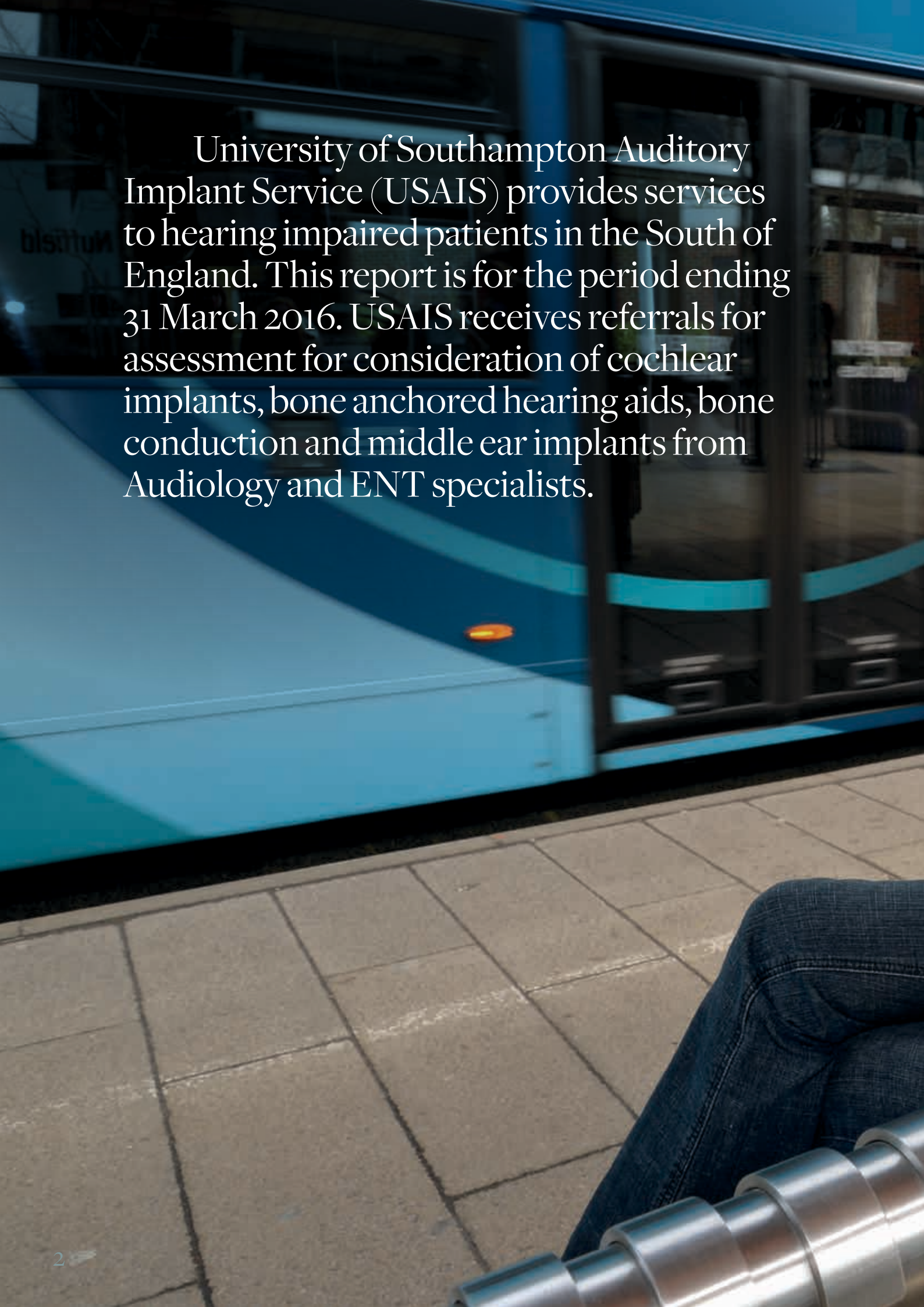
Auditory Implant Service

UNIVERSITY OF Southampton

University of Southampton Auditory Implant Service

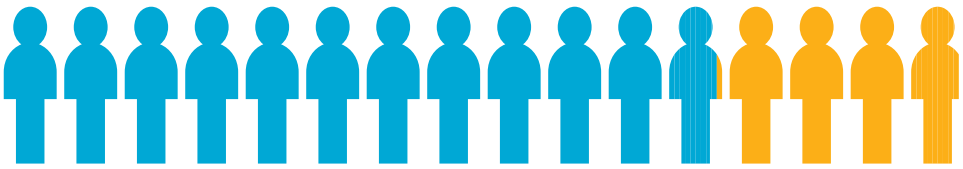
Activity Report 2015/16



University of Southampton Auditory Implant Service (USAIS) provides services to hearing impaired patients in the South of England. This report is for the period ending 31 March 2016. USAIS receives referrals for assessment for consideration of cochlear implants, bone anchored hearing aids, bone conduction and middle ear implants from Audiology and ENT specialists.

Patient details

Referrals for Cochlear Implant Assessment



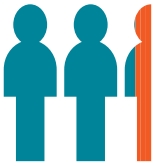
Key

CI Adults

CI Paediatric

10 people

Referrals and Transfers to Bone Conduction Hearing Devices Service



Key

Referrals

Transfers

10 people

Bone Conduction Hearing Devices (BCHD) includes Bone Anchored, Middle Ear and Bone Conduction Hearing Implants. During the period 2015/2016 we had two referrals for middle ear implants.

Discharges

62 patients referred for cochlear implant assessment were discharged prior to cochlear implantation in 2015/6. The reasons for discharge were: 25 of the patients were audiologically not within NICE TAG 166; two patients had additional difficulties or medical needs, and 35 patients decided not to proceed for personal reasons including investigating alternative treatment, family issues and concerns regarding surgery.

