

**Survey of GP Referrals for Blood
Transfusion
South West Regional Transfusion
Committee
K Cowan PBMP SW RTC**

South West Regional Transfusion Committee

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To support educational requirements in primary care in relation to blood component transfusion

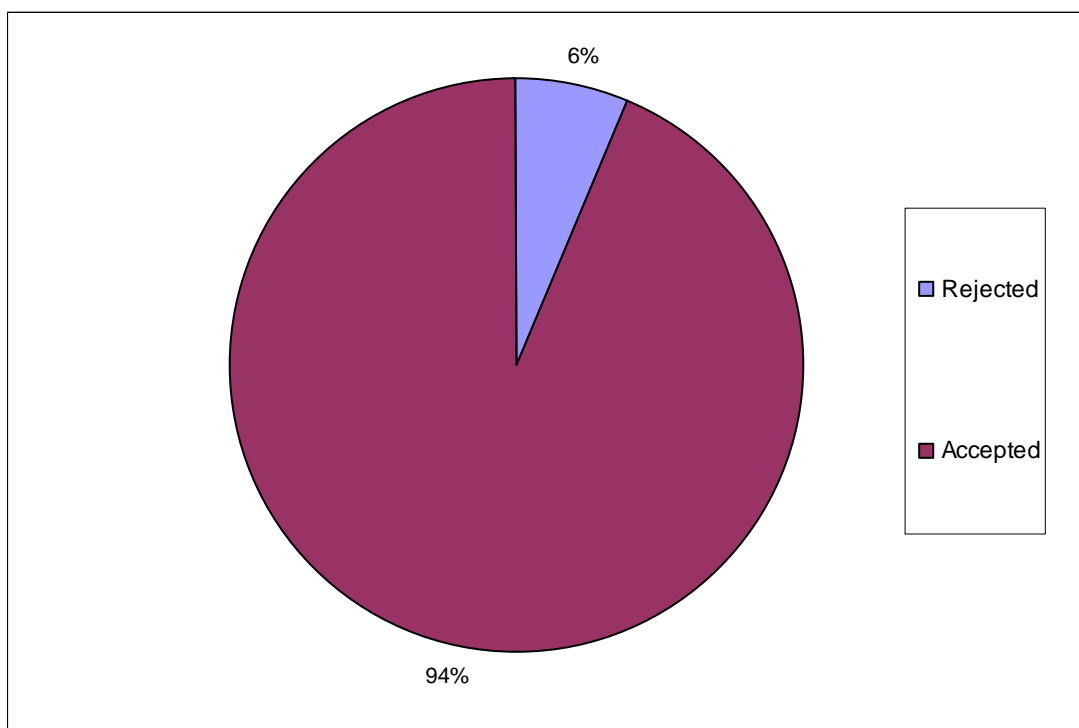
Hospital laboratory staff documented content of transfusion requests from primary care in terms of adequacy of request and indication for transfusion.

Data collected between April – June 2015

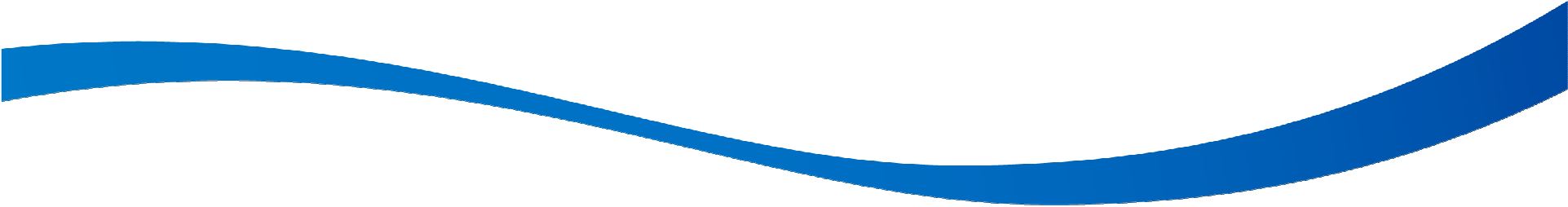
252 request forms were completed from 8 (38%) of organisations

