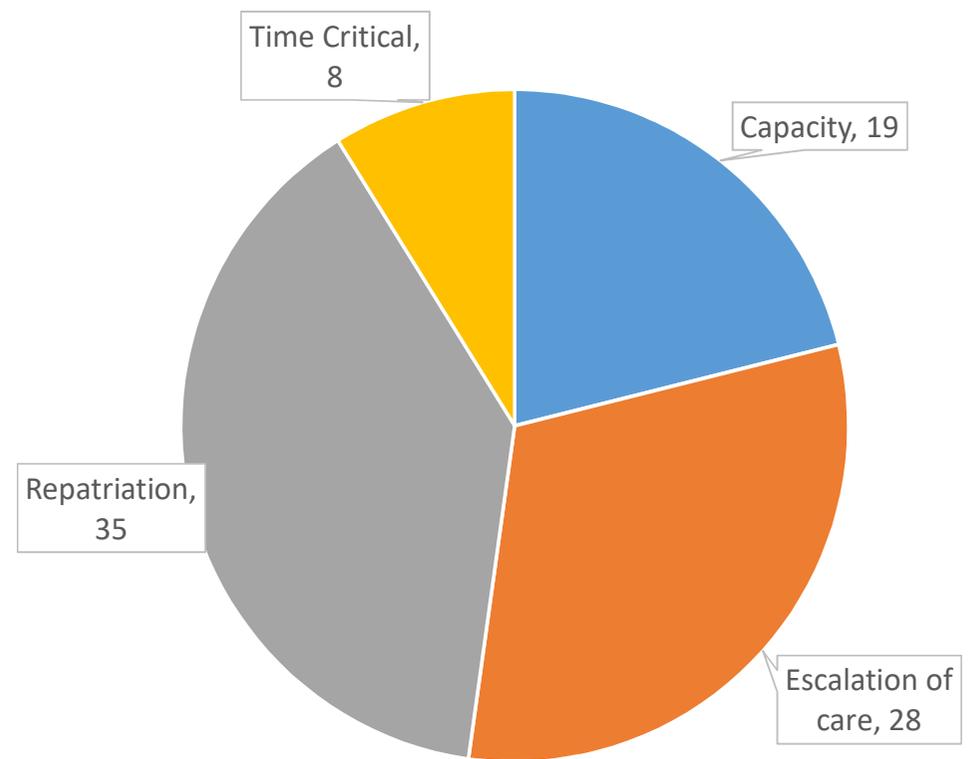
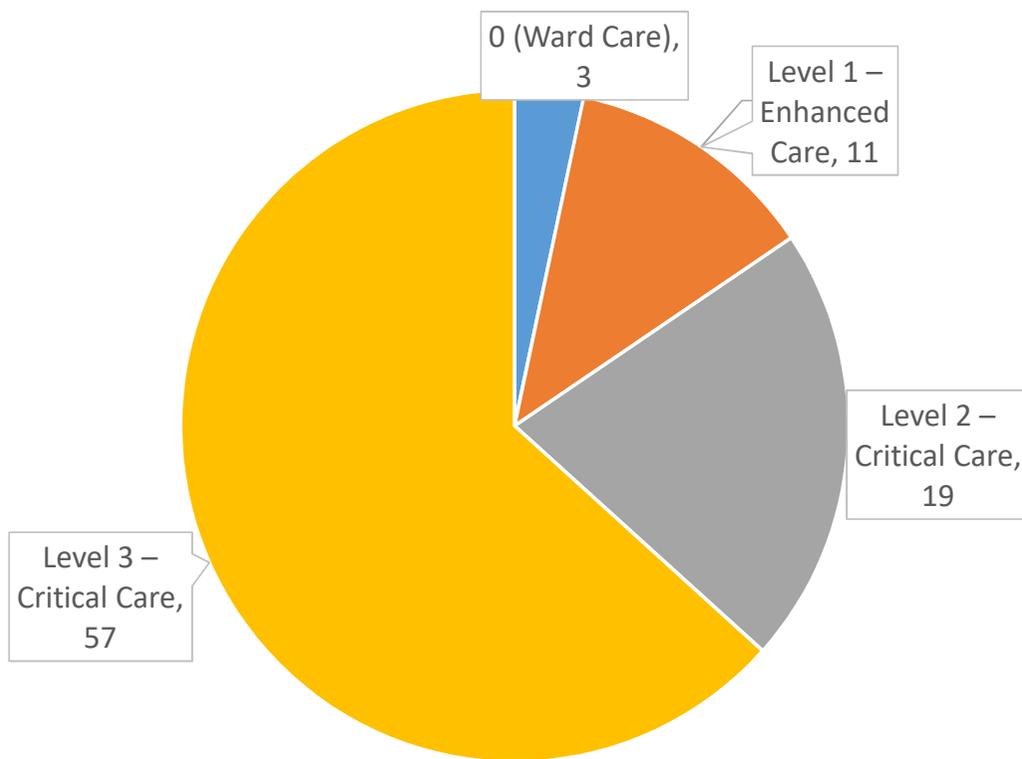




