

**SCTS**  
**Thoracic Surgery Survey**  
**2022**

**Part 1: Units**



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## **Introduction**

**Authors' introduction**

**Abstract**

## Introduction

The Society for Cardiothoracic Surgery (SCTS) is the professional body for cardiothoracic surgery in Great Britain & Ireland. Each of the five nations' healthcare systems is separate but related. The COVID-19 pandemic brought about many changes, and recovery is ongoing with much practice variation.

The 'Thoracic Surgery Survey' aims to introduce a sustainable and recurring review of service provision including unit resources, organisation, and workforce. The survey will provide a baseline for ongoing assessments and can be updated and repeated to identify changes in practice and service provision. Part 1 focuses on unit resources and organisation.

This work represents the considerable efforts and sustained collaboration by members of the SCTS Thoracic Surgery sub-committee, the Thoracic Forum and our wider professional community.

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Oliver Harrison	Chair SCTS Thoracic Surgery Trainee Committee
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November 2022

## Abstract

### **Survey of thoracic surgery provision across SCTS units in Great Britain and Ireland in 2022**

**Introduction:** The COVID-19 pandemic brought about many changes. By the Summer of 2022, services have restarted and are adapting to the 'new normal'. To gain a contemporary overview of thoracic surgery units and their staffing, we conducted an online survey. We aim to use this information for a rolling process of benchmarking, unit resourcing and organisation, workforce planning, and development of standards for thoracic surgery.

**Methods:** Surveys were developed in Google Forms by a consensus process which involved circulating the surveys to the 'Thoracic Forum' and the SCTS Thoracic Surgery sub-committee. Beta versions were tested and modified before launch. We designed the surveys to be updated and used repeatedly to allow serial data collection. We sent surveys through Google Forms to all thoracic surgery units in Great Britain and Ireland. Units were followed up to encourage replies from the unit lead or another consultant member. Data collection ran between July to September 2022.

**Results** All adult thoracic surgery units participated (n=38). We present data on Day of Surgery Admission (DOSA), Enhanced Recovery after Surgery (ERAS), thoracic ward organisation, robotic thoracic surgery, and lung volume reduction.

### **Conclusion**

This overview of thoracic surgery is a snapshot of the current SCTS provision of thoracic surgery. This methodology and data can be used as a reference point for future surveys.

## Summary

**1.0** List of the 38 thoracic surgery units surveyed.

**2.1** Day of Surgery Admissions (DOSAs) range from 0-10% to 91-100% with a median of 51-60% (mean 51.3%, IQR 11-90%)

**3.1** Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS) ranges from 0-10% to 91-100% with a median of 61-70% (mean 61.1%, IQR 31-90%).

**4.1** There are 18 units (47%) with and 20 units (53%) without a dedicated thoracic surgery ward ( $n = 38$ ).

**4.2** There are 21 units (55%) with and 17 units (45%) without a dedicated thoracic HDU/post-op recovery area ( $n = 38$ ).

**5.1** There are 22 units (58%) with and 16 units (42%) without approval for a robotic programme ( $n = 38$ ).

**5.2** In total, 18 units (47%) have started and 20 units (53%) have not started a robotic programme ( $n = 38$ ).

**5.3** Robotic System proposed or in use

All units that have started or propose to use robotics have specified a system from Intuitive.

### 6.1 Lung Volume Reduction

No. of units (%)	LVR MDT	Endobronchial valves	LVR surgery
26 (68.5)	✓	✓	✓
1 (2.5)	✓		
2 (5.5)	✓		✓
1 (2.5)		✓	✓
4 (10.5)			✓
4 (10.5)			



