

University Hospital Birmingham Foundation Trust

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Delivering the best in care

University Hospitals **NHS**
Birmingham
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UHB NHS Foundation Trust

- New QEH £550 million
- Opened in June 2010
- Largest single site hospital in the UK
- 1,500 beds
- Royal Centre for Defense Medicine 2002
- West Midlands Adult Brachial Plexus and PNI Service 2007
- Major Trauma Centre in 2014



Brachial Plexus Service (2007)

- Need for rehabilitation of patients with TBPI in the the West Midlands
- No provision at our Trust as a trauma center
- Ad hoc referrals to Derby



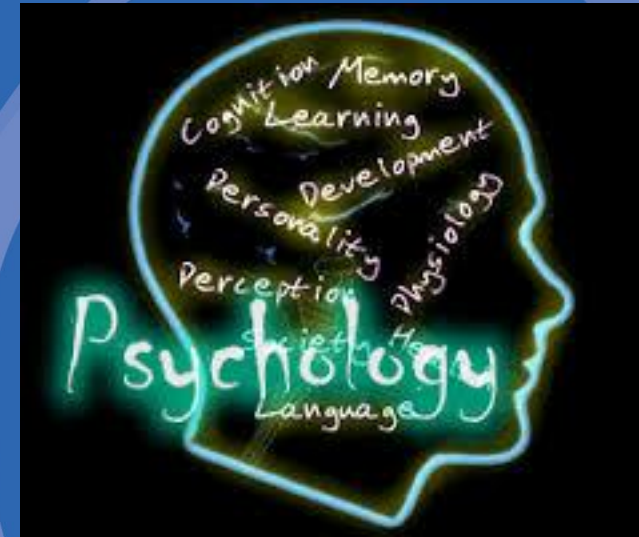
Growing The Team



- Consultants
 - Mr Power
 - Mr Tan
- Physiotherapy (me and co)
- Occupational Therapy (Sue)
- Sarah (admin)
- Neurophysiologist (Colin)
- Specialist Nurse (Kerri)



Team continued



Orthotics



What do we do ?

- Acute management and early identification of TBPI
- Assessment
 - MRI
 - Exploration (surgical)
- Acute in patient management
 - Pain management
 - Therapy/splinting