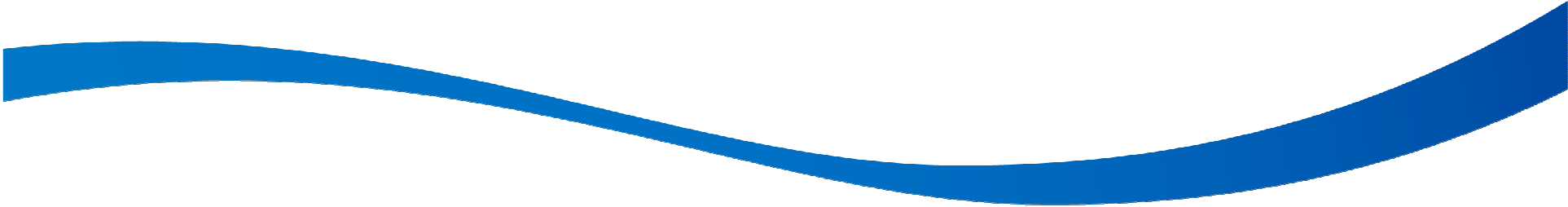
Accepted/rejected samples

NHS
Blood and Transplant

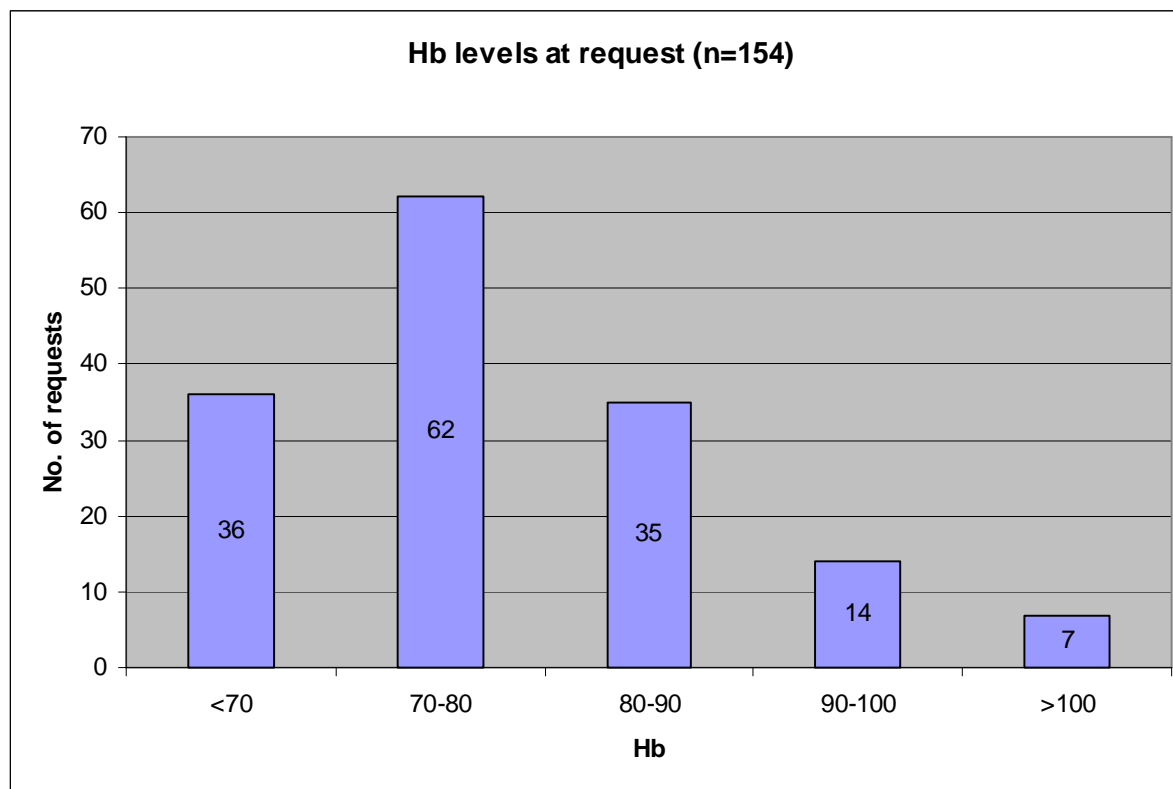


252 samples where
accepted/rejected
was stated

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- Of 170 requests; most common listed:
 - >> Cancer 30%
 - >> Anaemia 22%
 - >> MDS 15%
 - >> Renal 11%