## **Section 1: Participating units**

### **List of participating units**

## List of participating SCTS units

### Eire (3)

1. Galway University Hospital
2. St James's Hospital, Dublin
3. The Mater Hospital, Dublin

### England (29)

4. Basildon University Hospital
5. Bristol Royal Infirmary
6. Castle Hill Hospital, Hull
7. Derriford Hospital, Plymouth
8. Freeman Hospital, Newcastle
9. Glenfield Hospital, Leicester
10. Guy's Hospital, London
11. Hammersmith Hospital, London
12. Harefield Hospital, London
13. James Cook University Hospital, Middlesbrough
14. King's College Hospital, London
15. St James's University Hospital, Leeds
16. Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital
17. New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton
18. Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital
19. Northern General Hospital, Sheffield
20. Nottingham University Hospitals
21. Oxford University Hospitals
22. Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham
23. Royal Brompton Hospital, London
24. Royal Papworth Hospital, Cambridge
25. Southampton General Hospital
26. St Bartholomew's Hospital, London
27. St George's Hospital, London
28. University College London Hospital
29. University Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire
30. University Hospital North Midlands, Stoke-on-Trent
31. Victoria Hospital, Blackpool
32. Wythenshawe Hospital, Manchester

### Northern Ireland (1)

33. Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast

### Scotland (3)

34. Aberdeen Royal Infirmary
35. Golden Jubilee National Hospital, Glasgow
36. Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh

### Wales (2)

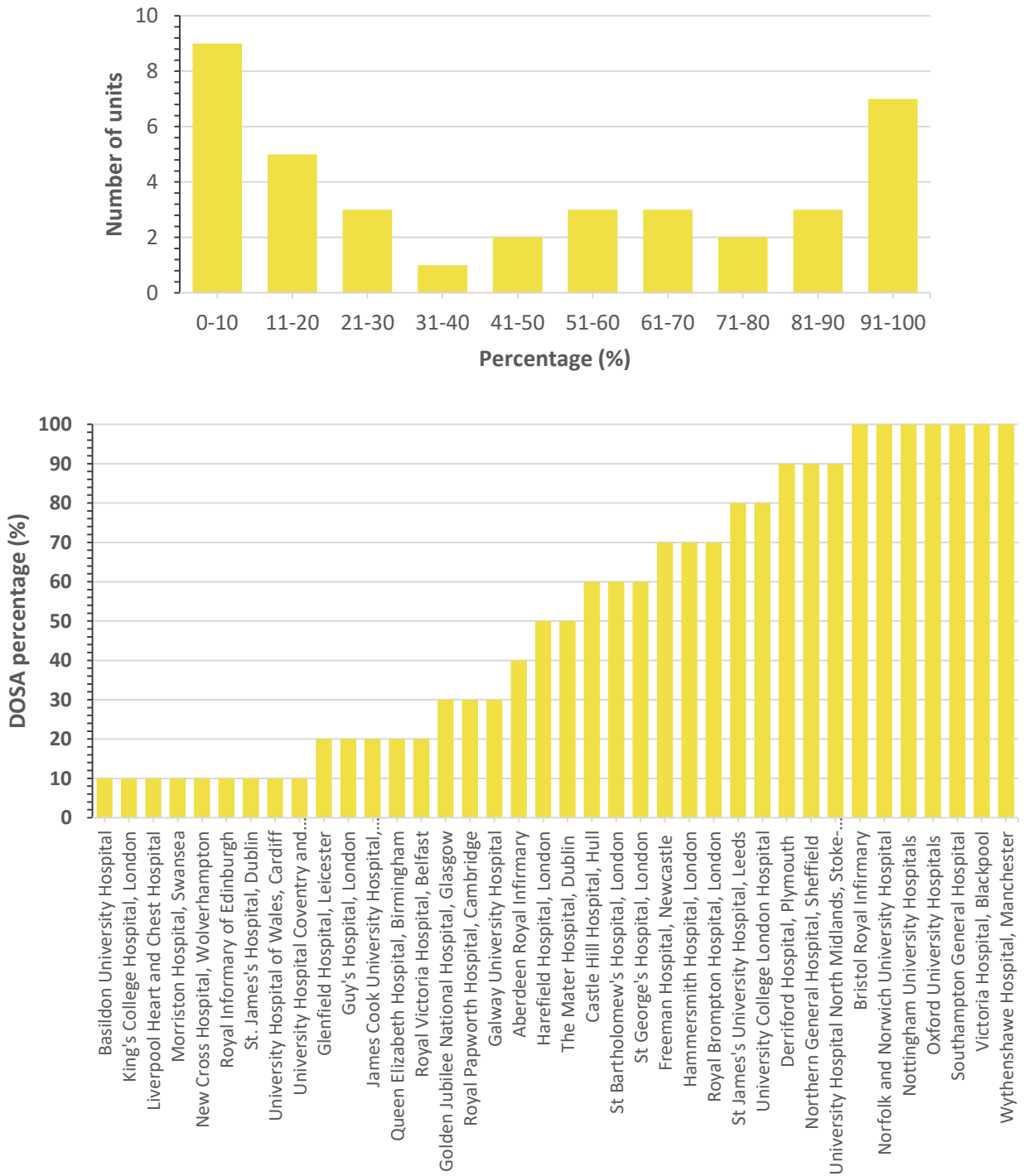
37. Morriston Hospital, Swansea
38. University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff