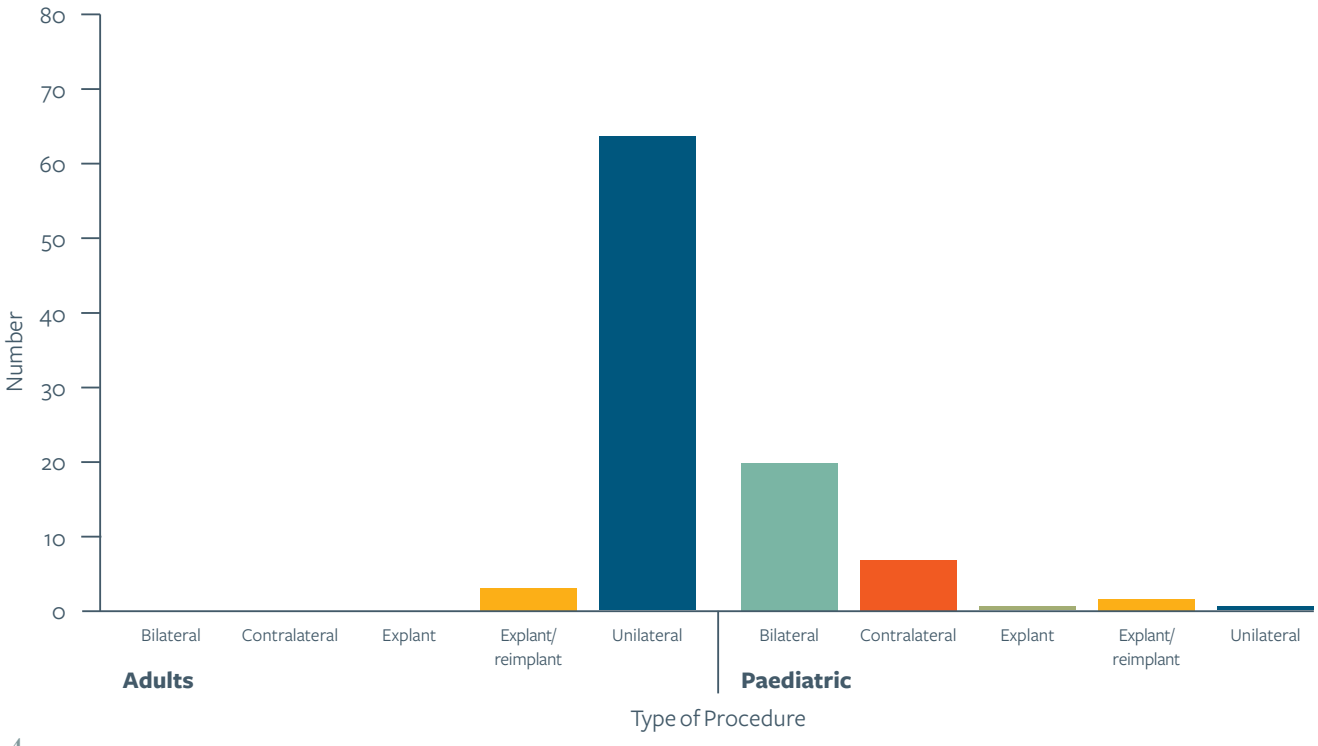
Transferred patients

During the year 2015/6, 20 patients were transferred into USAIS who had already been implanted with a cochlear implant prior to referral; 17 of these were adults and three were paediatric patients. Nine patients transferred from our service (three adults, four paediatric and two BCHD patients) and five patients deceased.

Referrals

