

# Difficult decisions: Intestinal Transplant

**CIFT**

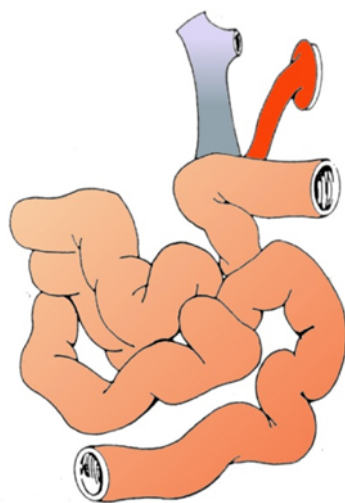
Cambridge Intestinal Failure & Transplant



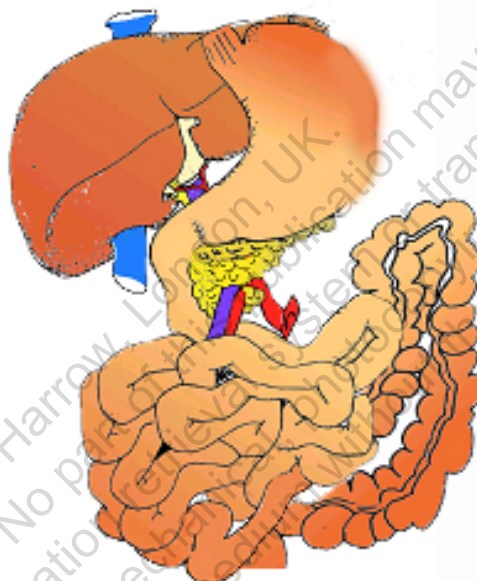
*Dr Lisa Sharkey, Consultant Physician  
Cambridge Intestinal and Multivisceral Transplant team*

# Types of intestinal containing grafts

Intestine only (SB)



Multivisceral Transplant (MVT)



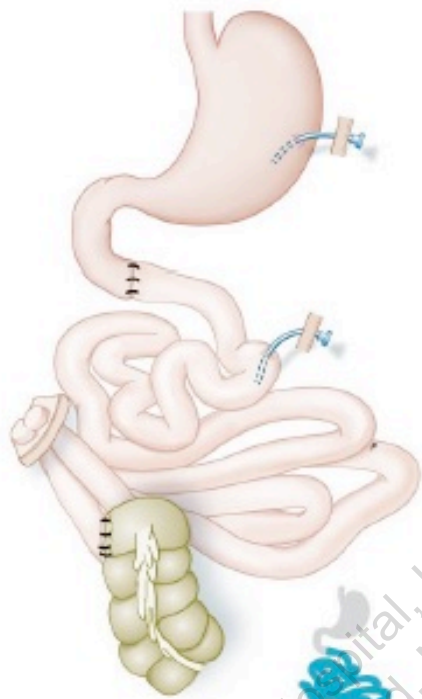
Modified Multivisceral Transplant (MMVT)



# Global number of ITx = 3414

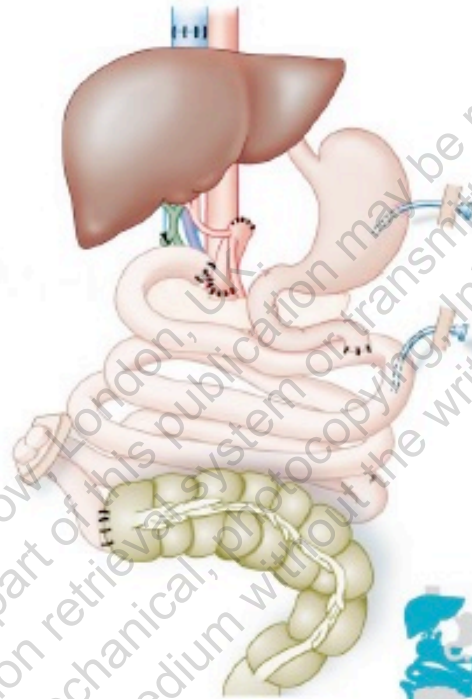
Adults / children: 49% / 51%

1964 - 2017



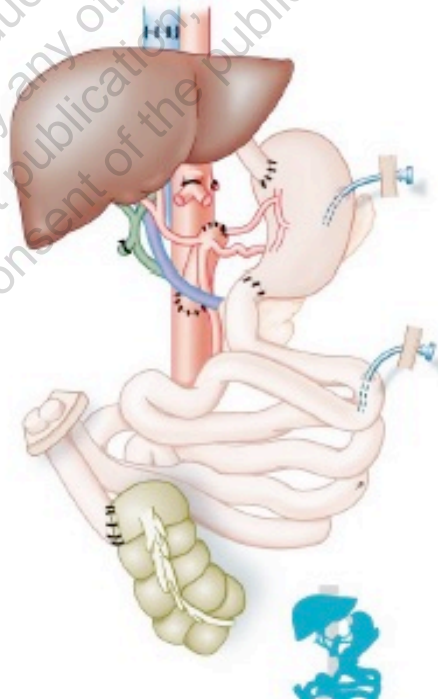
**Isolated  
Bowel**

**45%**



**Combined  
Liver + Bowel**

**31%**



**Multivisceral**

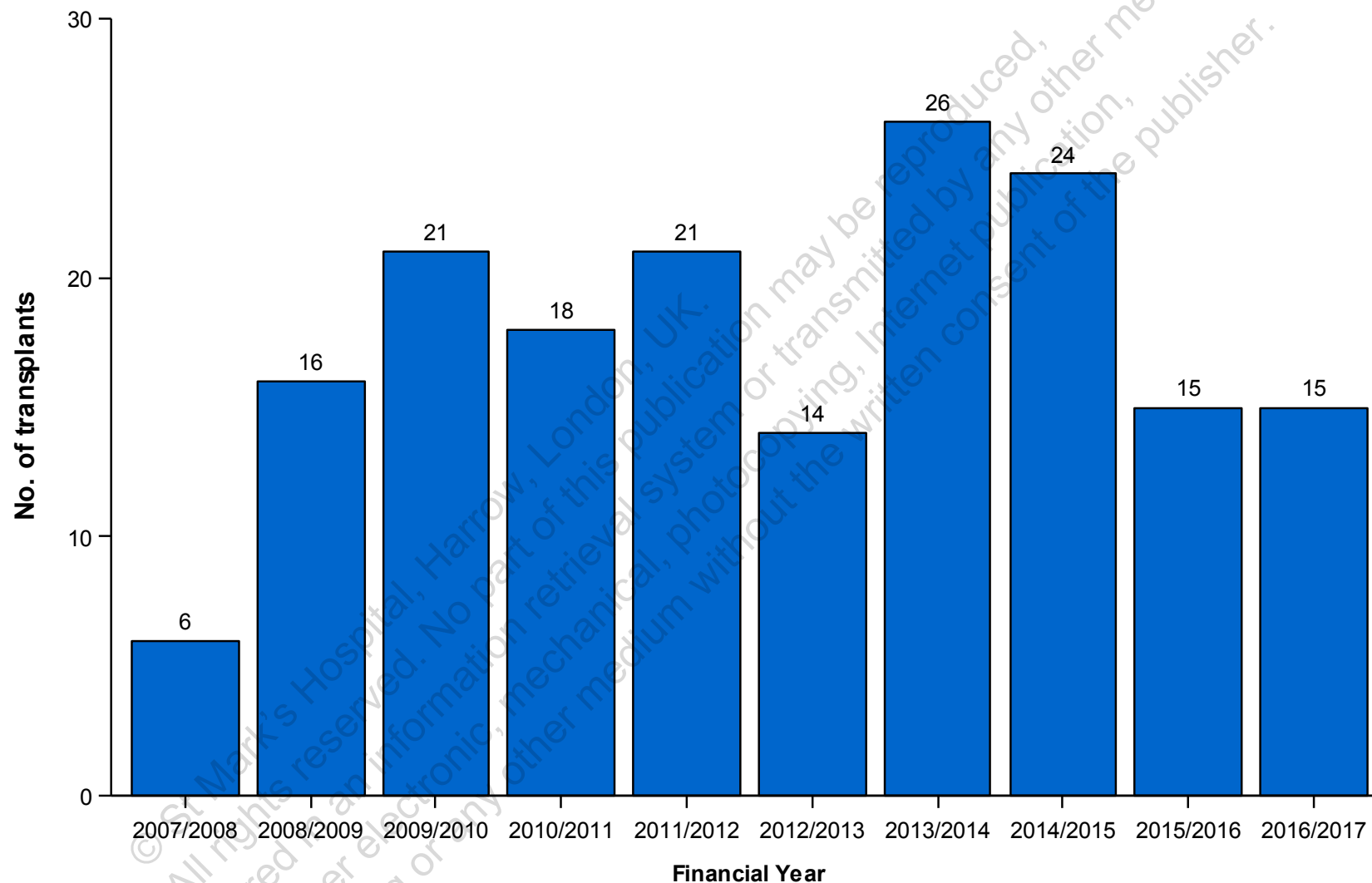
**24%**

	<b>LIVER</b>	<b>KIDNEY</b>	<b>HEART</b>
UK 2016-2017 financial year	935	2159	197
US 2016 calendar year	7,496	13,431	3,190