## Section 2: Day of Surgery Admission (DOSA)

## Day of Surgery Admissions (DOSA)

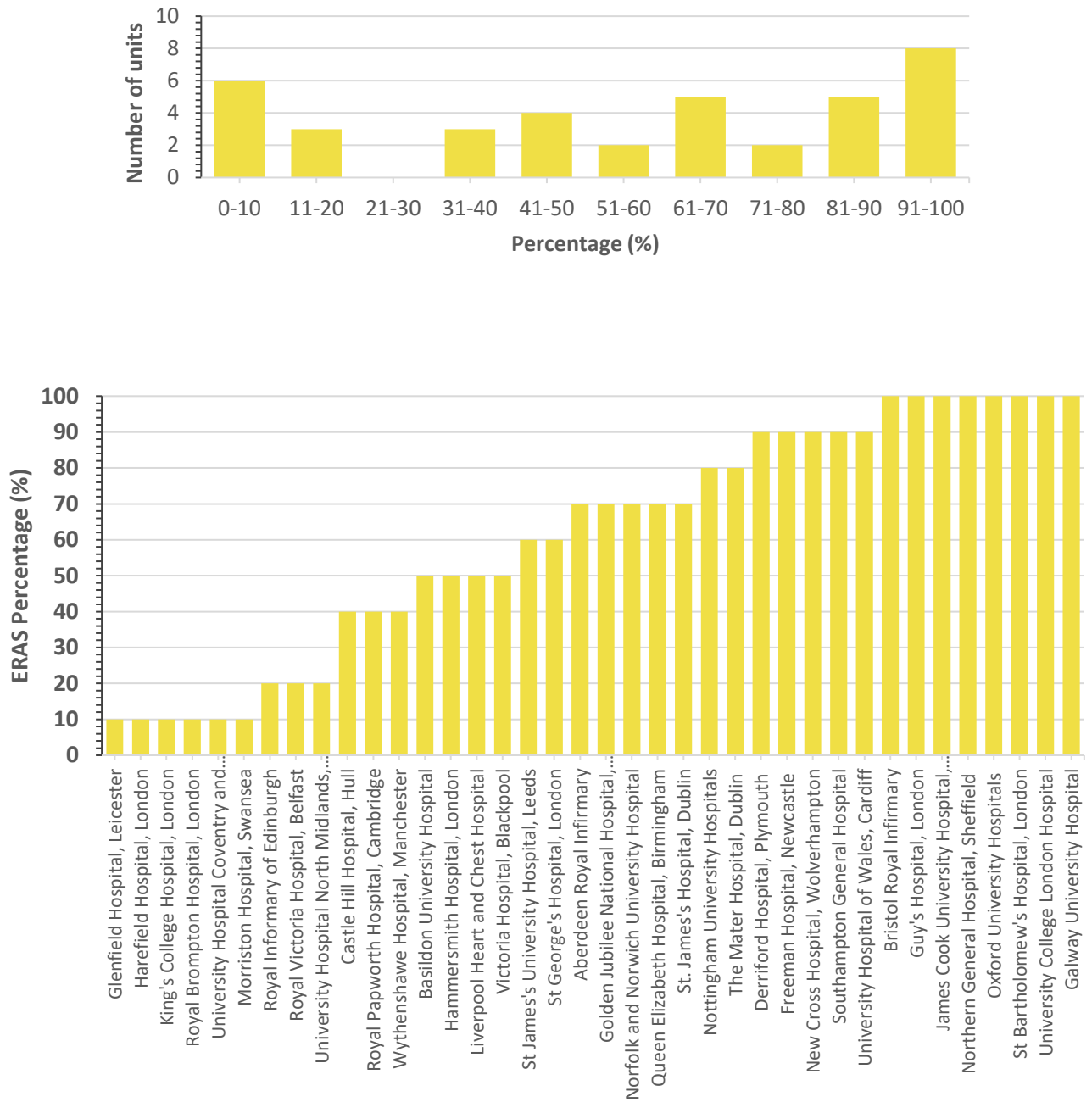


**Figure 2.1** Day of Surgery Admissions (DOSA) range from 0-10% to 91-100% across units, with a median category of 51-60% (*mean* = 51.3, IQR 11-90%).



## Section 3: Enhanced Recovery after Surgery (ERAS)

### Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS)



**Figure 3.1** Rates of Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS) range from 0-10% to 91-100% across units, with a median group of 61-70% (*mean* = 61.1, *IQR* 31-90%).