100% of referrals for Cochlear Implant Assessment were acknowledged within five working days. 99% of patients referred for a cochlear implant assessment were offered an appointment within six weeks.

Cochlear Implant Operations in 2015/16



Through providing cochlear implants we aim to improve the quality of life of our patients.

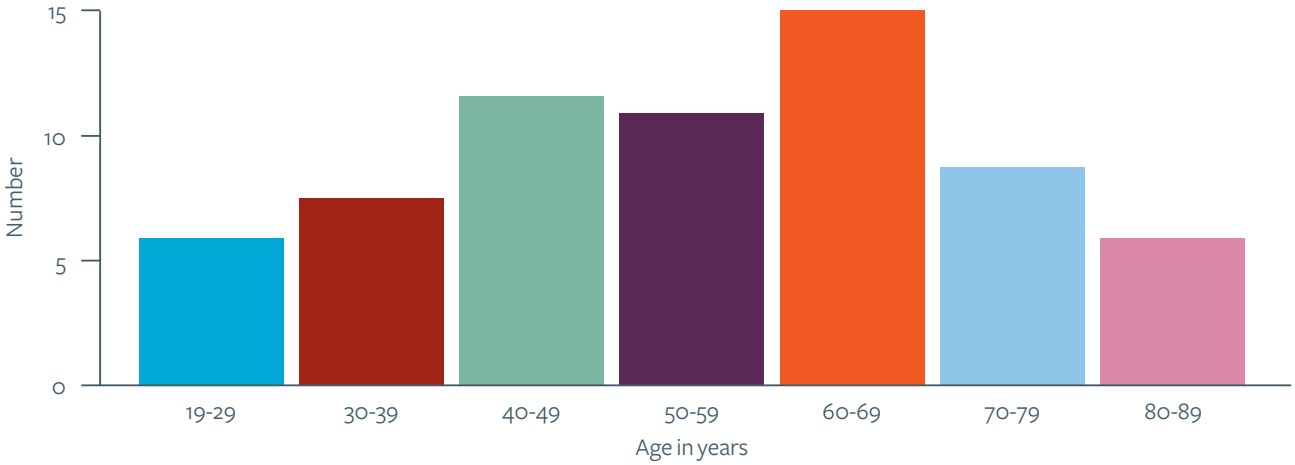
Contralateral implants

In total, seven children that had already been implanted previously had contralateral implants to enable hearing in both ears.