Wide ranging support

- All hospitals in south Wales
- ECMO / Liver into England
- Repatriation of Welsh patient from Scotland

90 referrals



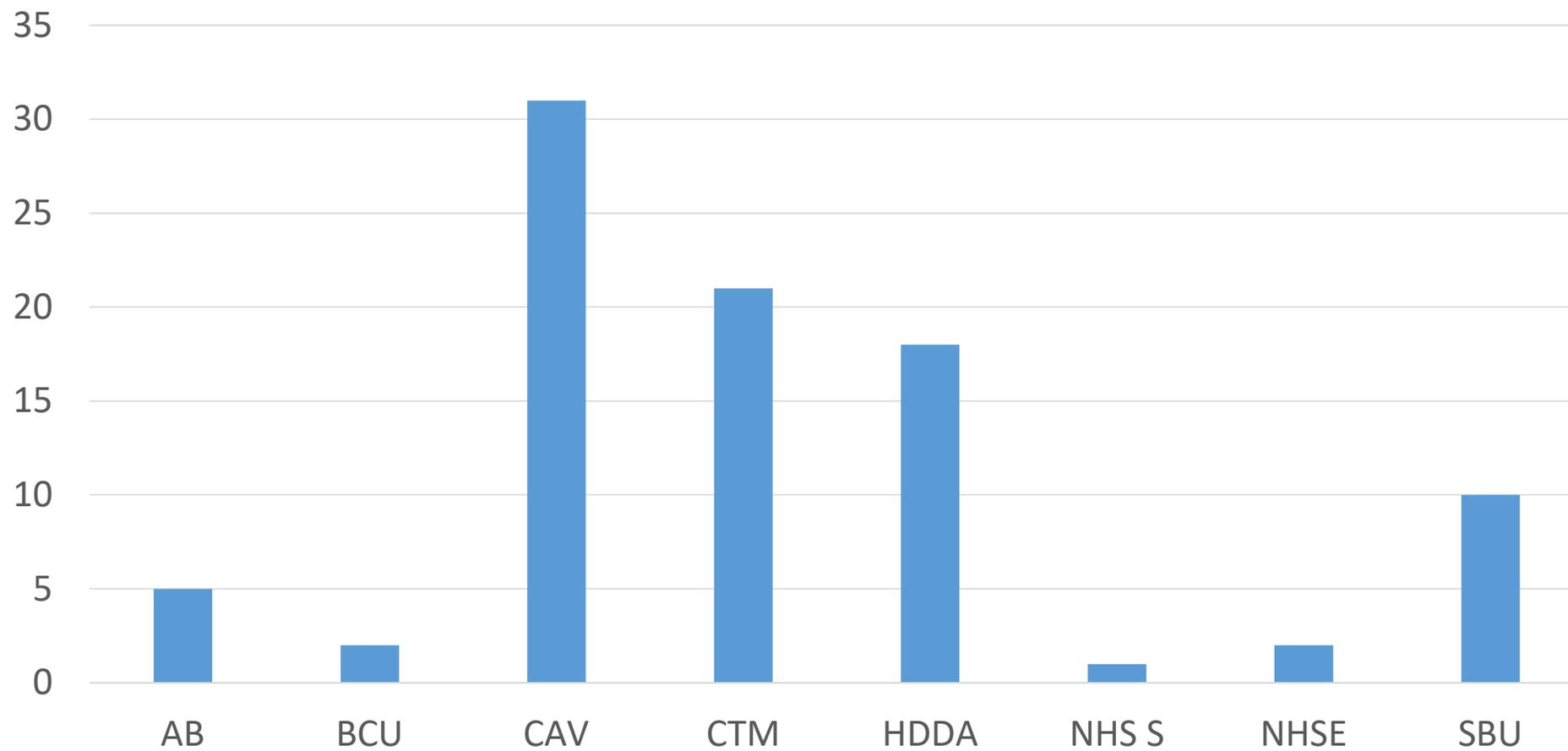
Facilitated cases

- 4 patients moved by hospital teams
 1. Level 0 cross-site stepdown from ITU to ward
 2. Time critical, all EMRTS & ACCTS resources committed
 3. Capacity move, ACCTS committed
 4. Repat, U577866