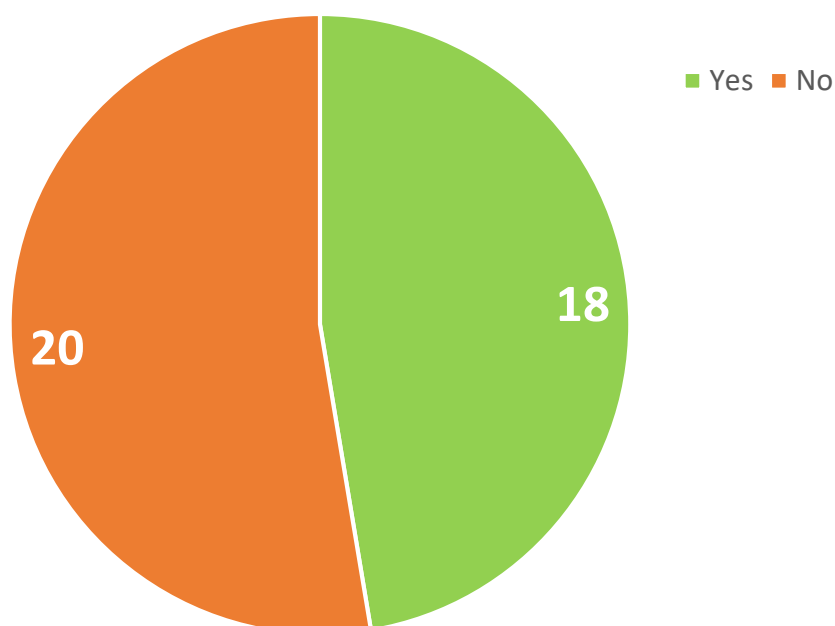


## **Section 4: Thoracic ward structures**

**Dedicated Thoracic surgery ward**

**Dedicated thoracic HDU/post-op recovery area**

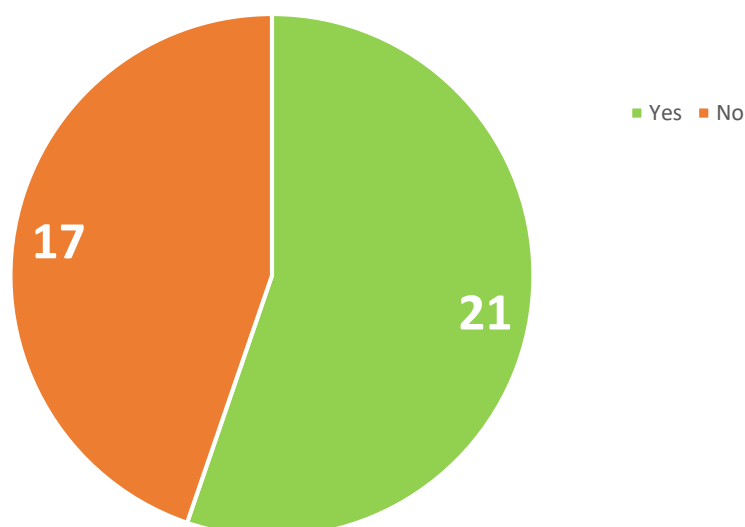
### Dedicated Thoracic surgery ward



Dedicated thoracic surgery ward	No dedicated ward
Castle Hill Hospital, Hull	Aberdeen Royal Infirmary
Derriford Hospital, Plymouth	Basildon University Hospital
Glenfield Hospital, Leicester	Bristol Royal Infirmary
Golden Jubilee National Hospital, Glasgow	Freeman Hospital, Newcastle
Guy's Hospital, London	Hammersmith Hospital, London
Harefield Hospital, London	James Cook University Hospital, Middlesbrough
St James's University Hospital, Leeds	King's College Hospital, London
Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital	Morrison Hospital, Swansea
Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital	New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton
Nottingham University Hospitals	Northern General Hospital, Sheffield
Southampton General Hospital	Oxford University Hospitals
St Bartholomew's Hospital, London	Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham
St George's Hospital, London	Royal Brompton Hospital, London
The Mater Hospital, Dublin	Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh
University College London Hospital	Royal Papworth Hospital, Cambridge
University Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire	Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast
Galway University Hospital	St. James's Hospital, Dublin
Wythenshawe Hospital, Manchester	University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff
	University Hospital North Midlands, Stoke-on-Trent
	Victoria Hospital, Blackpool