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- Anaemia included:
“Fe deficiency” & “Chronic anaemia”
 - Other diagnosis/reasons included:
NHL/CML, Sepsis, GI bleeding
Palliative Care, IVF, “Frail & Pale”

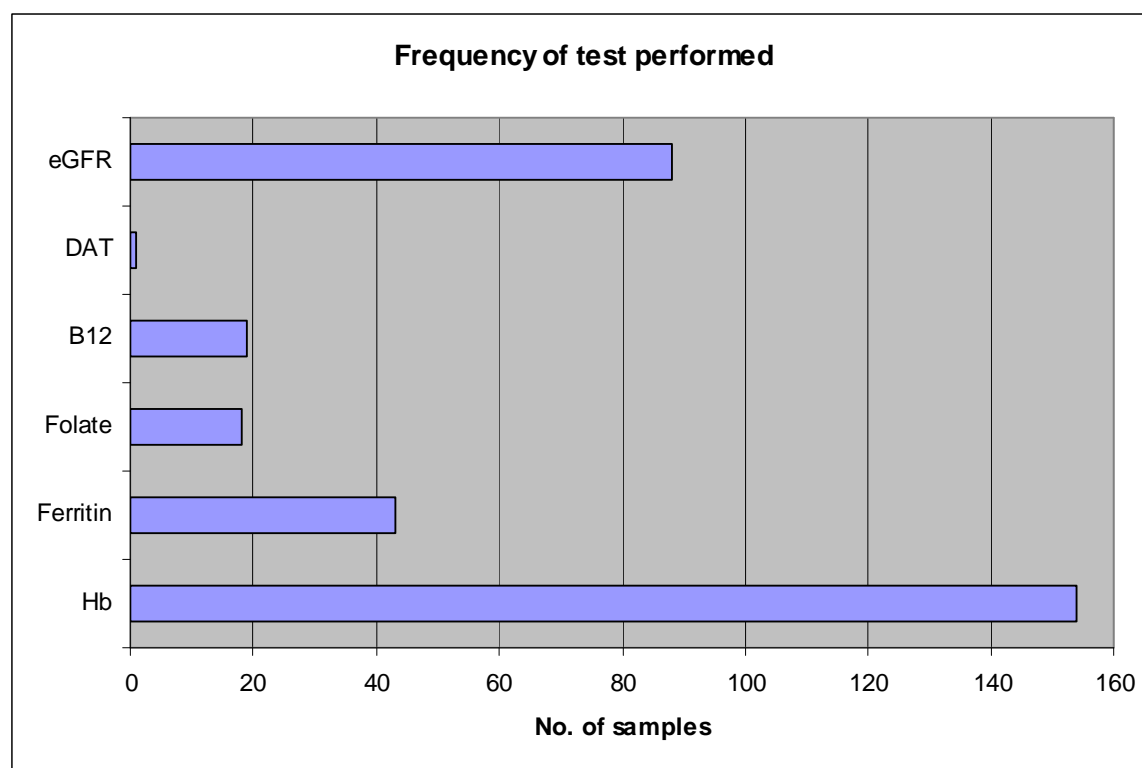
Pre-transfusion Hb closest to transfusion (n=154)