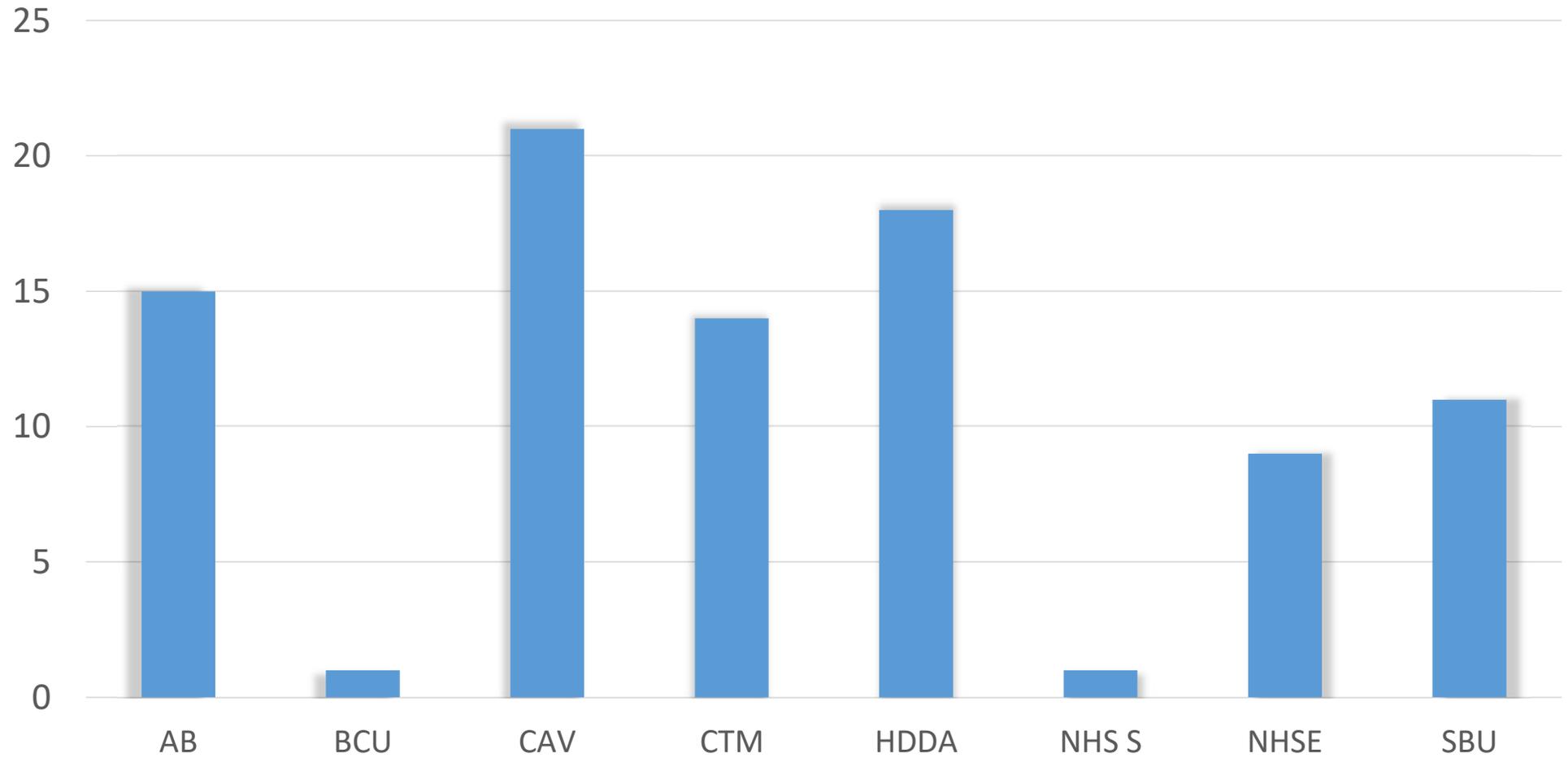
Referrals not undertaken

- Four requests
- 50% out of commissioning scope / 50% capacity
 1. Level 0
 2. Level 1 trauma transfer ED-MTC ED
 3. Team committed
 4. Team committed