**Figure 4.1** There are 18 units with (47%) and 20 units without (53%) a dedicated thoracic surgery ward ( $n = 38$ ).

### Dedicated thoracic HDU/post-op recovery area



Dedicated thoracic HDU/post op recovery area	No dedicated area
Basildon University Hospital	Aberdeen Royal Infirmary
Castle Hill Hospital, Hull	Bristol Royal Infirmary
Derriford Hospital, Plymouth	Hammersmith Hospital, London
Freeman Hospital, Newcastle	James Cook University Hospital, Middlesbrough
Glenfield Hospital, Leicester	King's College Hospital, London
Golden Jubilee National Hospital, Glasgow	Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital
Guy's Hospital, London	Morrison Hospital, Swansea
Harefield Hospital, London	New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton
St James's University Hospital, Leeds	Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital
Nottingham University Hospitals	Northern General Hospital, Sheffield
Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham	Oxford University Hospitals
Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh	Royal Brompton Hospital, London
Royal Papworth Hospital, Cambridge	Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast
St George's Hospital, London	Southampton General Hospital
St. James's Hospital, Dublin	St Bartholomew's Hospital, London
The Mater Hospital, Dublin	University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff
University College London Hospital	University Hospital North Midlands, Stoke-on-Trent
University Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire	
Galway University Hospital	
Victoria Hospital, Blackpool	
Wythenshawe Hospital, Manchester	

**Figure 4.2** There are 21 units with (55%) and 17 units without (45%) a dedicated thoracic HDU / post op recovery area ( $n = 38$ ).