*Data from NHSBT and OPTN (deceased donors only)*



**Figure 2.4 Total number of intestine transplants, 1 April 2007 - 31 March 2017**



Source: Annual Report on Intestine Transplantation 2016/17, NHS Blood and Transplant

*“Transplanting the bowel is crazy:  
It is like transplanting a huge lymph node  
enwrapped in faeces”*

David Sachs

Ischemia Reperfusion  
Injury (IRI)

Graft-v-Host Disease  
(GvHD)

Rejection

# *UK Criteria for Intestinal Transplant NHSBT Patient Selection Policy Sept 2015*

## 1. Irreversible Intestinal Failure, plus

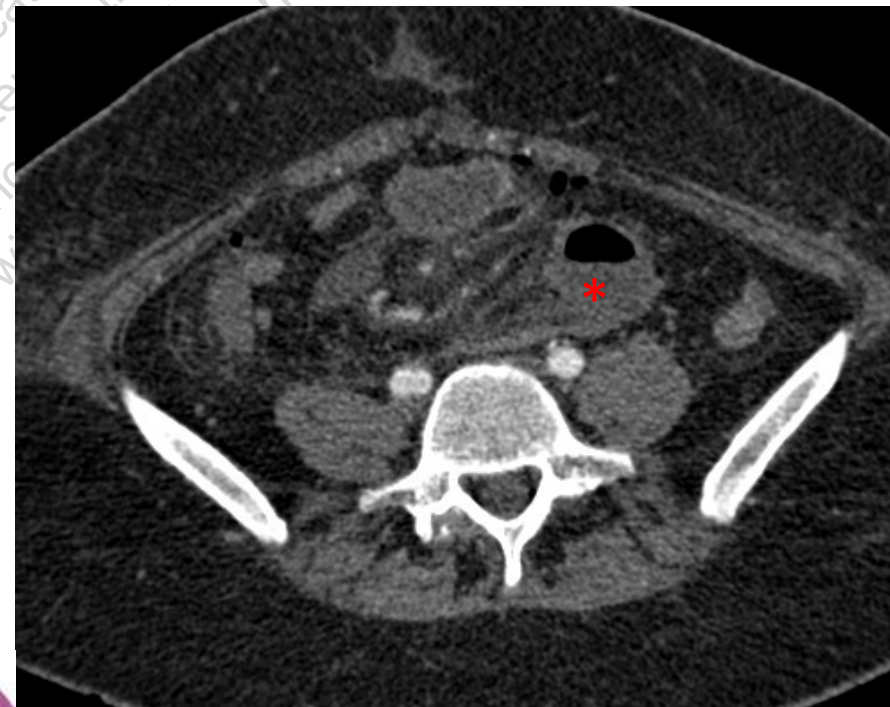
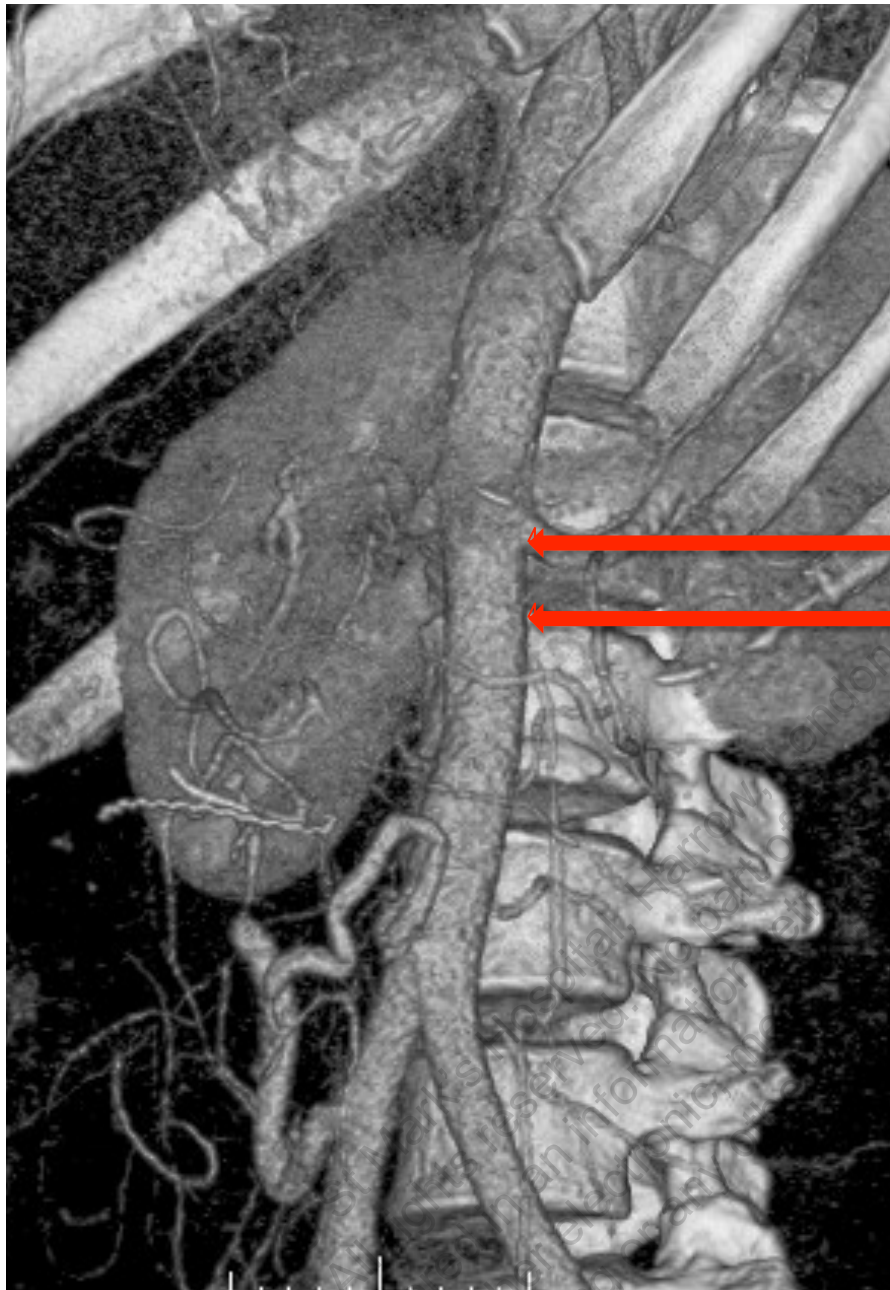
- a. Progressive IFALD (Liver or non-liver containing graft depending on severity of disease)
- b. Severe sepsis (>1 life-threatening CRBSI for which no remedial cause can be found, or endocarditis or other metastatic infection)
- c. Limited central venous access (Venous access limited to 3 major conventional sites)
- d. Very poor QoL thought to be correctable by transplantation

## 2. Need for extensive evisceration, considered untenable without associated transplant

## 3. Requirement for transplantation of another organ where exclusion of simultaneous intestinal transplant would adversely affect survival