ANATOMY

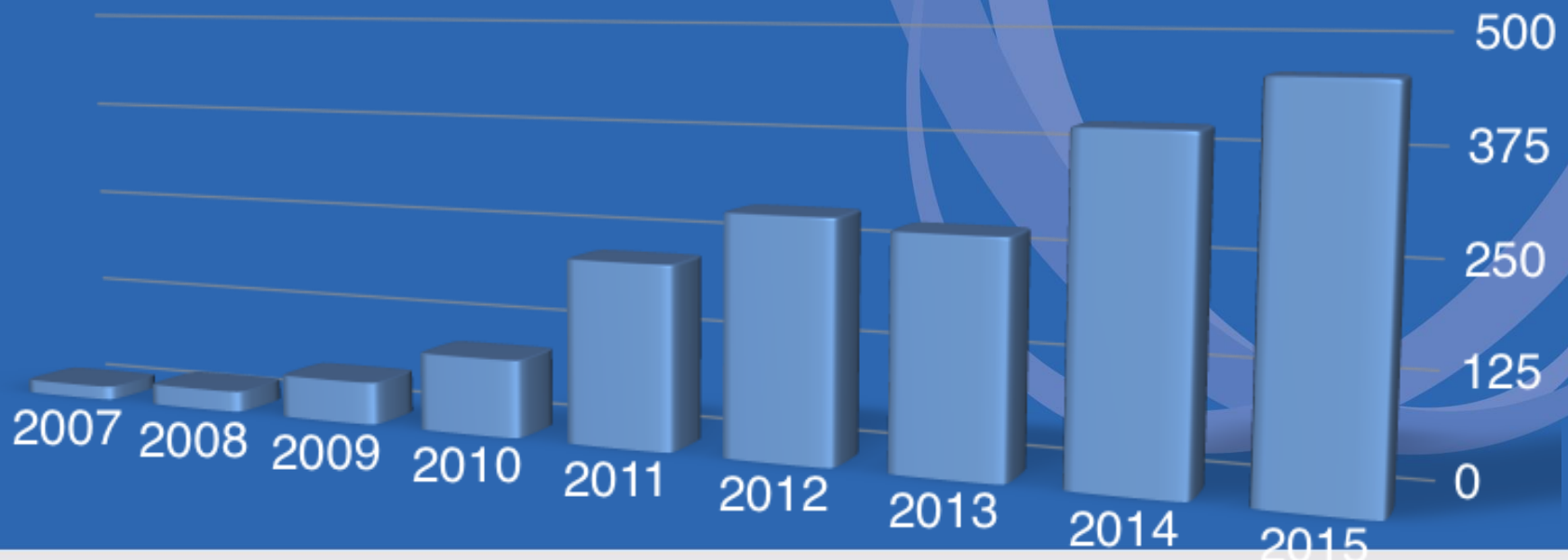


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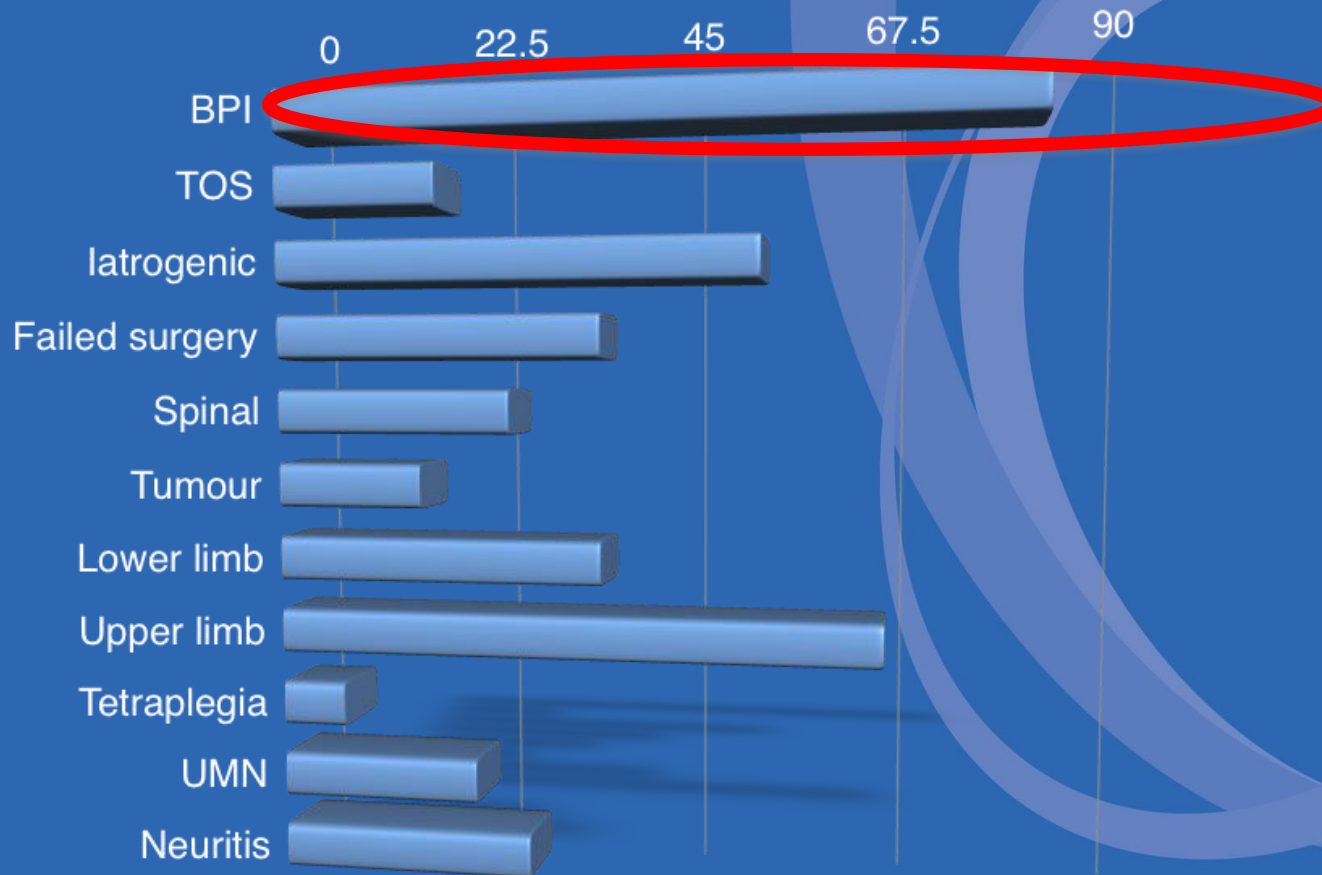
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Peripheral Nerve Injury Service at UHB

- Regional peripheral nerve injury service
 - 40 referrals a month
 - 75 Brachial Plexus injuries per annum
 - Approximately 2000 cases assessed to date