## **Section 5: Robotic thoracic surgery**

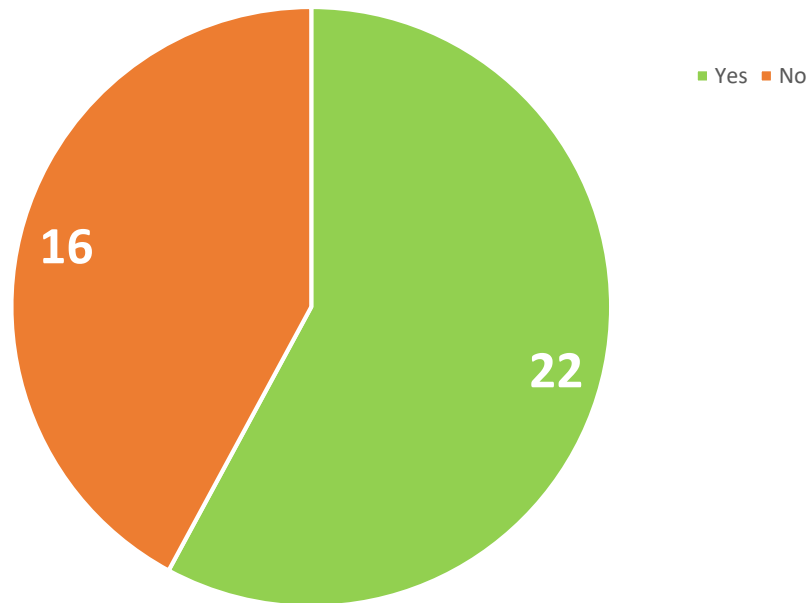
**Approval for robotic thoracic surgery programme**

**Established robotic thoracic surgery operations**

**Robotic system proposed or in use**



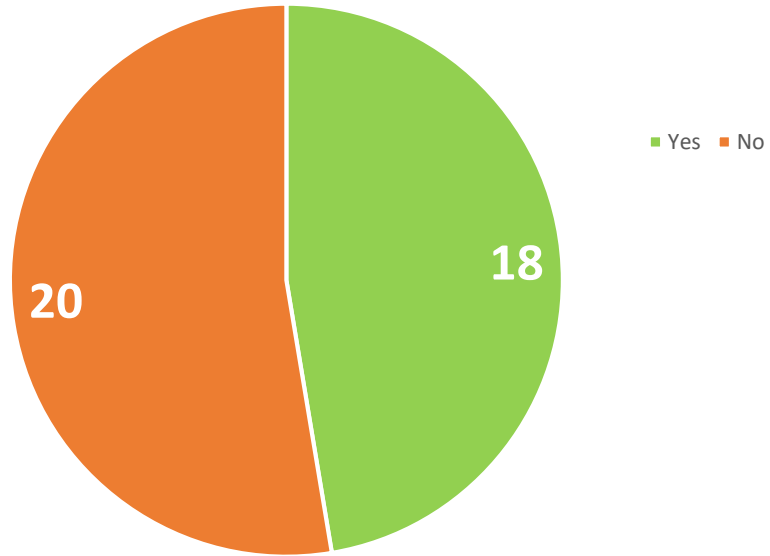
### Approval for thoracic surgery robotic programme