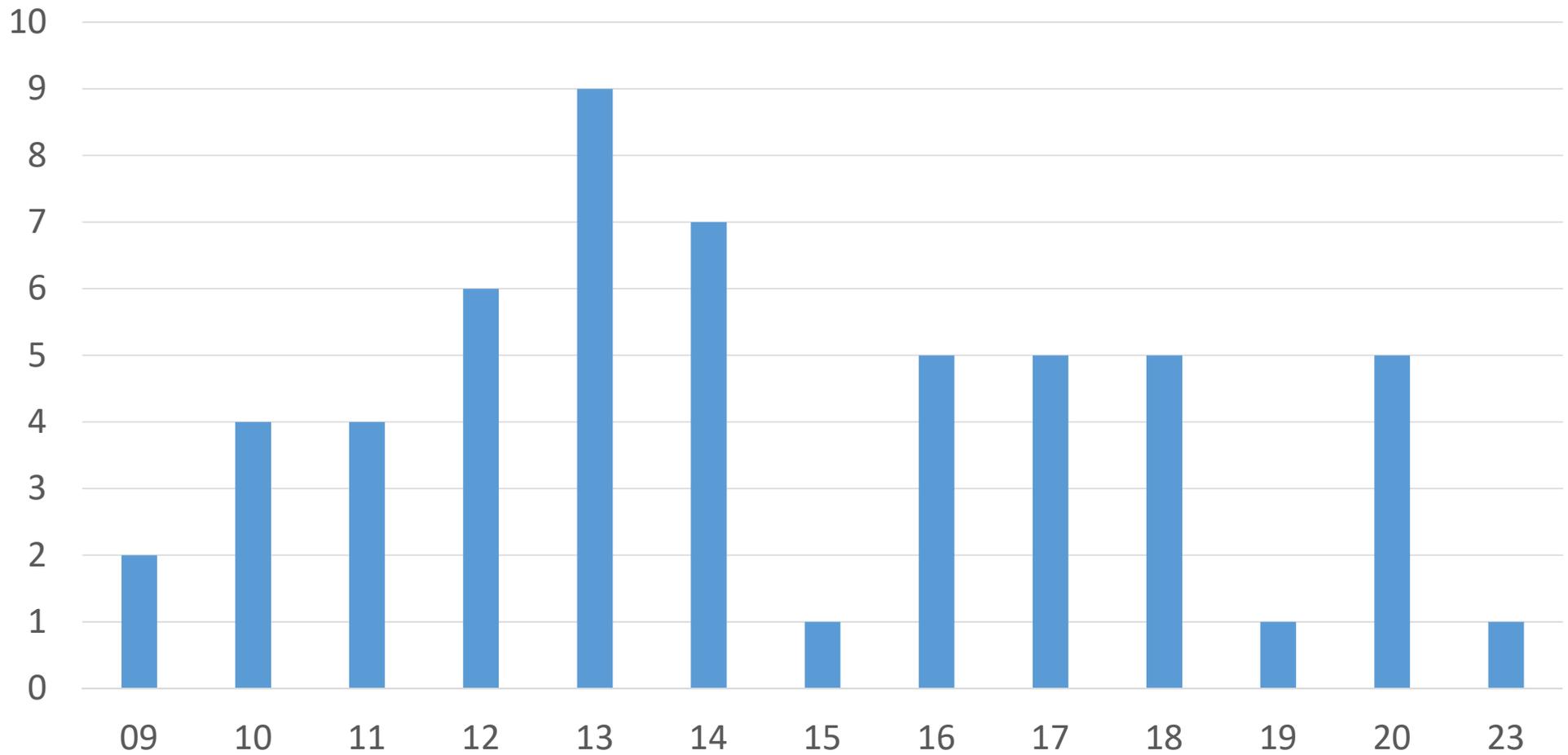
Referrals by Health Board



Destinations by Health Board



Mission completion by time of day





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0300 3035508

Go live August 16th (South)

Go live October 4th (North)

QUESTIONS