New Patients



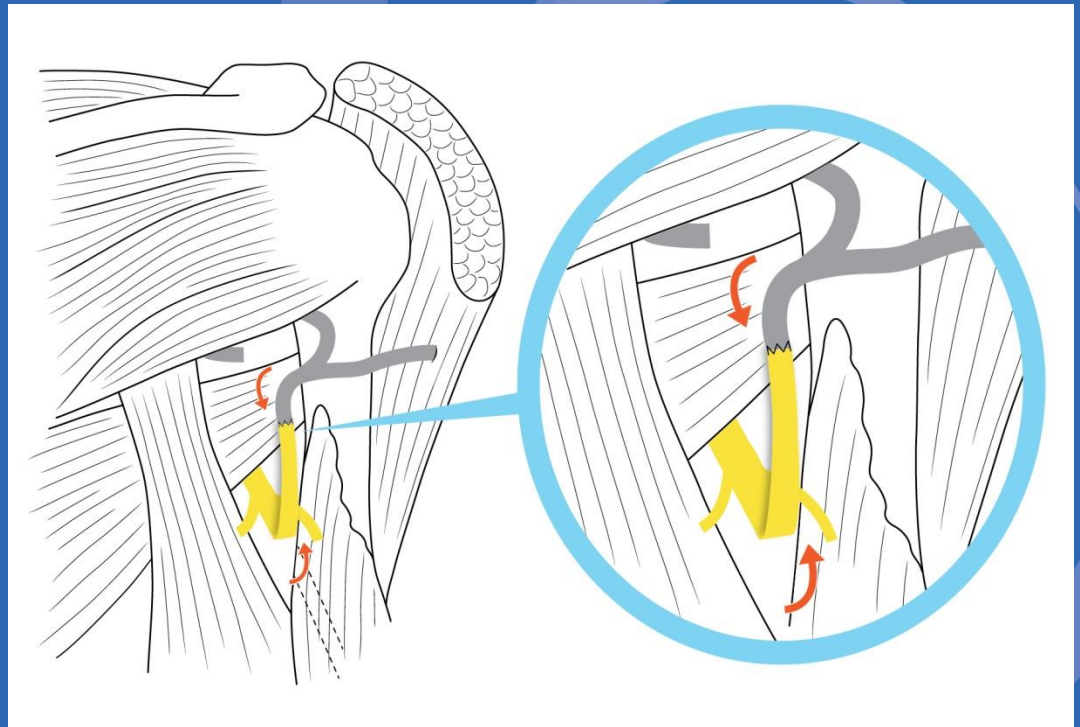
Weekly Brachial Plexus and Nerve Injury Clinic

- Follow – up of patients following TBPI
- Follow up post surgery
- New patients referred from other hospitals in the regions
- Assessments
 - 2 Consultants
 - Physiotherapist
 - Occupational Therapist
 - Specialist Nurse



Surgery offered

- Nerve repairs
- Nerve transfers
- Muscle transfer
- Scar removal
- Fusion
- Tendon transfers



Follow – Up Care



Research



We don't know which treatments work best

- No agreement on how to deem if treatment is successful
- Different measures are used
 - Strength
 - Quality of life
 - Questionnaires
- Unable to compare treatments
 - Apples and pears



Pain

*Return to
work*

Feeling

Depression

What aspects of health are important in
patients with a TBPI

Strength

Appearance

*Usefulness of
arm*

Hobbies



Concerns posted on Online Forums

- Jan 2015-Jan 2016 328 posts from TBPI (UK) and United Brachial Plexus Network (Am)
- Key Themes
 - Emotional aspects of BPI
 - Information on anatomy and injury
 - Information Support on BPI treatment
 - Pain
 - Orthotics
 - Surgery

(Morris et al 2016)



- 94% of BPI literature reported muscle strength as main indicator of success in BPI studies



Number between 1-5



So many thinkers with different views of the world.



Aim of the research

- Get agreement between individuals with BPI clinicians and researchers on what to use to measure outcome after a TBPI



Research

1. Identify all aspects of health important in TBPI
 - Interview patients and families
 - Review the literature to find out what Drs and therapists / researchers think is important
2. Prioritise all health aspects/ goals (identified in Step 1)
 - Survey (online clinicians and patients)
3. Patient and clinician meeting to agree on core goals/ health aspects to be measured



Why is it important to patients?

- Same measurements and tests used then can compare different treatments and services
 - Individuals can make a choice based on good evidence
- Assessments/ tests being will be meaningful to the patient e.g muscle strength?
- Having agreement between patients and clinicians on what is priority
 - Services can be designed to address patients key goals
 - Treatments assessed using key goals







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