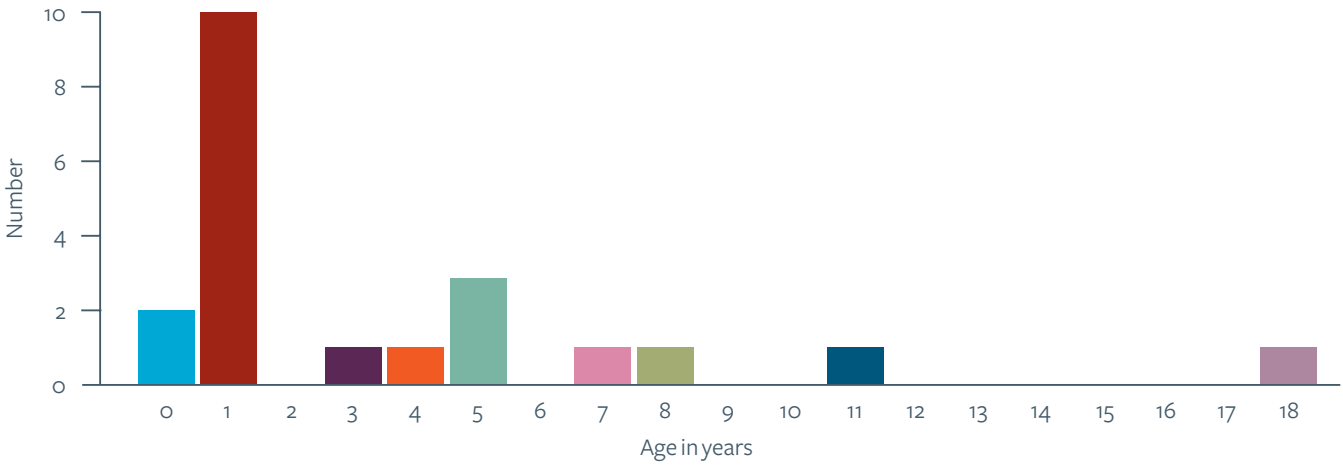
Age at Implant

As the graph below shows, patients of all ages received implants during the year 2015/6. It should be noted that most children are implanted in their second year and most adults are implanted between 60 and 69 years of age. USAIS are trying to reduce the age of implantation in children in order to improve their potential.

Adults by Age at Implant 2015/6



Children by Age at Implant 2015/6



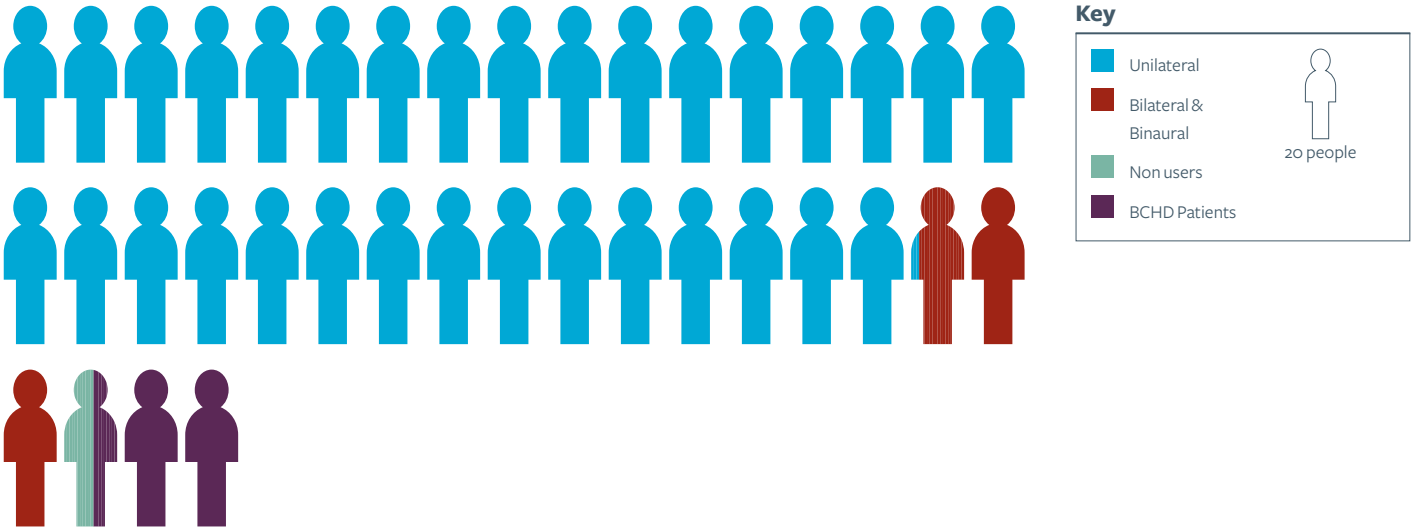
Successful Surgery—BCHD

Successful surgery for BAHA (Bone Anchored Hearing Aids) is measured in terms of abutment change and skin graft. During the period 01/04/2011 – 31/03/2015, 21 BAHAs were fitted with an abutment and one patient underwent abutment change.