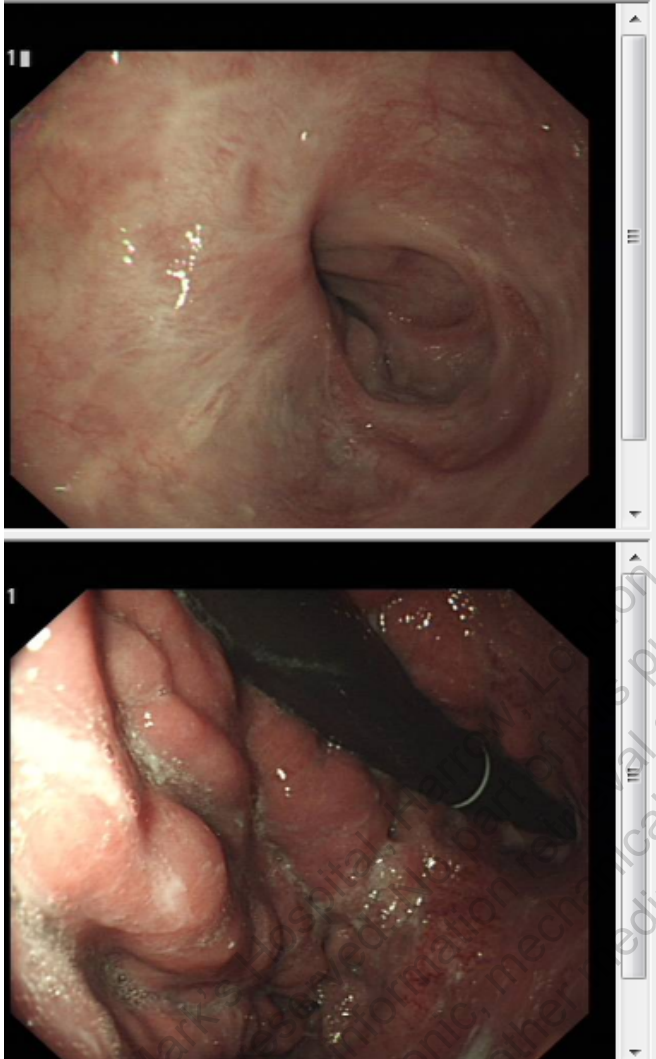
# Emerging Indications

Widespread splanchnic ischaemia  
(simultaneous or sequential occlusion of  
Coeliac Axis and SMA)





# Emerging Indications

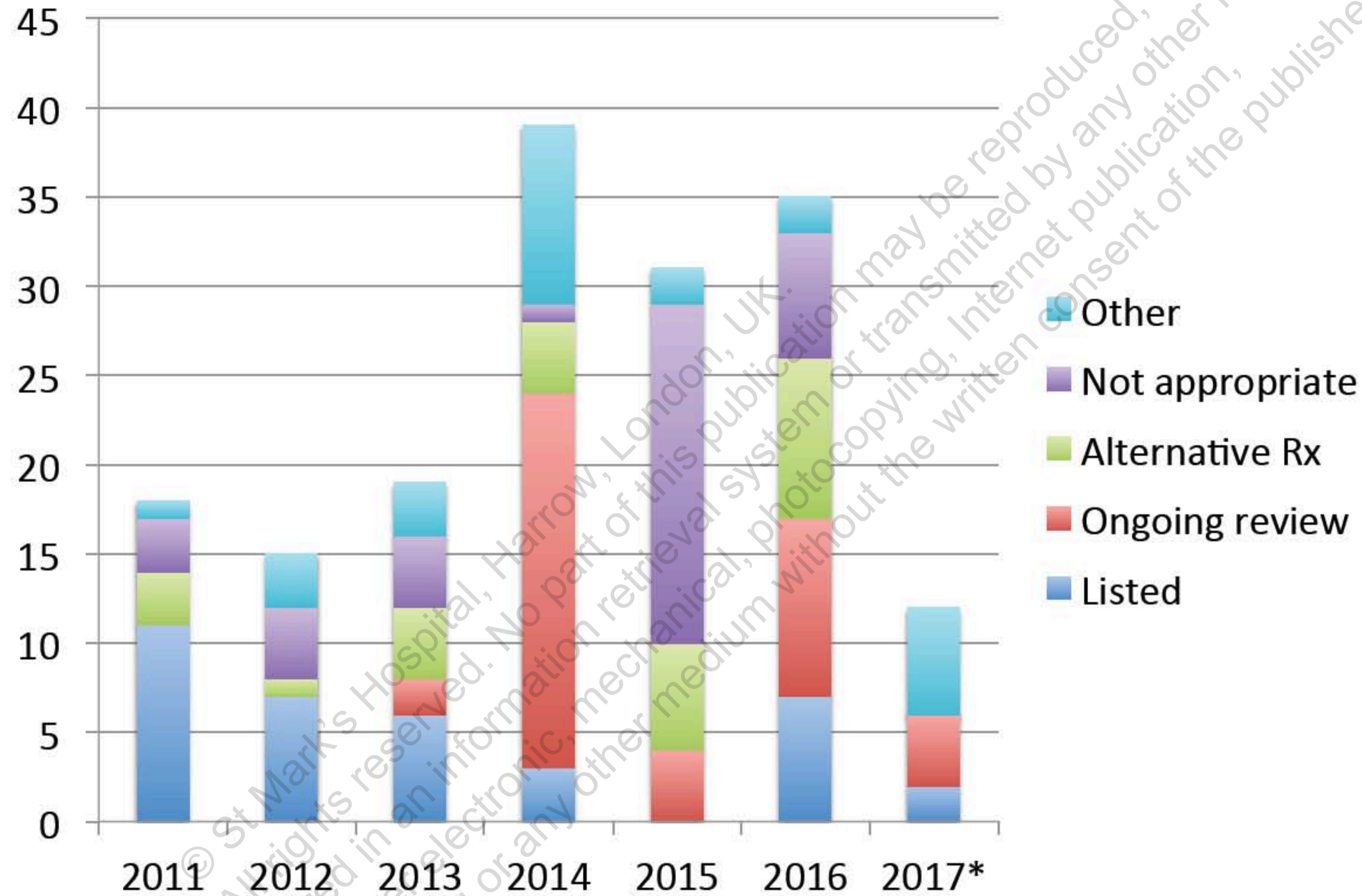


Non Cirrhotic Portal Hypertension with recurrent Life-threatening bleeding

- All other options exhausted first (TIPSS, surgical shunt, splenectomy, gastric devascularisation)

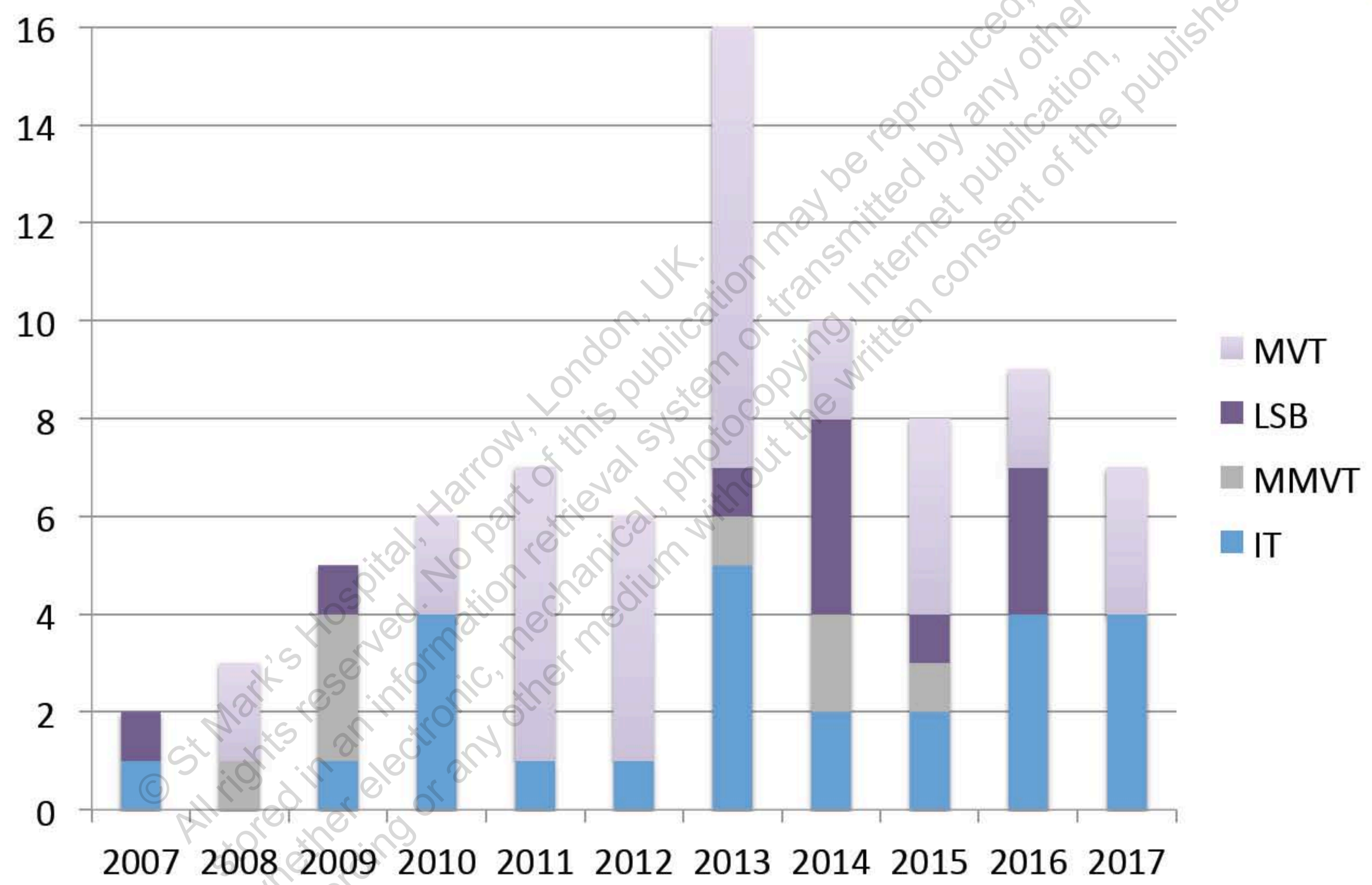
Patients requiring a Whipple's procedure with concurrent extensive portomesenteric venous thrombosis

