

anaesthetists sim

V Loganathan, M Cohen, R Paget, D De Beer, M Thomas, E Broughton, L Hepburn
Department of Anaesthesia, Great Ormond Street Hospital

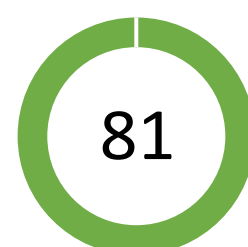
Introduction and aims

In order to achieve a Royal College of Anaesthetists (RCoA) certificate of completion of training (CCT), a minimum of 8 weeks (40 sessions) must be spent in cardiothoracic anaesthesia and critical care¹. Trainees not pursuing a consultant career in this subspecialty are not required to dedicate further training time to the field. The prevalence of cardiovascular disease in the UK however means that cardiac patients are likely to be encountered by most consultant anaesthetists irrespective of their job plan. The RCoA describes simulation as a tool for addressing areas of the curriculum where clinical exposure may be lacking, and encourages the development of simulation programmes for integration into training¹. Our aim was to investigate whether there is a training need for simulation in cardiac anaesthesia in London, and if identified, to create a targeted simulation course.

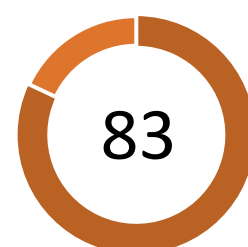
Methods

A survey was sent to anaesthetic trainees and fellows in London to assess levels of comfort surrounding the management of peri-operative complications in cardiac anaesthesia, and gauge interest in a simulation course focusing on these.

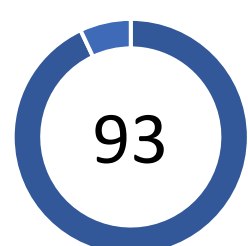
Results



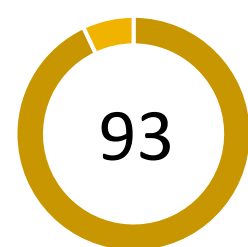
Number of survey responses



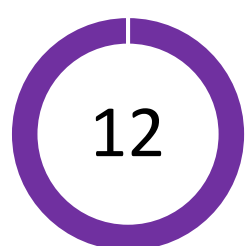
Percentage of respondents who have never partaken in cardiac anaesthesia simulation



Percentage of respondents who felt that a simulation course in cardiac anaesthesia would be useful for their training



Percentage of respondents expressing interest in attending a simulation course in cardiac anaesthesia



Simulation scenarios designed influenced by real life events at GOSH

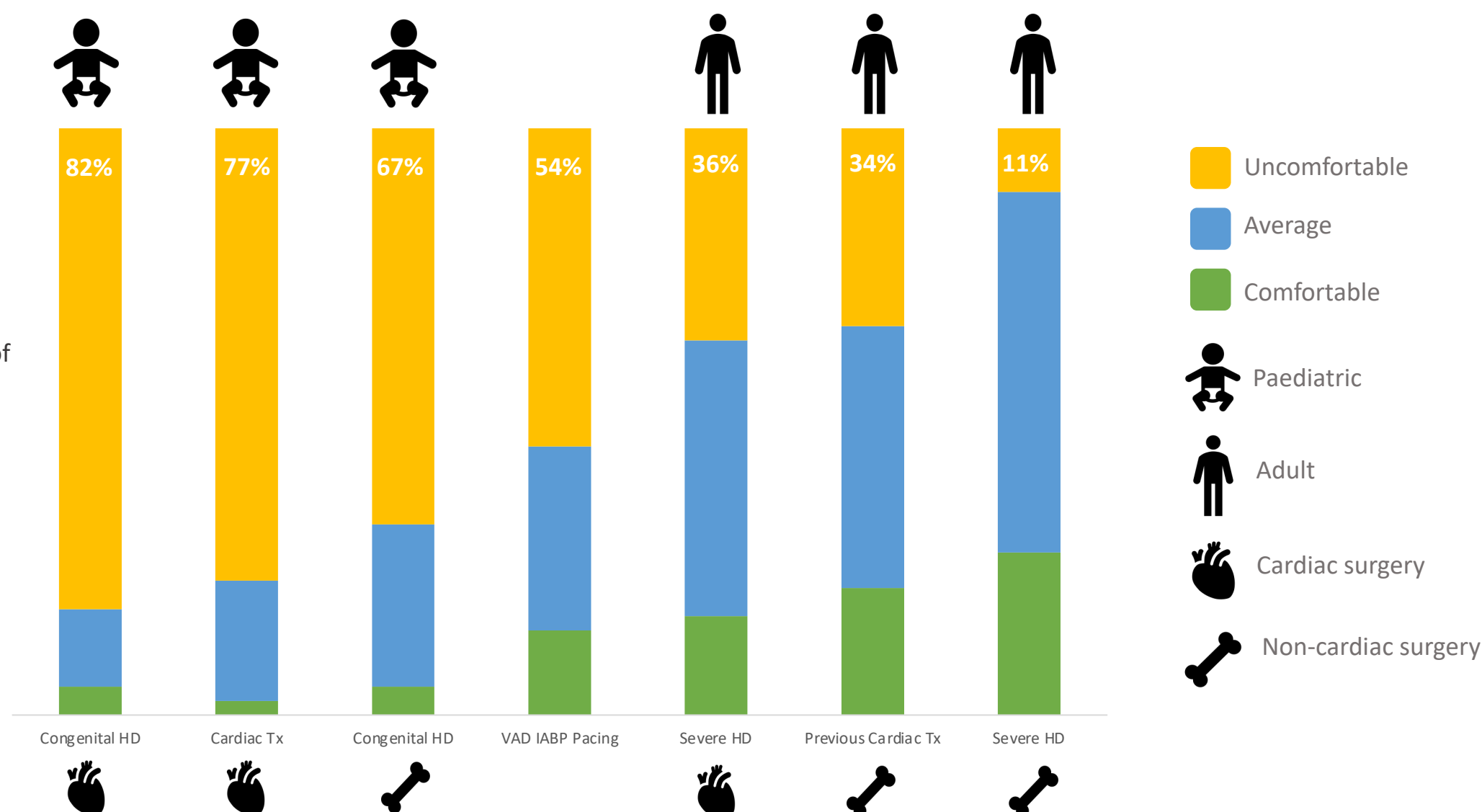


Figure 1
Respondents' perceived levels of comfort managing different cohorts of cardiac patients

Real-life challenging cases in the history of cardiac anaesthesia at Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH) were identified and formed the basis for the survey questions. The events and learning points from these cases were also explored for their potential use as scenarios in a simulation course.

Discussion and conclusion

We have created a paediatric cardiac anaesthesia simulation course, to fill the gap in anaesthetic training needs we identified in London. Our course proposal has been accepted by the simulation centre at GOSH.