Patients on programme

Patients with cochlear implants and bone conduction hearing devices need access to a maintenance programme. Patients have regular reviews to ensure that their device is continuing to function optimally. The graph below shows all of our current patients on programme.

Cochlear Implant maintenance

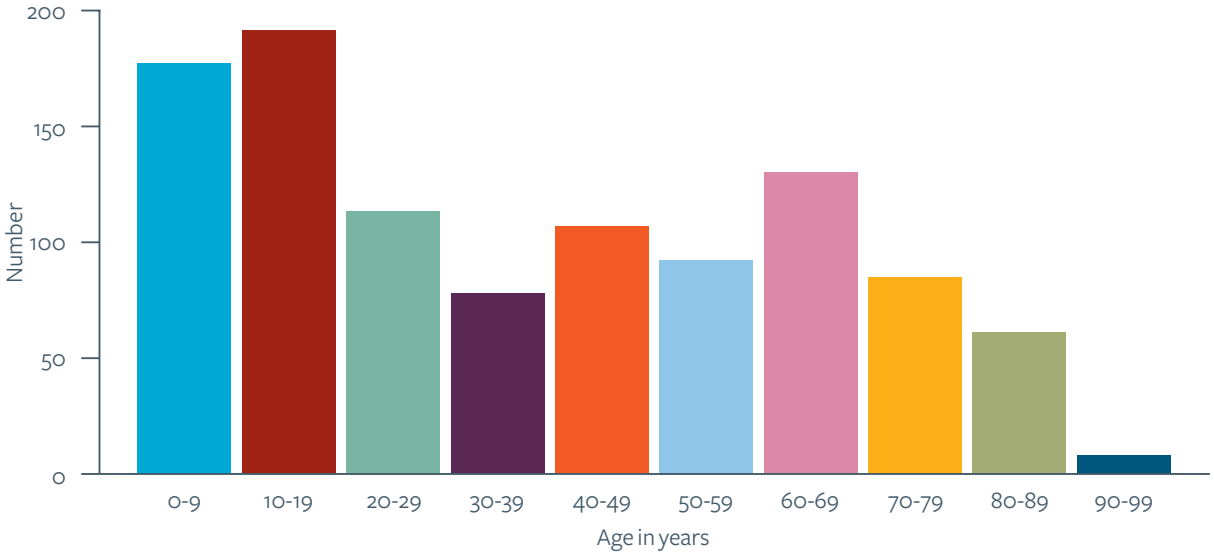


Adults

Children

USAIS is an all age service and our we have CI users in all sections of the age spectrum.

Current Age of Cochlear Implant Users on Programme 2015/6



Repairs

The target for all replacement processor requests to be dealt with within three working days in the Service Specification is more than 80%. During the period 2015/6 we dealt with 100% of these requests within three working days.

Upgrades

USAIS have an upgrade policy where patients are eligible for an upgrade if they have had their processor(s) for more than five years and there is a newer processor suitable for their implant. Baha processors are replaced every four years. Over the past year USAIS has been able to upgrade 138 patients with the latest technology available for their implant.

Failures, Re-implantations and Non-Users

In the year 2015/6 eight patients had their cochlear implants removed due to device problems. Five were subsequently reimplanted in the same ear and two have a slight delay in reimplant due to health problems. One patient has not been reimplanted as they are a non-user.

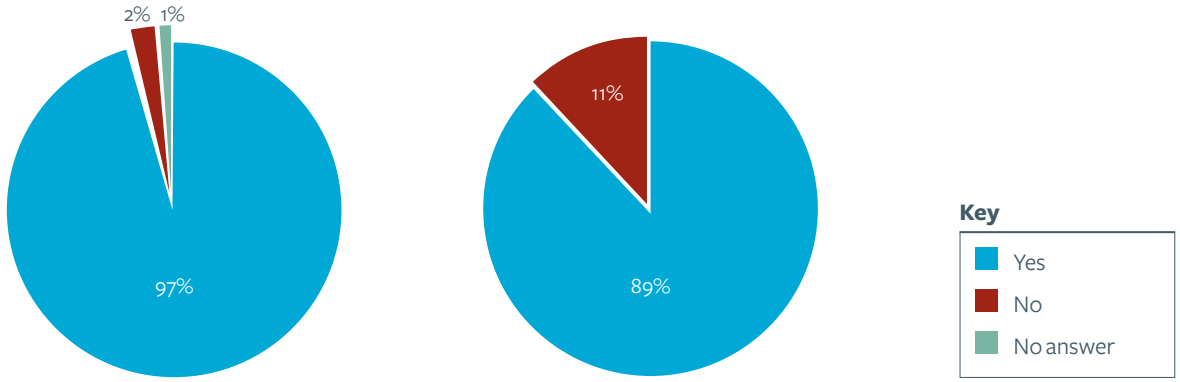
Of the eight patients who had an explant, three were for medical reasons. Two patients had a device failure and two had performance decrement. One patient had a device which failed in 2004 and became a non user, only explanting due to pain. There are 20 patients who are no longer able to make use of their cochlear implants who have not had their implants removed and have thus become non-users. A further four patients are known to us but have now become lost to follow up.