Range =
52 – 106 g/L

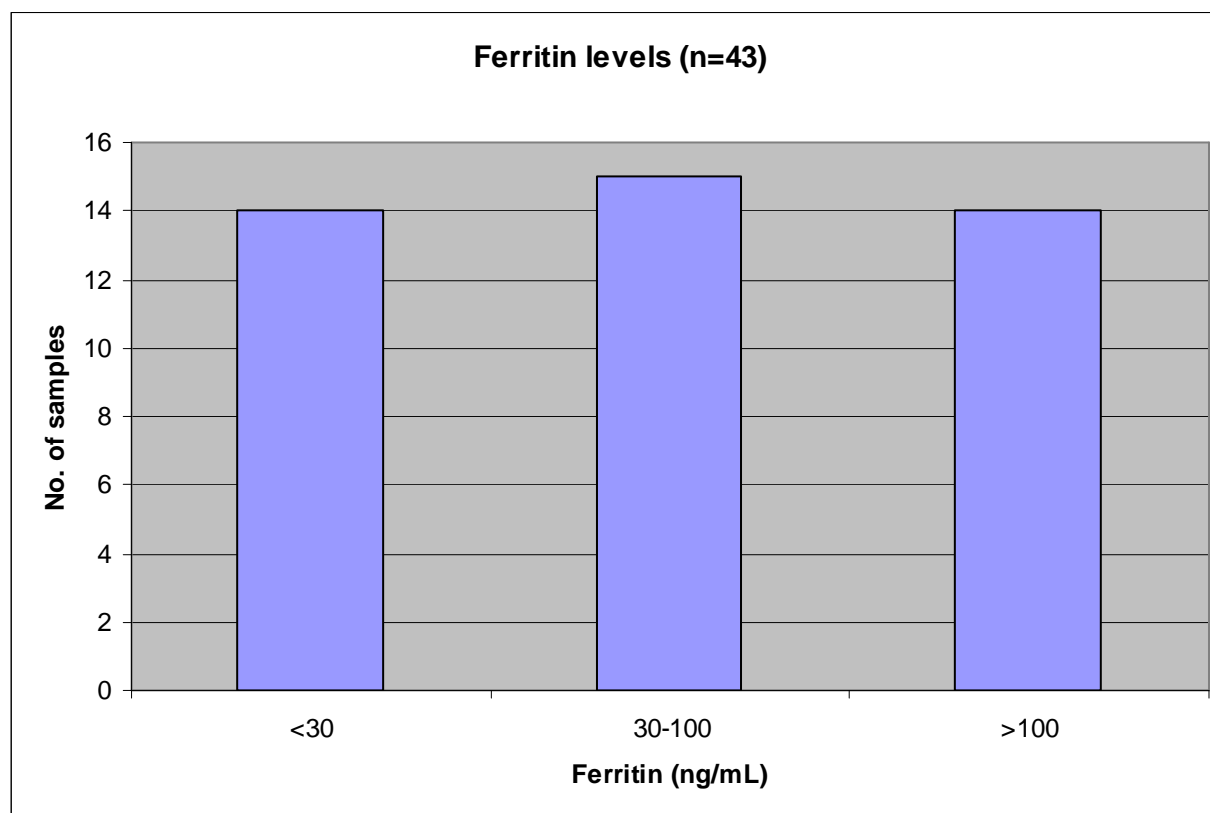
Range of supporting tests performed

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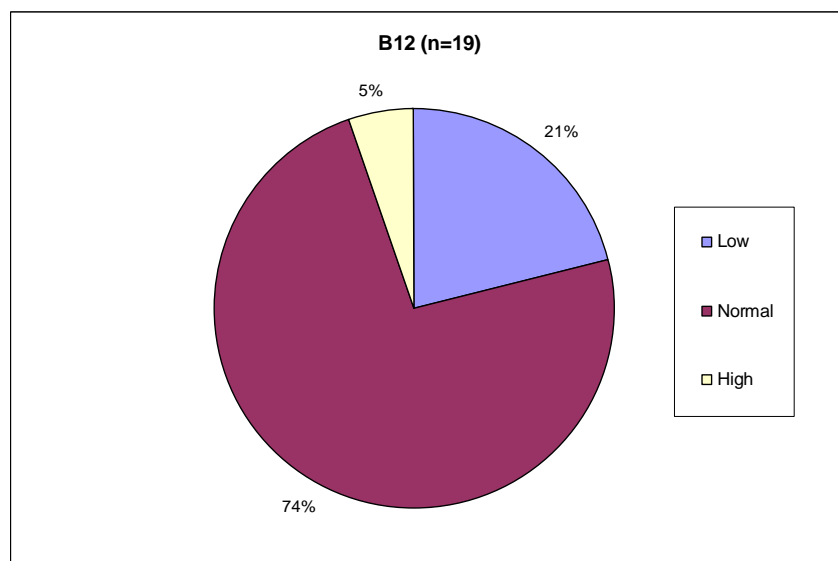
Tests within last 3 months: Ferritin