# Outcome of referrals



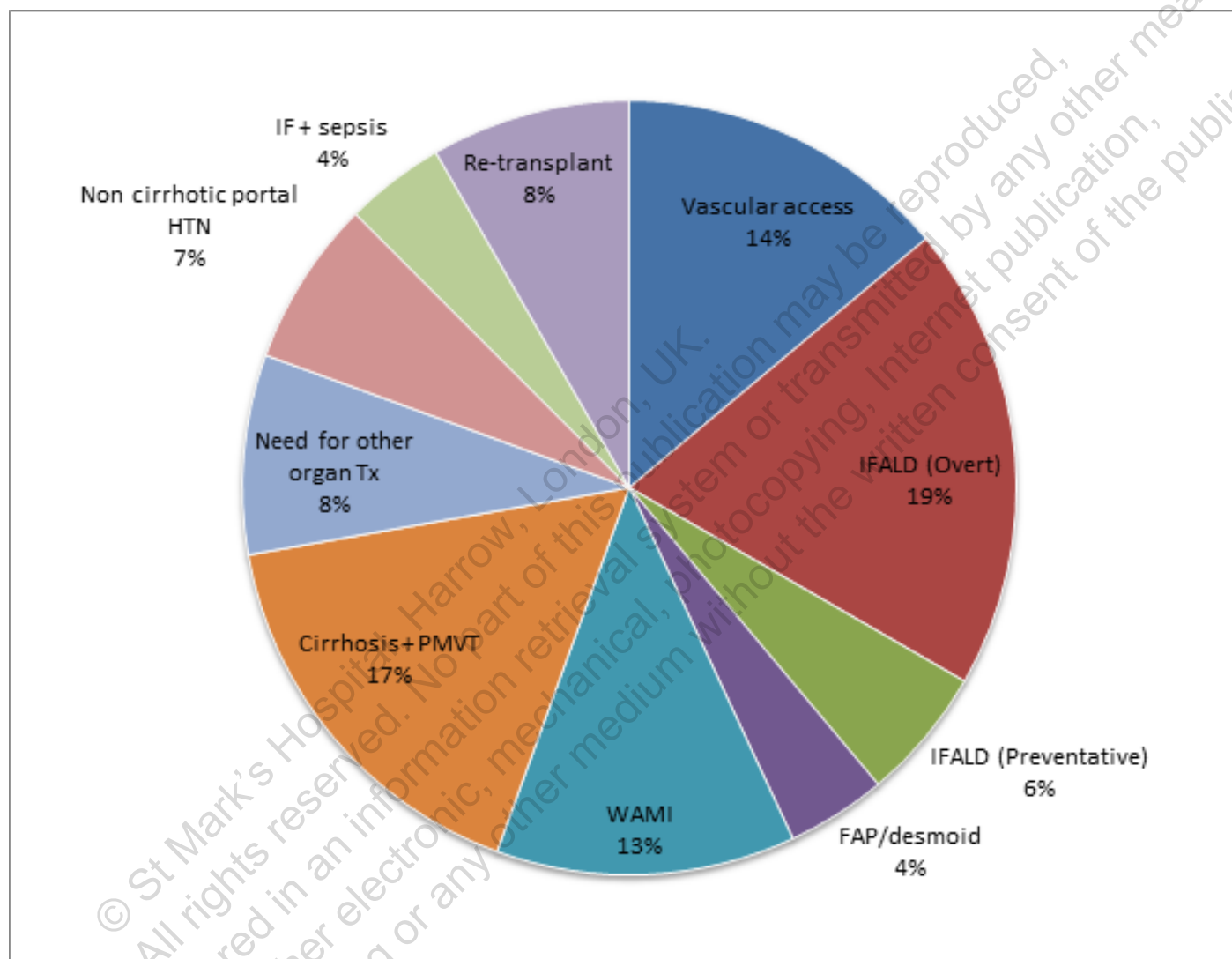


# Numbers transplanted by year



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# Indications at CUH 2007-2017





