



NOD

National Ophthalmology
Database Audit

National Ophthalmology Database Audit National Cataract Audit

Key Findings Summary 2021-2022



Key findings

National Cataract Audit

Cataract surgery remains the most frequently performed surgical procedure in the UK and a widely accepted indicator of surgical quality is the frequency of significant breach of the lens-zonule barrier through Posterior Capsule Rupture (PCR) with or without vitreous prolapse, or zonule rupture with vitreous prolapse, events abbreviated here as PCR.

PCR and Vision Loss – are used as metrics for risk-adjusted outcomes. PCR is the most frequent intraoperative complication and is associated with increased postoperative loss of vision. Vision Loss is intended to capture all eyes where there has been an adverse outcome, whether or not associated with PCR.



Data was received from **159** centres

The **361,918** eligible operations were performed by **2,192** surgeons



Cost savings from avoided PCR complications are estimated at approximately



per annum and the avoidance of Vision Loss can have multiple benefits for a patient due to the importance of vision in daily life



The audit received data for **382,930** cataract operations performed in England and Wales, which equates to approximately **76.7%** of these cataract operations during the 2021 NHS year

Overall since 2010...

PCR has reduced by around

54%



Vision Loss has reduced by

33%



2021 NHS year

Around **486,000** NHS procedures were undertaken in England and **13,000** in Wales



These numbers are considerably higher than during the 2020 NHS year

2020 NHS year

Around **246,000** operations in England and **5,700** operations in Wales were performed during the COVID 19 pandemic

Audit results

The median age of cataract patients was 76 years for first eye surgery and 77 years for second eye surgery.

For all surgeons, 0.87% of operations were affected by PCR. This is slightly below the current consultant only based average rate of 1.1% used for risk adjustment and approximately 54% lower than in 2010.

Overall, the Vision Loss rate was 0.45%, lower than the 0.9% rate used for risk adjustment and approximately 33% lower than in 2010.

The proportion of eligible cataract operations performed by trainee surgeons has decreased by around 45% from 24.2% in the 2017 NHS year to 13.3% in the 2021 NHS year.



76 years old

First eye surgery



77 years old

Second eye surgery



118,107

(41.6%) patients were men

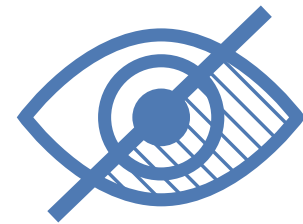
160,659

(56.5%) patients were women

The gender was not recorded for

5,341

(1.9%) patients



Immediate Sequential Bilateral Cataract Surgery (ISBCS) was performed for

1,463

patients by

267

surgeons from

63

centres

Social deprivation

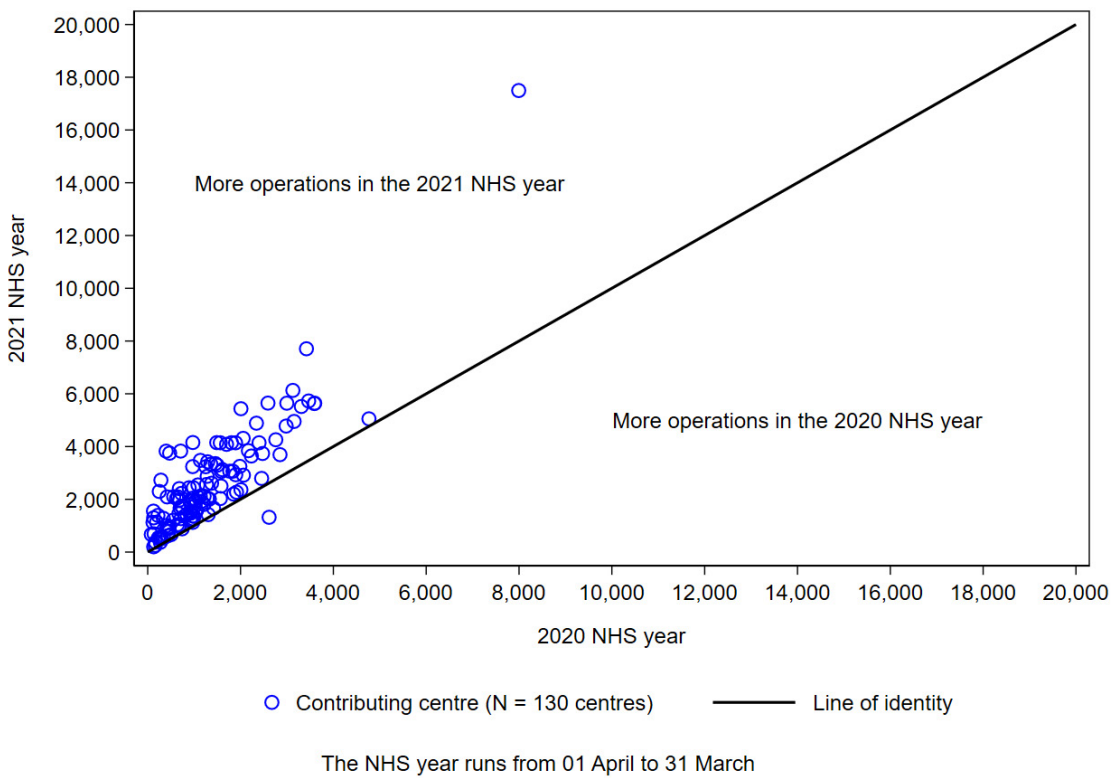
The English index of multiple deprivation was calculated for 214,195 (98.2%) patients from 120 participating English centres with data recorded on the Medisoft EMR. The median English national decile of social deprivation for patients undergoing cataract surgery varied significantly between centres, confirming that there was variation between the participating centres in the social deprivation status of patients undergoing cataract surgery.

