

Over 35,000 Cardio-thoracic Surgical Procedures Reached

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Quality Improvement Programme (QUIP) Engages 20 Hospitals

Cardio-thoracic surgical units from 20 different hospitals have contributed over 35,000 cardio-thoracic surgical procedures to the QUIP tool, with additional units from over 10 different countries confirming their participation in QUIP. The QUIP tool provides anonymised benchmarking capabilities for participating hospitals to encourage the improvement of clinical outcomes for patients, and to promote the importance of integrating quality improvement initiatives into daily clinical practice.

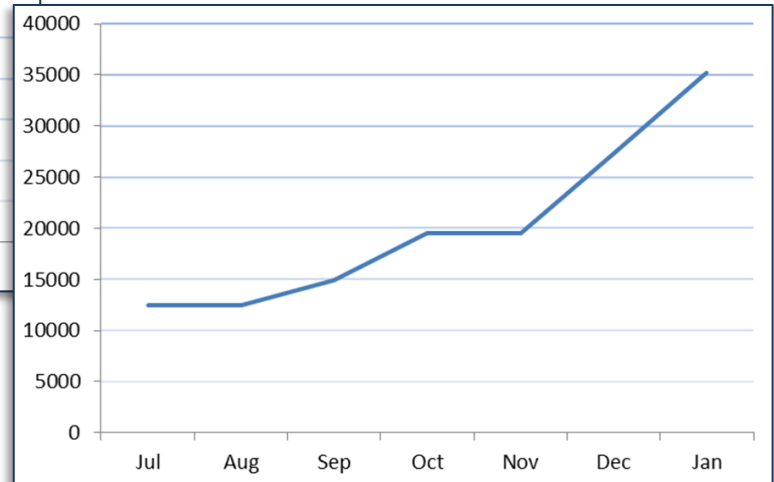
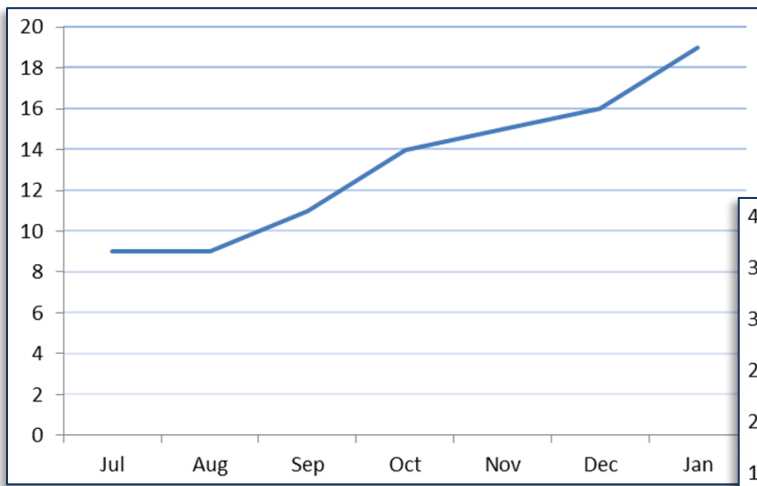
QUIP now accepts cardio-thoracic surgical data from 2010 onwards.

Over the last 6 months, QUIP recruitment has doubled and the number of cardio-thoracic surgical procedures contained in the QUIP tool has almost trebled.

This highlights the determination from the QUIP team to recruit hospitals, and willingness from European cardio-thoracic surgical units to participate in QUIP.

Map locating the 20 hospitals engaged in QUIP





Graphs indicating the increases in recruitment and cardio-thoracic procedures over the last 6 months

EACTS developed a file specification of baseline and valvular data fields with respect to cardio-thoracic surgical interventions. The 3 initial hospitals were used to test the recruitment procedure and all demonstrated the efficiency of this process, which is subdivided into the following steps:

1. Contact EACTS (QUIP@EACTS.co.uk)
2. Provide a data overview/sample for mapping
3. Confirm mapping
4. Sign QUIP charter agreement
5. Upload anonymised data to QUIP team
6. Access database tool using supplied logins

Since then, the QUIP tool has been positively received by cardio-thoracic surgeons at the 29th EACTS annual meeting, as well as in clinical practice. For more information, please visit QUIP's website (www.EACTS.org/QUIP) where an introductory video and information on the 6 member led groups to support corresponding quality improvement projects can be found.

WebEx Session

Statistical Intelligence Analyst Hina Waheed (Hina.Waheed@UHB.NHS.uk) will be holding a WebEx session with all hospitals participating in QUIP, to demonstrate the numerous features and uses of the QUIP tool. For more information on when this will take place and how to participate, please contact Hina using the provided email address.

Data Satisfaction and Quality Control Group

A data satisfaction and quality control group is currently being established, and will be formed of members of the QUIP team, Healthcare Evaluation Data team and the Dutch Heart Interventions Advisory Committee. The first objective of the group will be to write a protocol assessing the quality of the raw and formatted data for all hospitals participating in QUIP.

Future Recruitment

Talks with a further 22 hospitals are currently taking place; together with cardio-thoracic surgical data we are awaiting the arrival of from several other cardio-thoracic surgical units, indicators of the QUIP tool's longevity and success are very promising.

'Supporting surgeon and patient's decision making processes for individual cases'