# Standard assessment pathway

## Preliminary

### Discussion:

Adequacy of imaging

Discussion of options

Agreement on investigations

Invite for assessment

## 2 week assessment:

Cardiovascular

Respiratory

Radiology

Anaesthetic review

Hepatology

Nutrition

Psychiatry

Haematology

Pathology

Chronic pain

Extensive discussions re consent

## Discussion at local MDT:

Multi-visceral

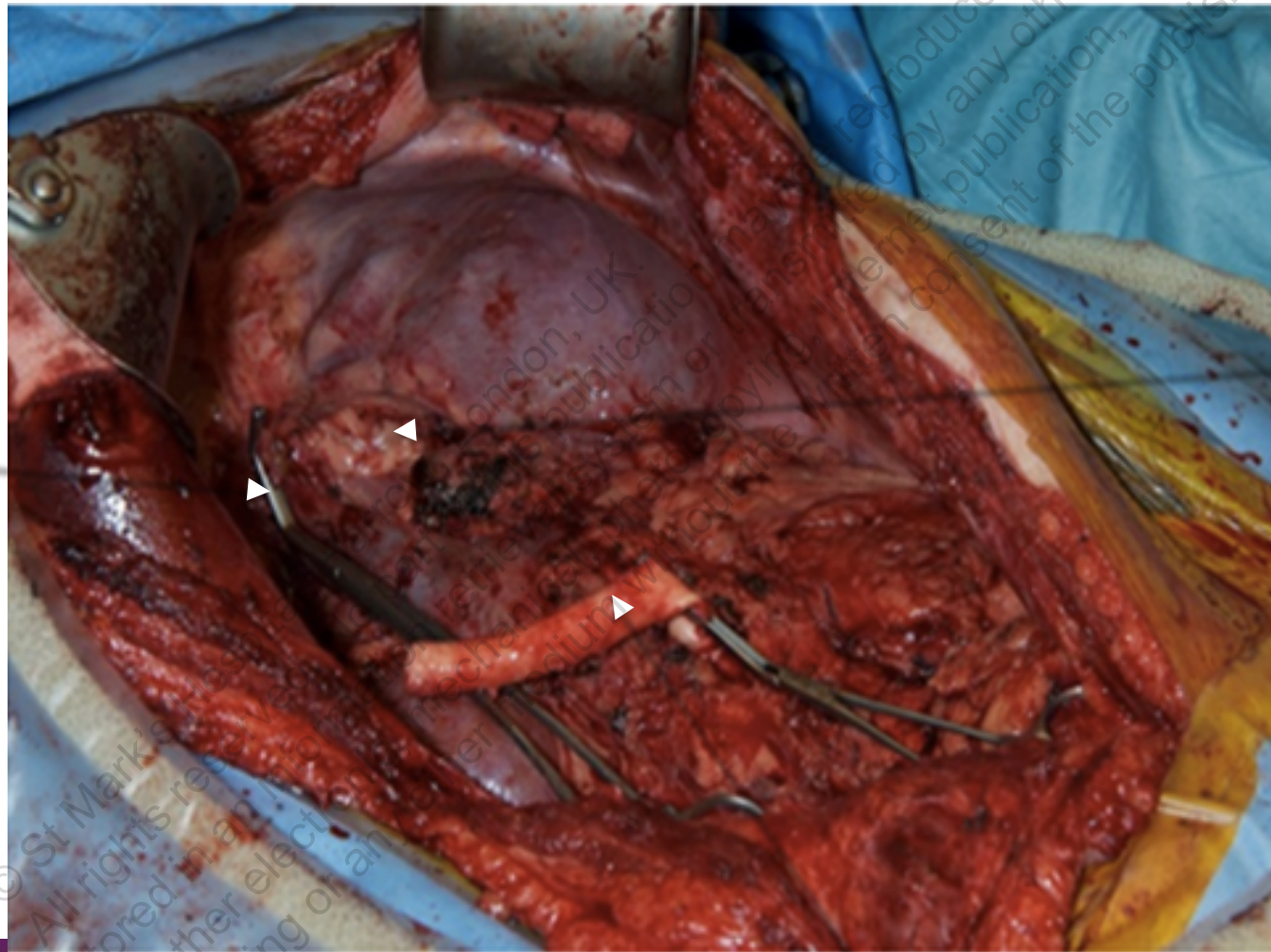
Liver

Renal

# NASIT

Listing

# The Transplant: Eviscerated abdomen



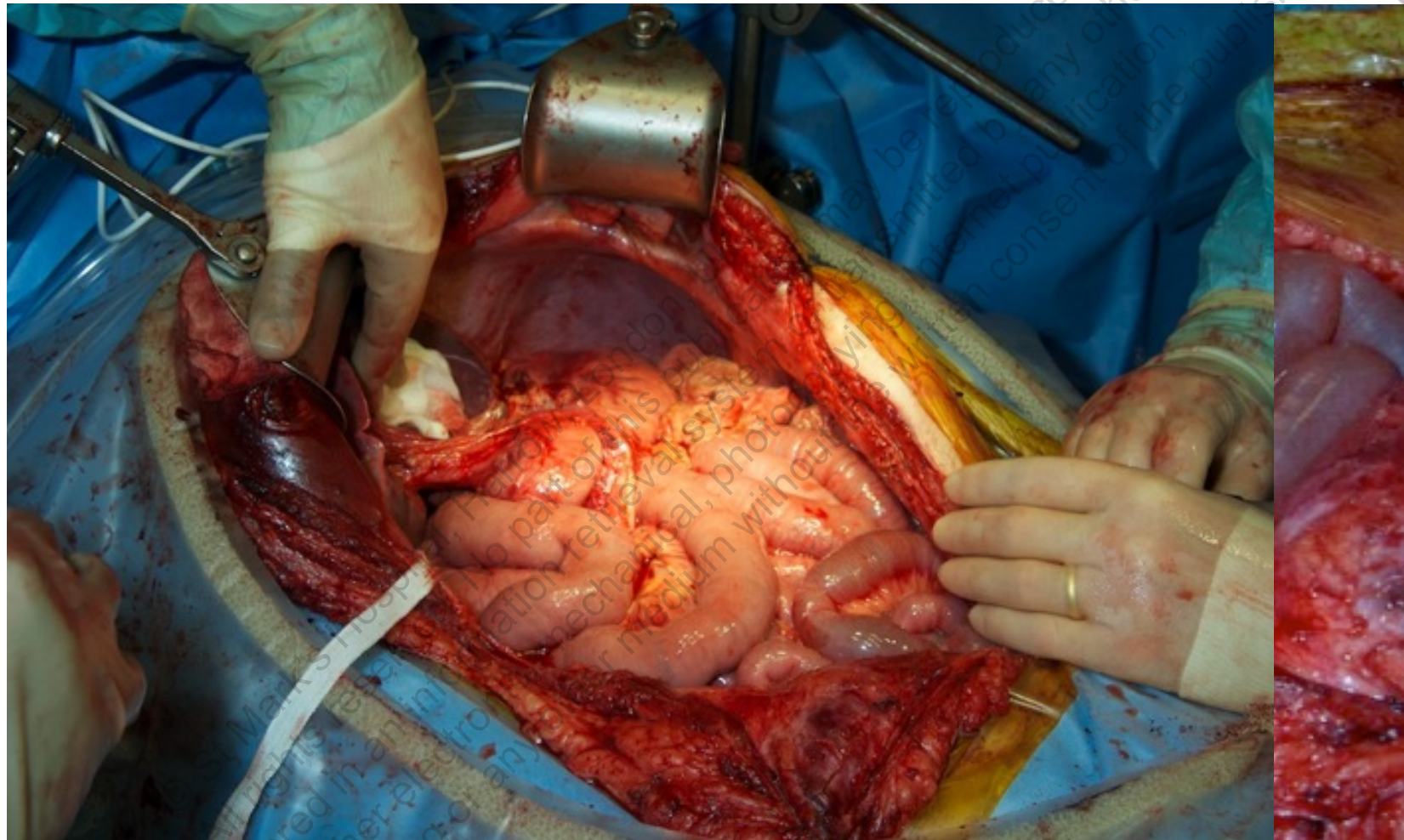
Clamp on  
Hepatic veins

Stapled off  
oesophagus

Arterial Conduit (donor thoracic aorta)



# Reperfusion



# *Surgical problems*

Time

And

Space

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# *Immunosuppression*

- Induction
  - Lymphocyte depletion (Campath / Alemtuzumab, anti-CD52) 1-2 doses
  - + Methylprednisolone 500mg
- Maintenance
  - Tacrolimus (trough level 8-12)
  - Methylprednisolone 20mg BD for first week, then taper
  - Antimetabolite from 4 weeks
- Antibiotic/Antifungal/CMV and PCP prophylaxis

# *Post-Transplant Complications*

Not unique to Intestinal or MVT but higher rates?

- Acute cellular rejection
- Atypical (and typical!) infections
- Graft-versus-host-disease
- Coagulopathy +/- thrombotic tendencies
- Drug-induced leucopenia
- Posterior Reversible Encephalopathy Syndrome
- Post-transplant TTP
- Renal Failure
- CMV
- Encephalopathy – iatrogenic Portosystemic shunt, encephalopathy of acute rejection

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# *Graft Rejection*

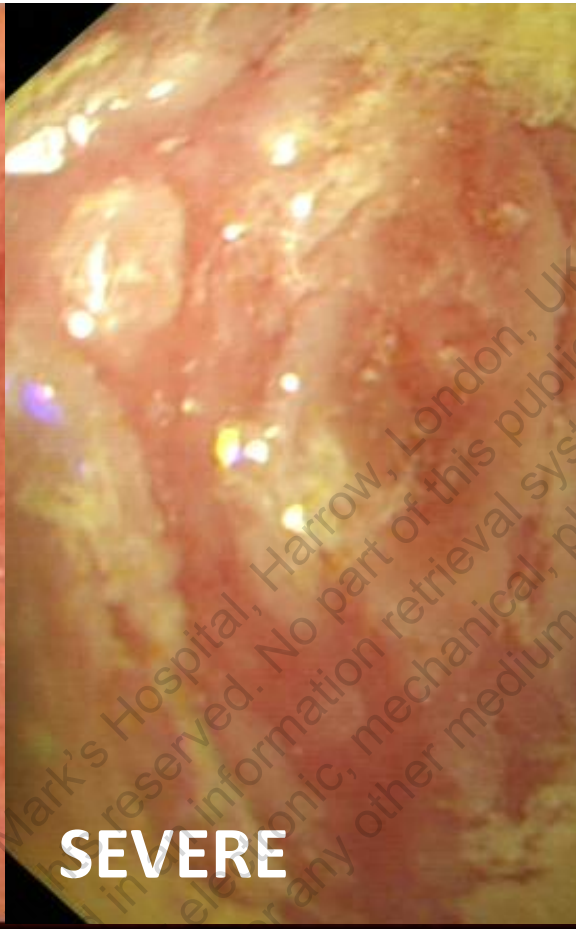
- 30-40% our patients experience an episode of acute cellular rejection (ACR) in the first year
- Presentation:
  - Asymptomatic
  - High output stoma, abdominal pain, fever
  - Severe sepsis (secondary to translocation)
- Diagnosis:
  - Graft endoscopy & biopsy – epithelial apoptosis
  - CT, US
  - Biomarkers?