Key Service Outcomes

The outcomes of Cochlear Implant patients are measured at the 12 month review. The following graphs represent the outcomes. Two adults have not been reported on in these graphs as one has become a non-user and another did not attend their appointment as is not contactable

Listening

Our key service outcome is to have 80% of all patients with thresholds of 40 dBHL or better in implanted ears. Using the data of patients who have had their 12 month review within the period 2015/2016 , USAIS met this target in both adults and children.



Adult
(n=71) aided thresholds - 40dB(HL)

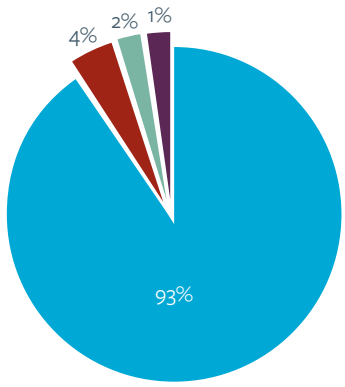
Paediatric
(n=19) aided thresholds - 40dB(HL)

Out of 25 paediatric patients within the year 2015/2016—six were not applicable for aided thresholds measures due to being too young or developmentally delayed for testing.

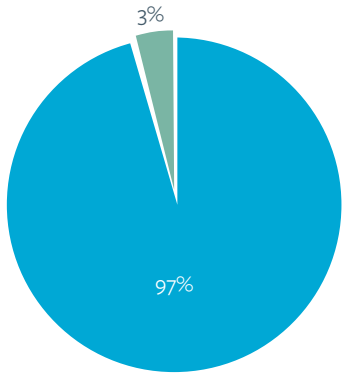
User Satisfaction and Benefit

For this Key Service Outcome the standard was 90%. As can be seen below USAIS met this target in both aspects for adults and children.

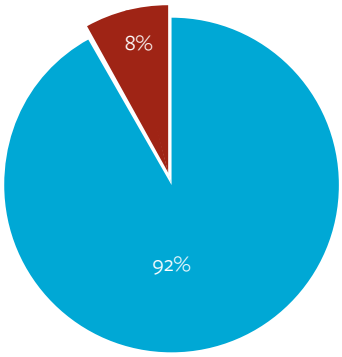
All of the children who have had their 12 month review within this period were found to be wearing their implant 'often' or 'always'.



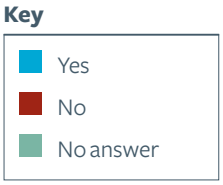
Adult
(n=71) How often do they wear implant?



Adult
(n=71) Benefitting a lot or a great deal

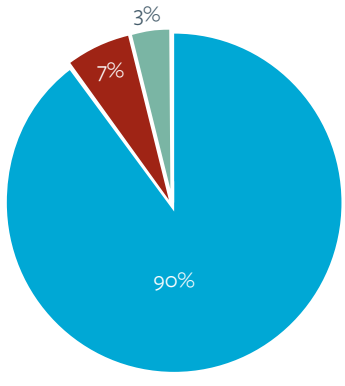


Paediatric
(n=25) Benefitting a lot or a great deal

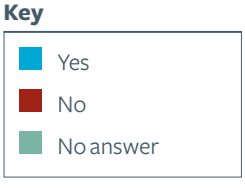


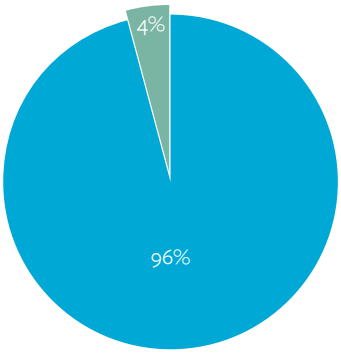
Improvement in Speech Perception and Quality of Life

It is expected that cochlear implants will help with speech perception and lead to improved quality of life. Using the data of all patients to have had their 12 month review within the period 2015/6 the results prove this.