Service Recovery after the COVID 19 Pandemic

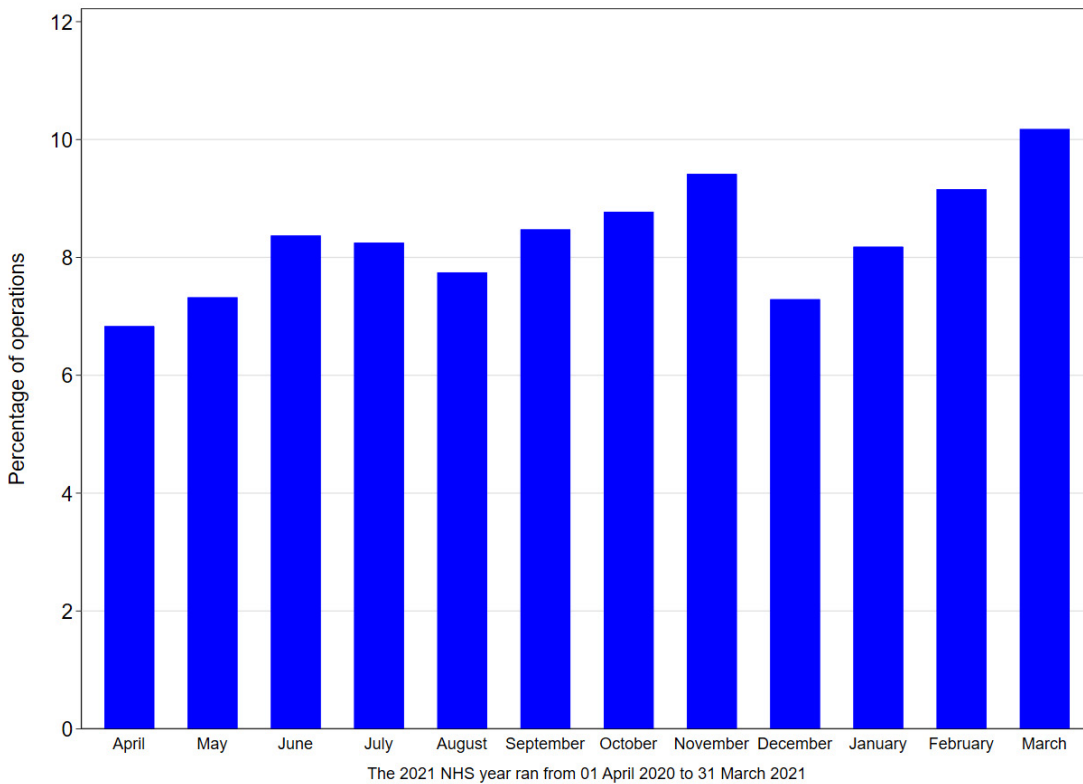
The results in this report for the 2021 NHS year were influenced by service recovery after service disruption and periods of cancelled practice due to the COVID 19 pandemic in the 2020 NHS year. This recovery is illustrated by 128 (99.2%) of the 129 centres who contributed data for at least 50 eligible operations in both the 2020 and 2021 NHS years contributing more operations for the 2021 NHS year than for the 2020 NHS year, Figure 23 (page 47).

The service recovery is further illustrated by a return to a more even proportion of operations performed in each month of the 2021 NHS year, Figure 24 (page 47). For the 2021 NHS year, the proportion of operations performed in each month are more similar to the equivalent month's proportions for the 2017, 2018 and 2019 NHS years which were all prior to the service disruption due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**The number of eligible operations submitted by 129 centres for the 2020 and 2021 NHS year
(Figure 23 in the report)**



**The percentage of eligible cataract operations performed in each month of the 2021 NHS year
(Figure 24 in the report)**



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