# *Endoscopic appearances of rejection*



**MILD**



**SEVERE**

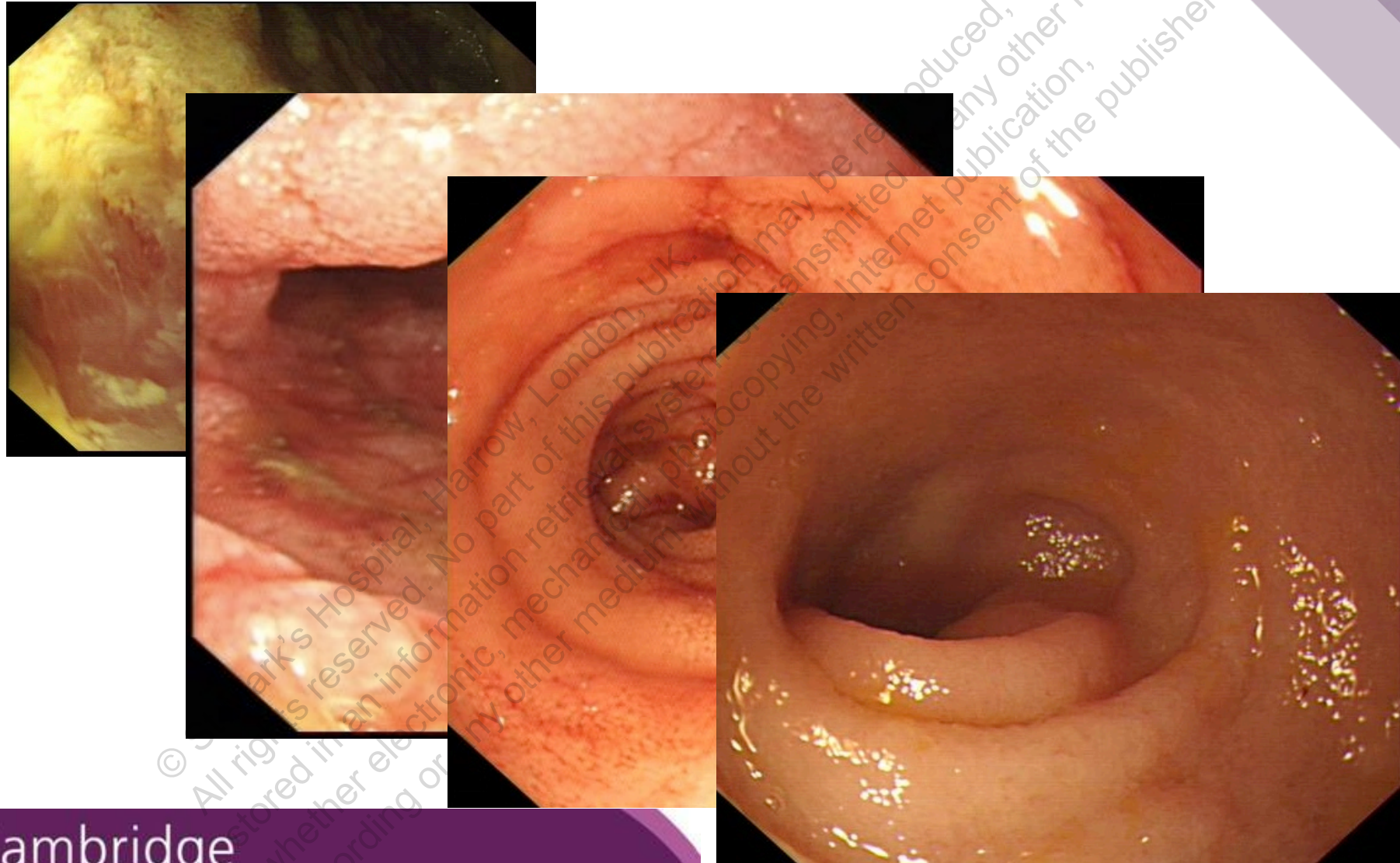


**EXFOLIATIVE**

# Recovery from rejection

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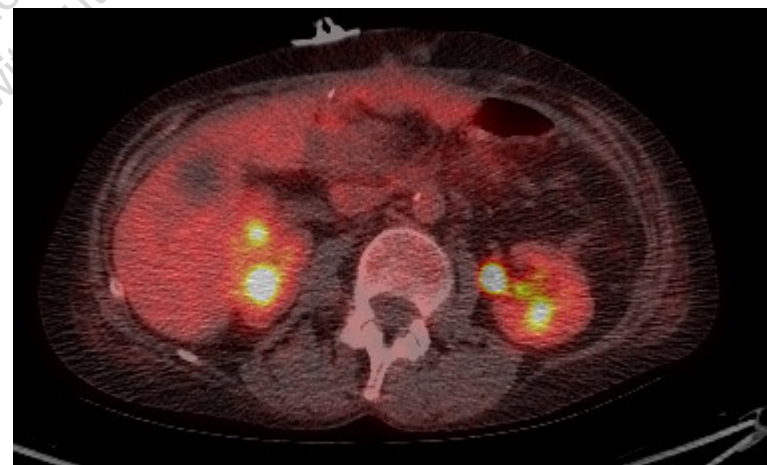
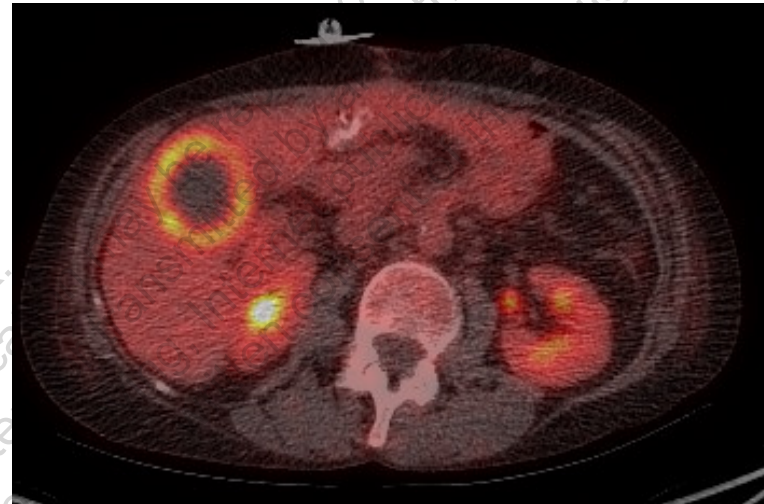
# Graft versus Host Disease

- 10% incidence post ITx
- Presentation
  - Rash (biopsy-interface dermatitis, FISH)
  - Other sites – native GI tract, liver, lungs, eyes, kidney, bone marrow
  - Peripheral T cell chimerism
- Management options
  - Increase immunosuppression
  - Decrease/stop immunosuppression
  - Novel therapies