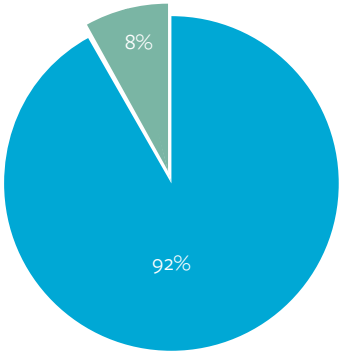
Adult
(n=71) Improved speech perception





Adult
(n=71) Improved quality of life

Key
- Yes
- No
- Neither agree or disagree



Paediatric
(n=25) Improved outcomes

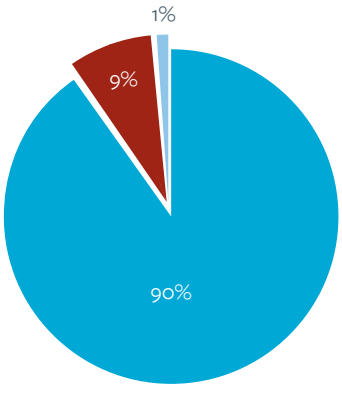
Key
- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

Audits

Patient Survey

Patients attending a review at USAIS are asked to complete a patient survey to enable USAIS to review the quality of the service provided. The Friends and Family Test was initially used and the results are shown below. 90% of the patients attending for review would be extremely likely to recommend USAIS to their family and friends should they require similar treatment.

How likely are you to recommend the University of Southampton Auditory Implant Service to a family or friend? (n=315)

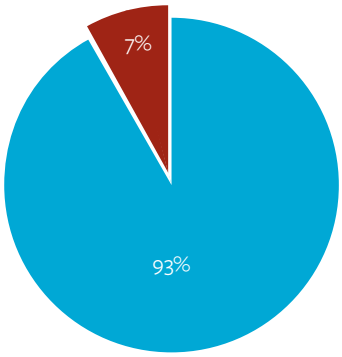


Annual

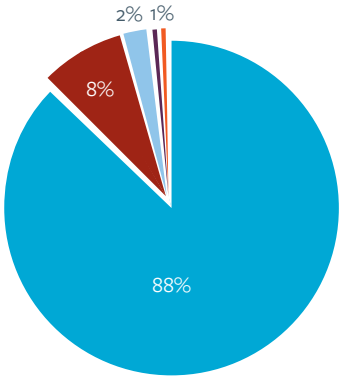
Key
- Extremely likely
- Likely
- Neither likely or unlikely
- Unlikely
- Extremely unlikely
- Don't know

Additional Questions

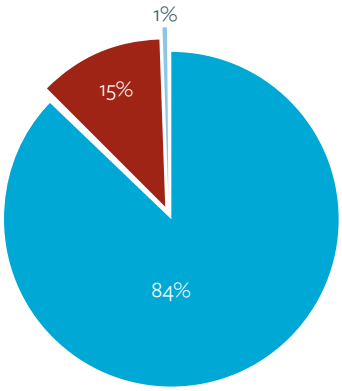
Some additional questions were asked giving USAIS further feedback about the service provided.



Do the Auditory Implant Staff treat you with Dignity and Respect? (n=260)



Are you involved in decisions about your care/your child's care? (n=252)



Do the Auditory Implant Staff work well together? (n=265)

Key

- Always
- Usually
- Sometimes
- Rarely
- Never

Summary

Data presented in this report show a high level of service provision and user satisfaction. USAIS continues to work to exceed required standards and develop the service to optimise benefit to patients and their families.

The following is a visual representation of the comments received on the patient survey.

Contact us

Please feel free to contact us for further information.
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