Approval for robotic programme	No approval for robotic programme
Aberdeen Royal Infirmary	Basildon University Hospital
Castle Hill Hospital, Hull	Bristol Royal Infirmary
Derriford Hospital, Plymouth	Glenfield Hospital, Leicester
Freeman Hospital, Newcastle	Hammersmith Hospital, London
Golden Jubilee National Hospital, Glasgow	Harefield Hospital, London
Guy's Hospital, London	King's College Hospital, London
James Cook University Hospital, Middlesbrough	Morrison Hospital, Swansea
St James's University Hospital, Leeds	Northern General Hospital, Sheffield
Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital	Oxford University Hospitals
New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton	Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham
Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital	Royal Papworth Hospital, Cambridge
Nottingham University Hospitals	Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast
Royal Brompton Hospital, London	University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff
Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh	University Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire
Southampton General Hospital	Victoria Hospital, Blackpool
St Bartholomew's Hospital, London	Wythenshawe Hospital, Manchester
St George's Hospital, London	
St. James's Hospital, Dublin	
The Mater Hospital, Dublin	
University College London Hospital	
Galway University Hospital	
University Hospital North Midlands, Stoke-on-Trent	

**Figure 5.1** There are 22 units with (58%) and 16 units without (42%) approval for a robotic programme ( $n = 38$ ).

### Started thoracic surgery robotic operations



Started thoracic surgery robotic operations	Not started robotic operations
Aberdeen Royal Infirmary	Basildon University Hospital
Castle Hill Hospital, Hull	Bristol Royal Infirmary
Derriford Hospital, Plymouth	Glenfield Hospital, Leicester
Freeman Hospital, Newcastle	Hammersmith Hospital, London
Golden Jubilee National Hospital, Glasgow	Harefield Hospital, London
Guy's Hospital, London	King's College Hospital, London
James Cook University Hospital, Middlesbrough	Morrison Hospital, Swansea
St James's University Hospital, Leeds	Northern General Hospital, Sheffield
Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital	Oxford University Hospitals
New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton	Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham
Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital	Royal Brompton Hospital, London
Nottingham University Hospitals	Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh
Southampton General Hospital	Royal Papworth Hospital, Cambridge
St Bartholomew's Hospital, London	Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast
St George's Hospital, London	University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff
St. James's Hospital, Dublin	University Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire
The Mater Hospital, Dublin	Galway University Hospital
University College London Hospital	University Hospital North Midlands, Stoke-on-Trent
	Victoria Hospital, Blackpool
	Wythenshawe Hospital, Manchester

**Figure 5.2** In total, 18 units have started (47%) and 20 units have not started (53%) a robotic programme ( $n = 38$ ).

Robotic system proposed or in use

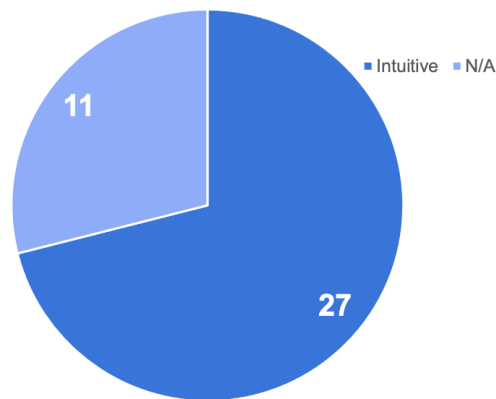


Figure 5.3 / Table 5.3 Robotic System proposed or in use

Name of Thoracic Surgery Unit	Name of the robotic system proposed or in use?
Morrison Hospital, Swansea	Intuitive
Southampton General Hospital	Intuitive
St George's Hospital, London	Intuitive
Galway University Hospital	Intuitive
University Hospital North Midlands, Stoke-On-Trent	Intuitive
Wythenshawe Hospital, Manchester	Intuitive
New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton	Intuitive
Guy's Hospital, London	Intuitive
Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital	Intuitive
Nottingham University Hospitals	Intuitive
Derriford Hospital, Plymouth	Intuitive
University College London Hospital	Intuitive
St. James's Hospital, Dublin	Intuitive
The Mater Hospital, Dublin	Intuitive
Golden Jubilee National Hospital, Glasgow	Intuitive
Aberdeen Royal Infirmary	Intuitive
Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital	Intuitive
Bristol Royal Infirmary	Intuitive
Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh	Intuitive
Royal Brompton Hospital, London	Intuitive
University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff	Intuitive
James Cook University Hospital, Middlesbrough	Intuitive
St James's University Hospital, Leeds	Intuitive
Freeman Hospital, Newcastle	Intuitive
University Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire	Intuitive
St Bartholomew's Hospital, London	Intuitive
Castle Hill Hospital, Hull	Intuitive
Basildon University Hospital	N/A
Harefield Hospital, London	N/A
Oxford University Hospitals	N/A
Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast	N/A
Glenfield Hospital, Leicester	N/A
Hammersmith Hospital, London	N/A
King's College Hospital, London	N/A
Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham	N/A
Royal Papworth Hospital, Cambridge	N/A
Northern General Hospital, Sheffield	N/A
Victoria Hospital, Blackpool	N/A