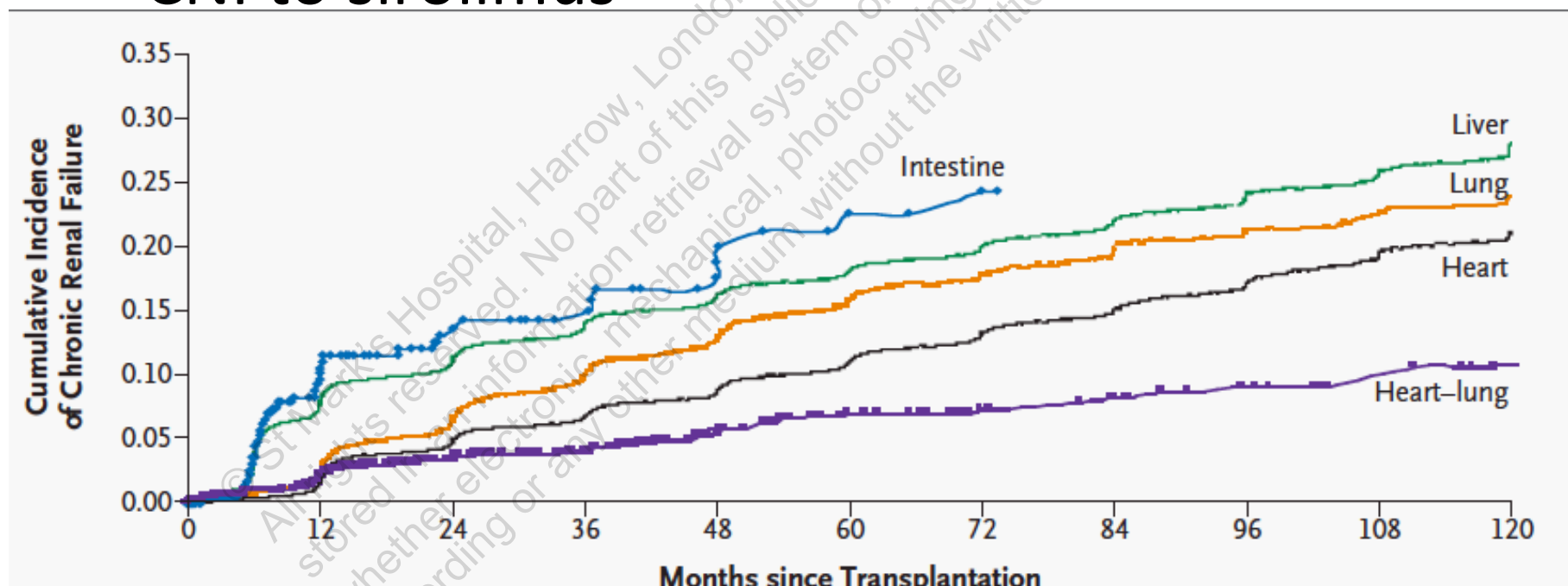
# *(EBV-driven) PTLD*

- 10%
- Treatment:
  - Reduce IS
  - Rituximab



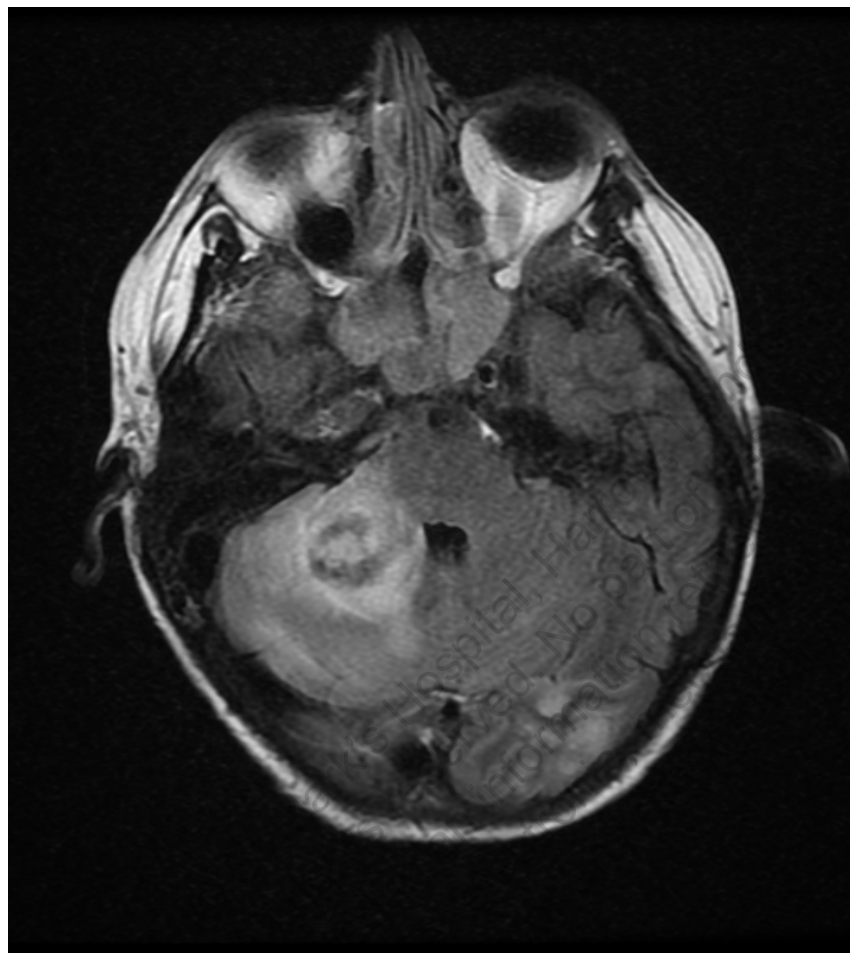
## Renal Dysfunction post ITx

- More common than any other SOT
- Strategies to improve – inclusion of colon, restoring continuity, hyperhydration, switch CNI to sirolimus





# Infections



- Increasing problem with ESBL, VRE, CRE
- Candida and aspergillus most common fungal infections
- Presence of microbiologists and infectious diseases teams at MDT crucial

RESPIRATORY MICROARRAY (BAL) (Order 43777084)

Results

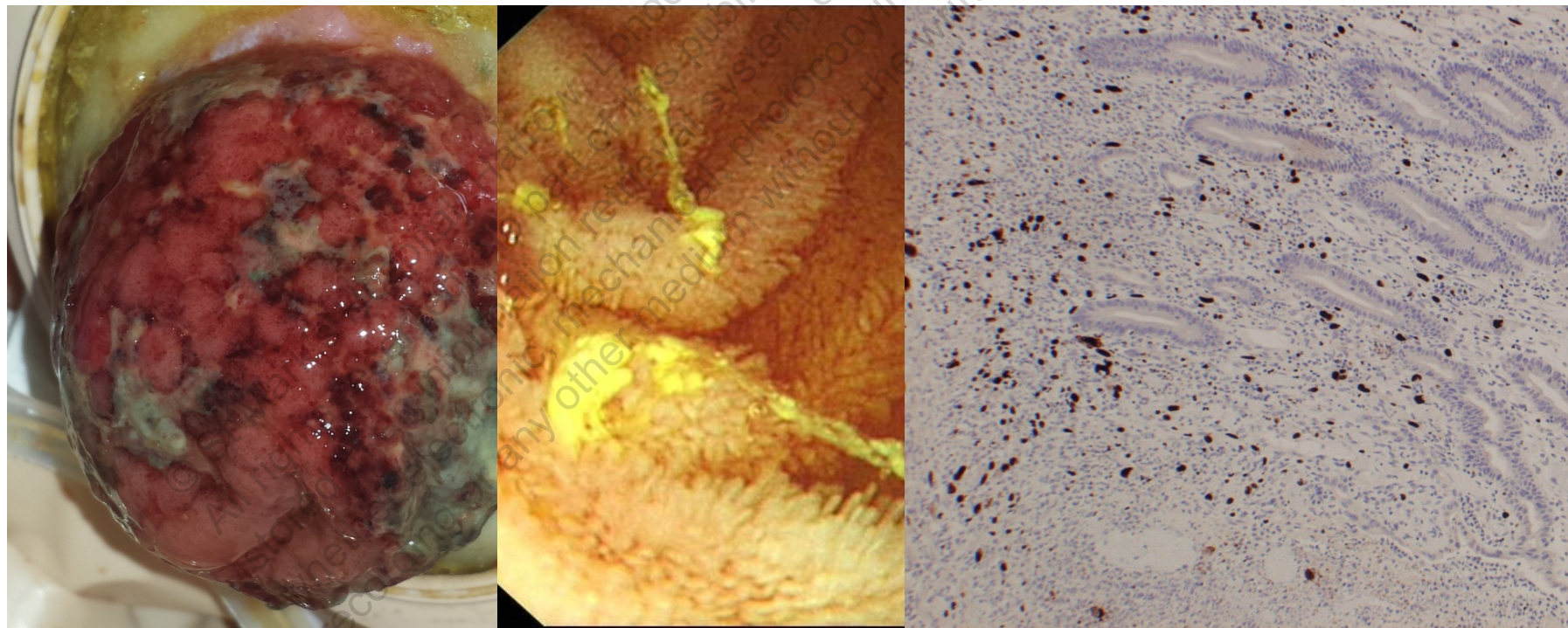
19/3/2016 08:50

Component Results

Component	Value	Ref Rai
Influenza A generic	Detected (A)	-
Flu A (CDC DC) CT	24	-
FLU A (Q AM2) CT	23	-
Influenza A H1v RNA	Detected (A)	-
FLU A(H12009 ABI) CT	25	-
Influenza B RNA	Not detected	-
RSV RNA	Not detected	-
Parainfluenza virus RNA	Not detected	-
Human metapneumovirus RNA	Not detected	-
Adenovirus DNA, respiratory	Detected (A)	-
Adenovirus CT	16	-
Adenovirus #2 CT	15	-
Enterovirus RNA	Not detected	-
Parvovirus RNA	Not detected	-
Rhinovirus RNA	Not detected	-
Coronavirus RNA	Not detected	-
Coronavirus GP-1 RNA	Not detected	-
Pneumocystis jirovecii DNA	Not detected	-
Bocavirus DNA	Not detected	-
Bordetella spp.	Not detected	-
Bordetella pertussis	Not detected	-
Legionella pneumophila	Not detected	-
Mycoplasma Pneumoniae DNA	Not detected	-
Chlamydia pneumoniae DNA	Not detected	-
Chlamydia psittaci DNA	Not detected	-
Coxiella DNA	Not detected	-
Staphylococcus aureus	Not detected	-
Staphylococcus PVL Gene	Not detected	-
Streptococcus pneumoniae DNA	Not detected	-
Streptococcus pyogenes	Not detected	-
Haemophilus influenzae	Not detected	-
Aspergillus species	Detected (A)	-
Aspergillus 28S CT	26	-

