

Small Samples, **Big Problems.**

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Background

- Children (smaller volume samples)
 - Sampling error: more likely to be mislabelled
 - Lab error: Manual techniques less eissue
 - Prescription: Volume calculations more complex
 - Administration problems: Volume overload more likely.
- Sample labelling identified as a problem area

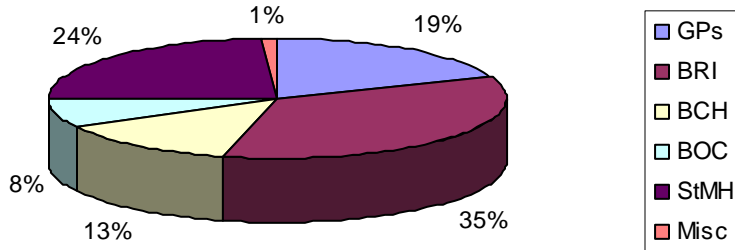
Aim / Methods

- To quantify the proportion of mislabelled samples
- To reduce the number of samples rejected whilst maintaining / improving compliance with BCSH guidelines and local policy
- Audit of sample labelling practice against BCSH guidelines in a paediatric teaching hospital
- Implementation of HTC and Clinical Risk Assurance Committee recommendations.
- Audit repeated 6 months later

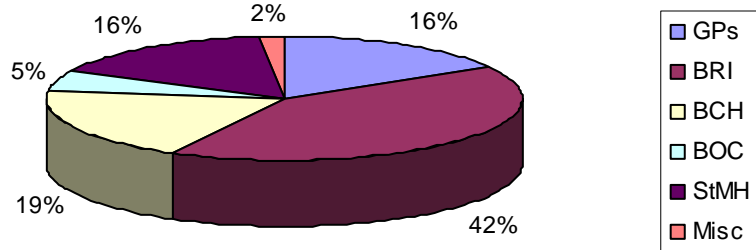
Standards

- UBHT sample labelling policy based upon BCSH Guidelines
 - a) Surname
 - b) First name
 - c) Date of birth
 - d) Patient identification number
 - e) Date the sample was collected
 - f) Signature of person taking the sample

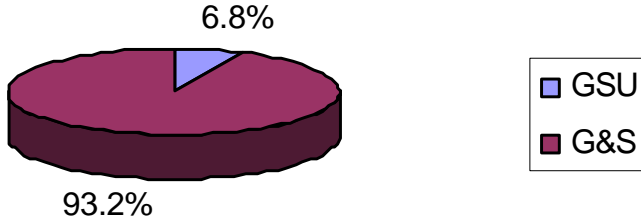
**Division of Workload as per Location
from Aug '06 - Jan '07**



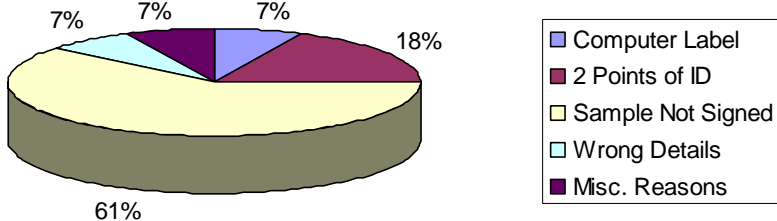
Division of GSU's as per Location



**Proportion of BCH Workload Rejected
from Aug '06 - Jan '07**



% of BCH GSU Contribution as per Cause of Rejection







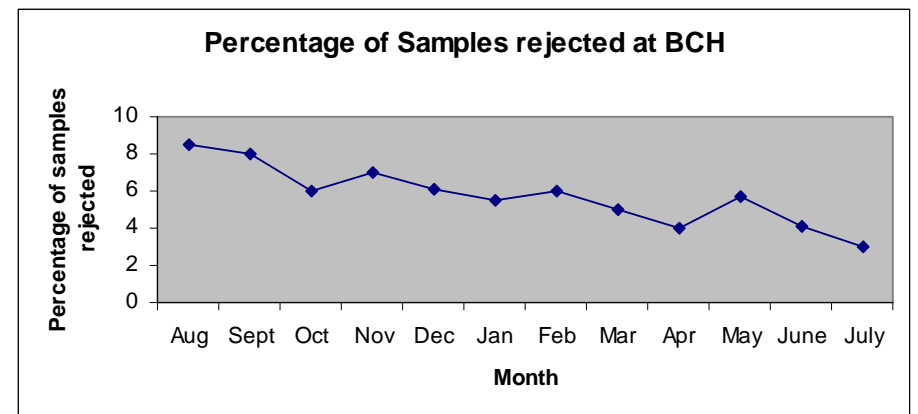
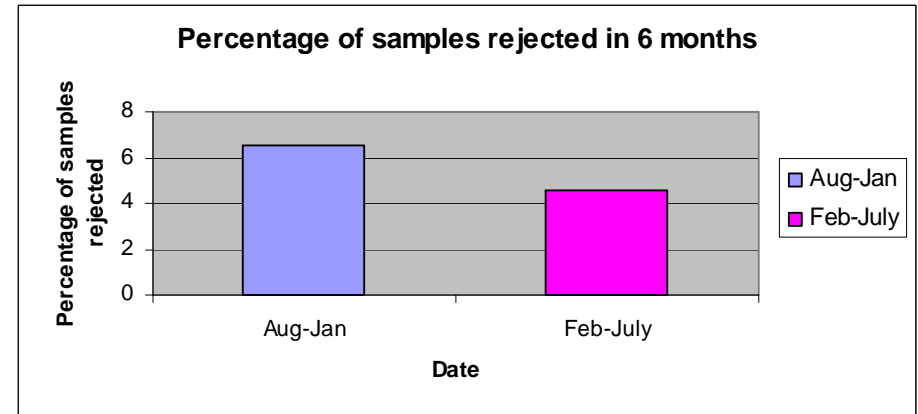
Actions proposed to HTC /CRAC

- Remove the requirement for an illegible scribble - rejected in view of guidelines and peer practice
- Relabel the samples
- Educate the moving targets



Reaudit

- 19,702 samples for ABO and RhD grouping
- 861 (4.37%) were rejected
- The percentage of paediatric samples rejected in the second audit had fallen from 6.8% to 4.65% (98/2109). With an ongoing monthly fall from 8.5% during the first month of the first audit to 3.02% during the last month of the second audit



Conclusion

- Simple, obvious interventions may not have been taken
- Labels that facilitate compliance appear to be effective (surprise, surprise)
- Thank
 - Mel Pearl / Adele Wardle / Liz Worsam Bristol Royal Infirmary
 - Tim Knapp NHSBT for photographs