## **Section 6: Lung volume reduction**

**Lung volume reduction: MDT, Valves, Surgery**

**Table 6.1 Lung Volume Reduction**

Name of Thoracic Surgery Unit	Does your unit participate in a LVR MDT?	Does your unit perform LVR by valves?	Does your unit perform LVR by surgery?
Aberdeen Royal Infirmary	No	No	Yes
Basildon University Hospital	No	No	Yes
Bristol Royal Infirmary	Yes	Yes	Yes
Castle Hill Hospital, Hull	Yes	Yes	Yes
Derriford Hospital, Plymouth	Yes	No	No
Freeman Hospital, Newcastle	Yes	No	Yes
Glenfield Hospital, Leicester	Yes	Yes	Yes
Golden Jubilee National Hospital, Glasgow	Yes	Yes	Yes
Guy's Hospital, London	Yes	Yes	Yes
Hammersmith Hospital, London	No	No	No
Harefield Hospital, London	Yes	Yes	Yes
James Cook University Hospital, Middlesbrough	Yes	Yes	Yes
King's College Hospital, London	No	No	No
St James's University Hospital, Leeds	Yes	Yes	Yes
Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital	Yes	Yes	Yes
Morrison Hospital, Swansea	No	No	No
New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton	Yes	Yes	Yes
Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital	Yes	Yes	Yes
Northern General Hospital, Sheffield	Yes	Yes	Yes
Nottingham University Hospitals	Yes	Yes	Yes
Oxford University Hospitals	Yes	Yes	Yes
Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham	Yes	Yes	Yes
Royal Brompton Hospital, London	Yes	Yes	Yes
Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh	Yes	Yes	Yes
Royal Papworth Hospital, Cambridge	Yes	Yes	Yes
Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast	No	No	Yes
Southampton General Hospital	Yes	Yes	Yes
St Bartholomew's Hospital, London	Yes	Yes	Yes
St George's Hospital, London	Yes	Yes	Yes
St. James's Hospital, Dublin	No	No	No
The Mater Hospital, Dublin	Yes	Yes	Yes
University College London Hospital	Yes	Yes	Yes
University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff	Yes	Yes	Yes
University Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire	No	No	Yes
Galway University Hospital	No	Yes	Yes
University Hospital North Midlands, Stoke-on-Trent	Yes	Yes	Yes
Victoria Hospital, Blackpool	Yes	No	Yes
Wythenshawe Hospital, Manchester	Yes	Yes	Yes

**Lung Volume Reduction summary**

No. of units (%)	LVR MDT	Endobronchial valves	LVR surgery
26 (68.5)	✓	✓	✓
1 (2.5)	✓		
2 (5.5)	✓		✓
1 (2.5)		✓	✓
4 (10.5)			✓
4 (10.5)			

## Closing comments

### Survey Question: What would improve your professional life?

A word cloud generated the following map.

A word cloud is a speculative tool which gives a visual impression of the issues raised by the respondents. We have removed meaningless terms but otherwise have used the actual words submitted. There is an overlap between the terms.

This serves to stimulate discussion on the future needs and aspirations of the professional community.