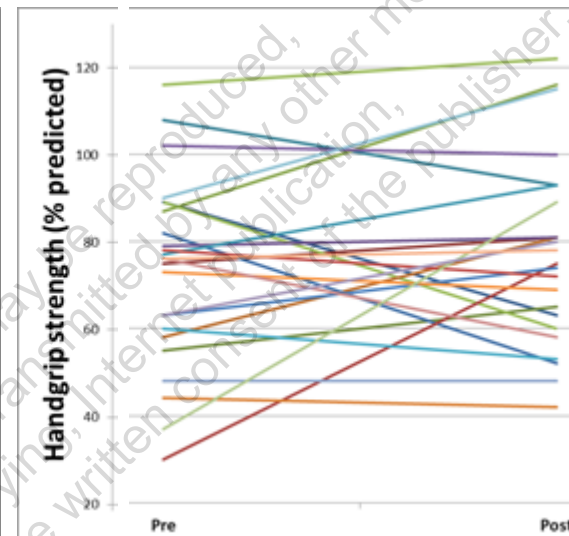
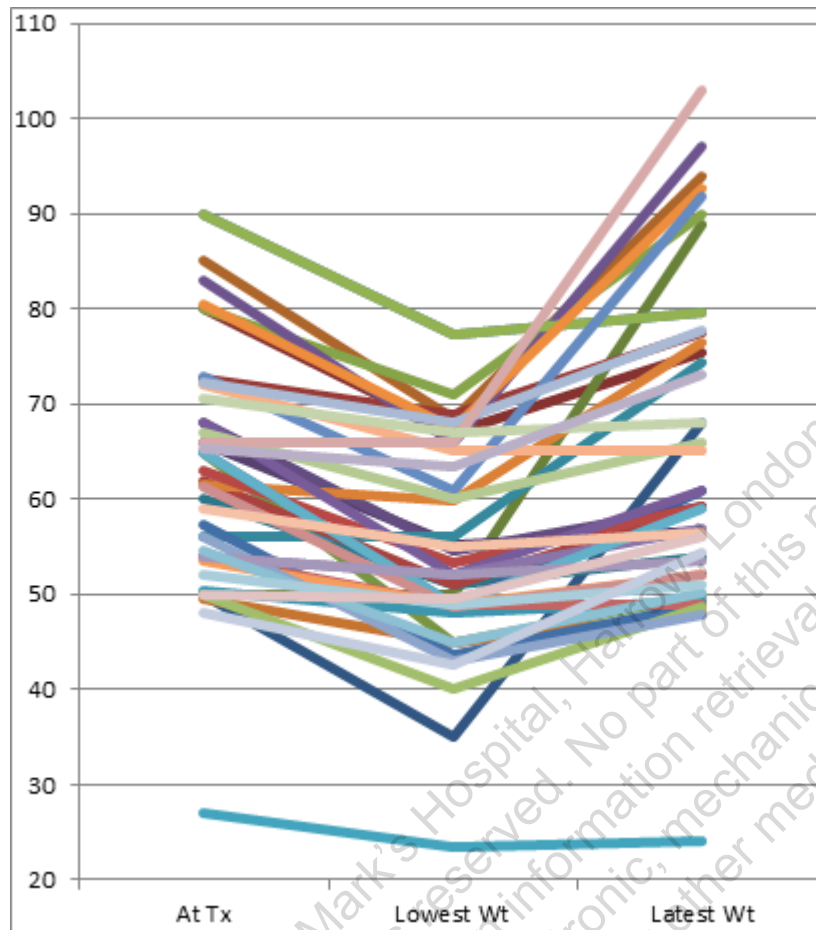
## *Cytomegalovirus (CMV)*

- Most common viral infection
- Overall rate has fallen with matching
- GCV-resistant cases problematic





## Nutritional outcomes



### Handgrip Strength

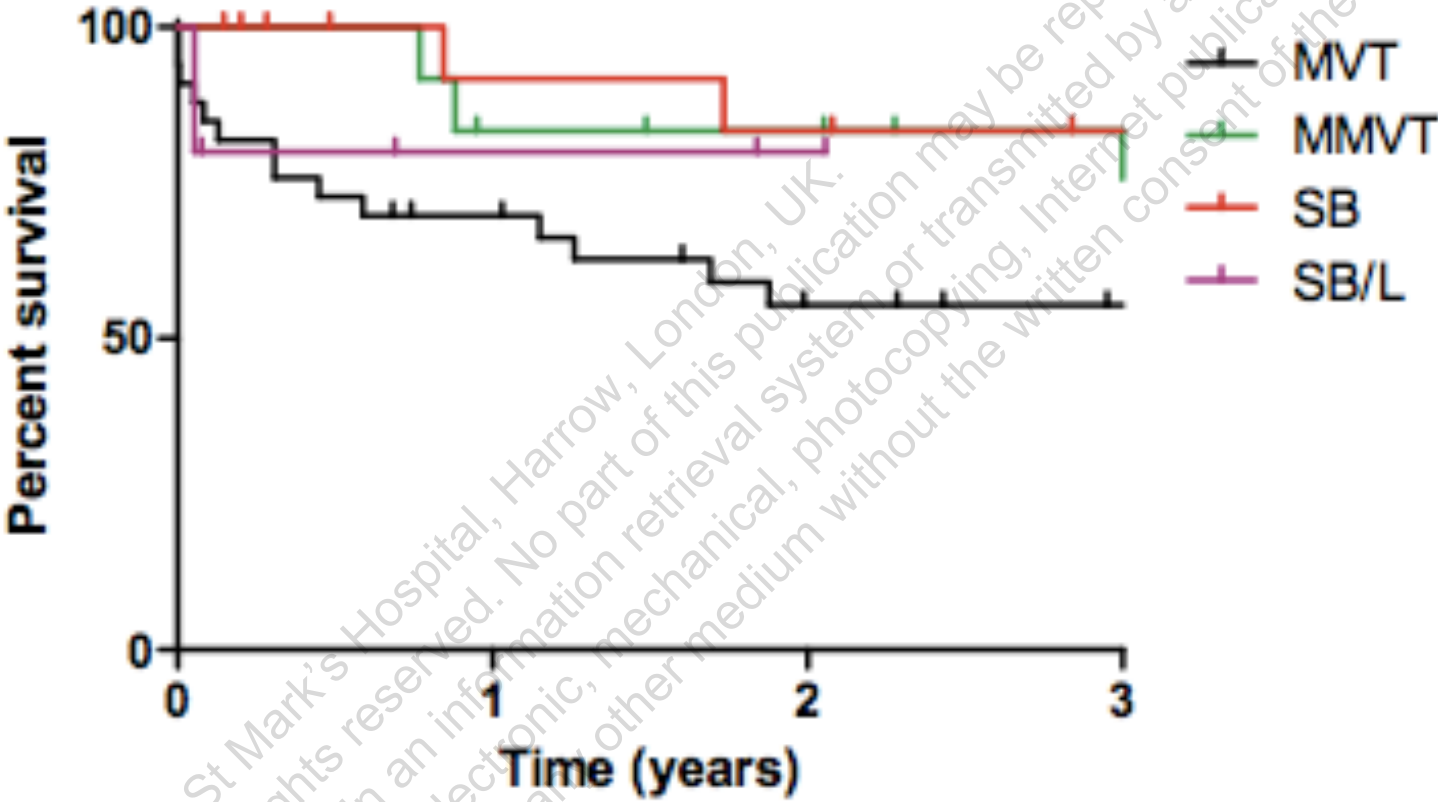
Pre-Tx (n=38): Mean HGS 77% of expected value

Post Tx at median of 9.3 months (38):

Mean HGS 73%

Post Tx at 21 months (20): Mean HGS 84%

**Patient three-year survival, including super urgent patients, following first intestinal transplant, by ITR group, for patients transplanted between 1 January 2006 and 31 March 2016 at Cambridge transplant unit**





# *Intestinal Transplant in 2017*

- Outcomes for Intestine-only grafts remain better than liver containing grafts
  - Esp important in IF patients (**watch the liver!**)
- Indications are expanding but other options should still be explored first
- Timely referral is key (but can be difficult!)
- Developing strategies for managing complications
- We are happy to discuss any case



# Acknowledgements

CIFT

Cambridge Intestinal Failure & Transplant

## Transplant Physicians

*Dr Stephen Middleton*

*Dr Jeremy Woodward*

*Dr Dunecan Massey*

*Dr Lisa Sharkey*

## Transplant Surgeons

*Mr Andrew Butler*

*Mr Neil Russell*

*Mr Neville Jamieson*

*Mr Paul Gibbs*

*Prof Chris Watson*

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*Dr Ed Godfrey*

*Dr Effrosyni Gkrania-Klostas*

*Dr David Enoch*

*Dr Will Gelson*

*Dr Jo Leithead*

*All fellows past and present*

*Our patients and their families!*

Cambridge

Transplant Centre [www.cuh.org.uk/transplant](http://www.cuh.org.uk/transplant)

# *Fellowships available!*

- Starting March or September each year
- 6 months or 1 year
- Intestinal Failure and Transplant experience
- Email [lisa.sharkey@addenbrookes.nhs.uk](mailto:lisa.sharkey@addenbrookes.nhs.uk) if you are interested