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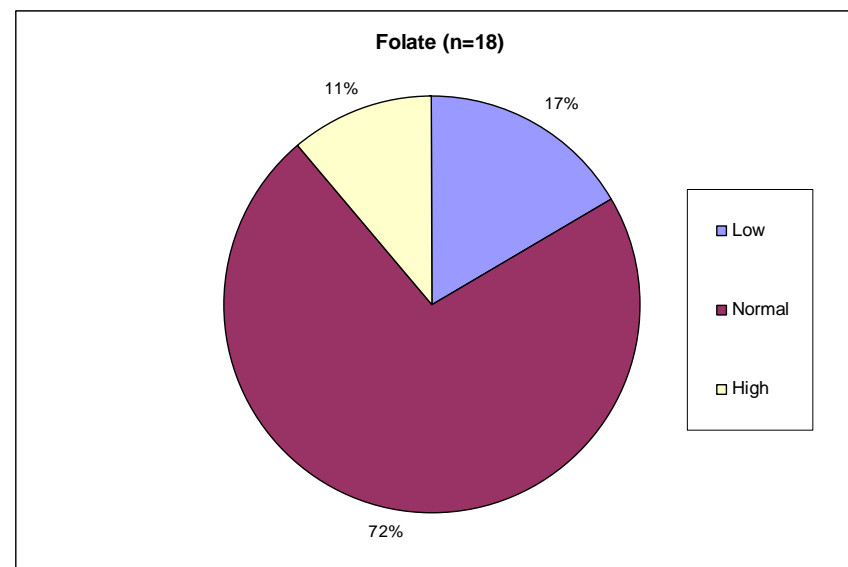


Folate & B12 (within last 3 months)

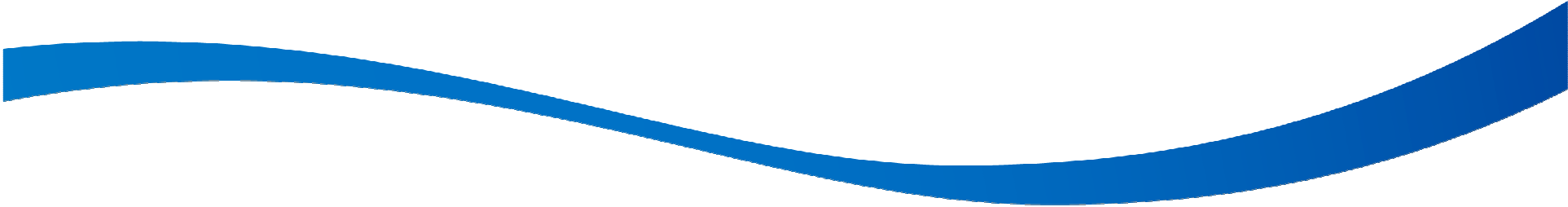
NHS
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18/19 B12 also had Folate;

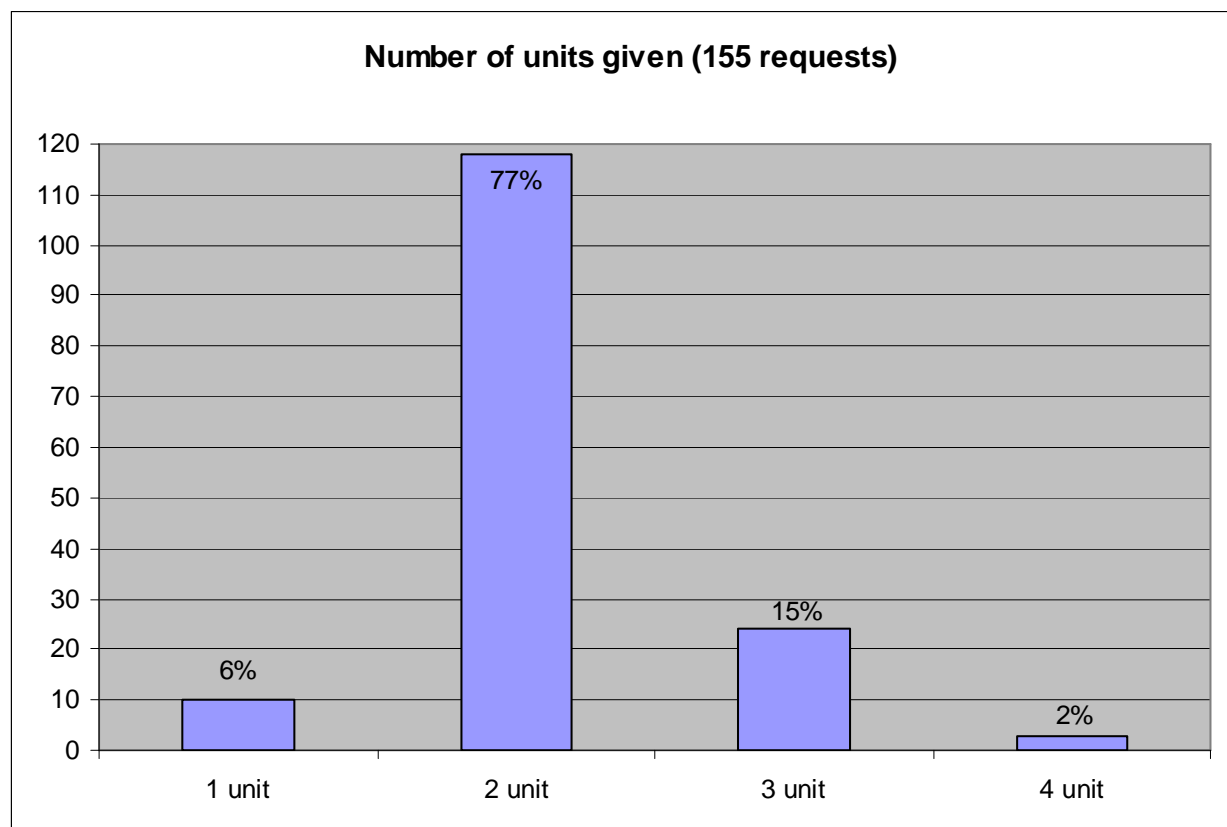


Units transfused

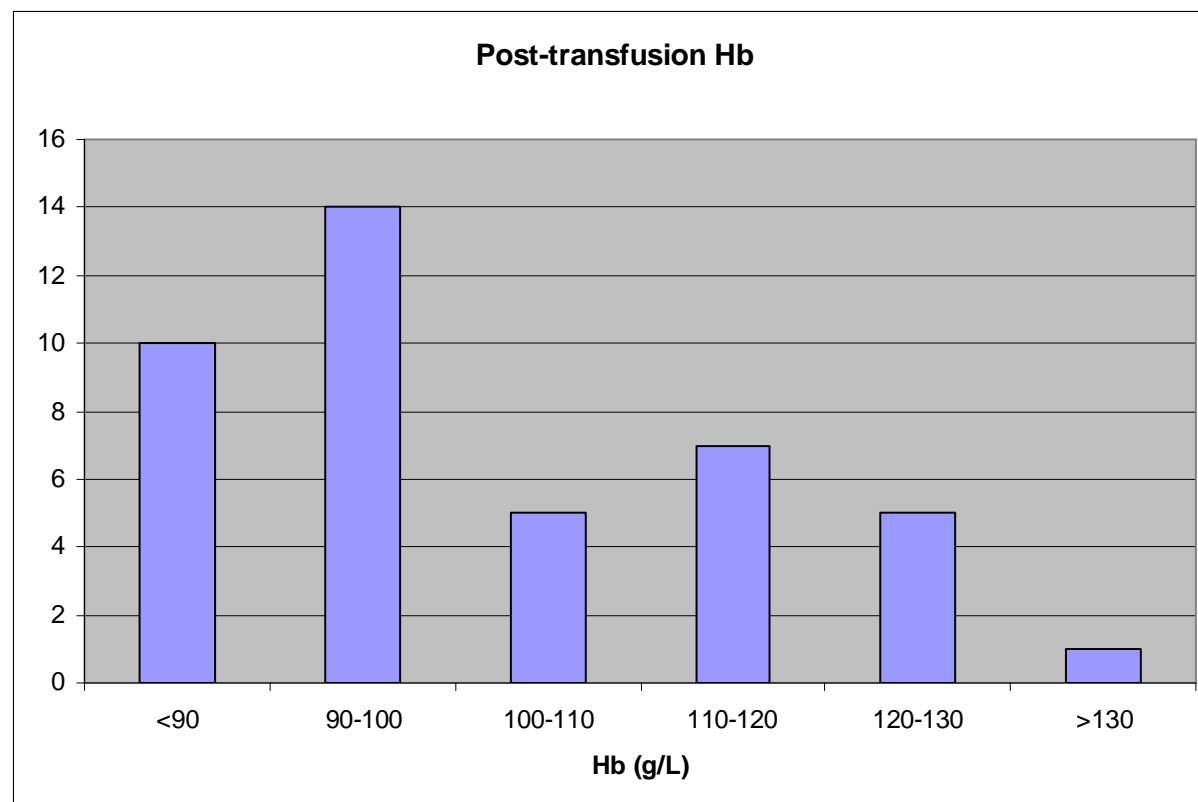
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- 3% had 1 unit transfused
 - 47% had 2 units transfused
 - 15% had 3 units transfused
 - 2% had 4 units transfused
 - 1 case rejected on grounds of normal Hb, no others rejected
 - 38% no data given

Number of units given per request

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Post-transfusion Hb (within 1 week)



Only 42 post-transfusion results given;
Calculated against 155 requests transfused = 27%

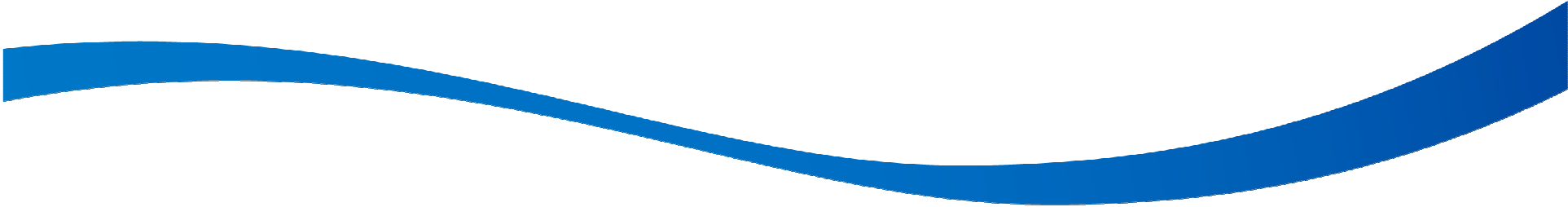
Findings

- 6% rejection rate for samples.
- Wide range of Hb results but many of them above 8g/l
36%
- Supplementary tests: Ferritin testing showed 1/3 patients having ferritin <30 and 2/3 <100.
- 17% patients had 3 or more units transfused
- GPs use “Fe deficiency” as a diagnosis but continue to transfuse as a treatment.

Recommendations



Blood and Transplant

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- A thick blue wavy line that starts on the left, dips down, and then rises towards the right.
- SWRTC need to continue our efforts to engage and educate primary care about PBM and single unit transfusion