



Background

Waiting times across Wales are substantial and many changes to planned care are being introduced to ensure an efficient system - Right Patient to Right Clinician.

GP practices are under significant pressure they, however, have a responsibility to ensure that every surgical referral submitted follows best practice guidelines as agreed and viewed via HealthPathways. To inform practices of their referral rates a statistical report was presented to each practice comparing their activity to CAV & cluster peers.

Statistical Analysis

Every surgical referral made over the last 2 years was analysed and an individualised referral rate statistical presentation provided to each CAV GP practice. The presentation showed the practices' referral rates per 1000 patients to each surgical specialty and sub-specialty, the proportion and the rate patients were referred with urgent suspected cancer (USC) and an analysis of specific surgical conditions. The analysis allowed practices to compare their performance to all other practices in CAV and to their local GP cluster colleagues.

HealthPathways

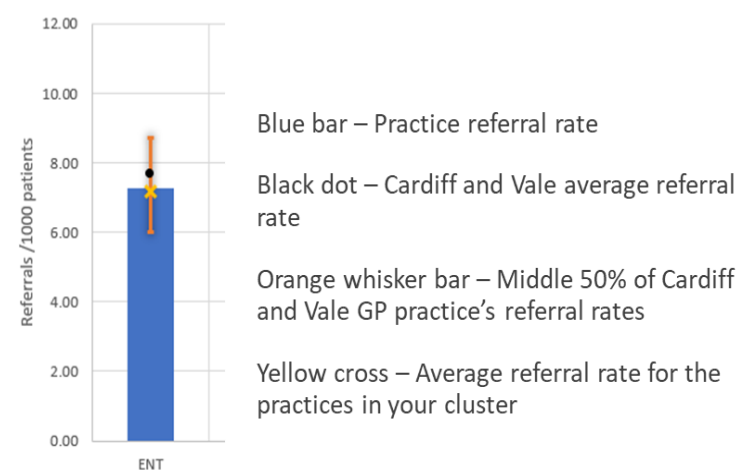
HealthPathways is a clinical information portal which provides GPs with locally agreed management and referral advice on a vast range of common clinical conditions.

All surgical referrals are linked to the relevant HealthPathway. Some key pathways were specifically reported to GP practices as the advice would identify those in need of a surgical referral and provide supportive advice for whom there was little likelihood of a surgical solution.

Quality Improvement Project

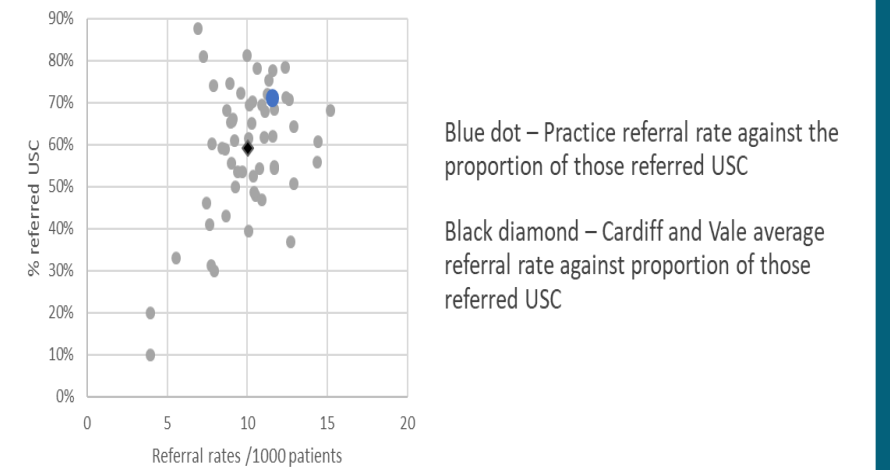
Each practice received a presentation with the referral data in January 2023. A Local Enhance Service (LES) provided funding for engaged practices to review the presented data and identify any statistic where their referral results was a statistical outlier compared to CAV or cluster colleagues. A practice wide clinical change was to be identified and implemented and the effect of this change will be reviewed when the referral data for the first 2 quarters of 2023 is presented to the practices in October.

Key



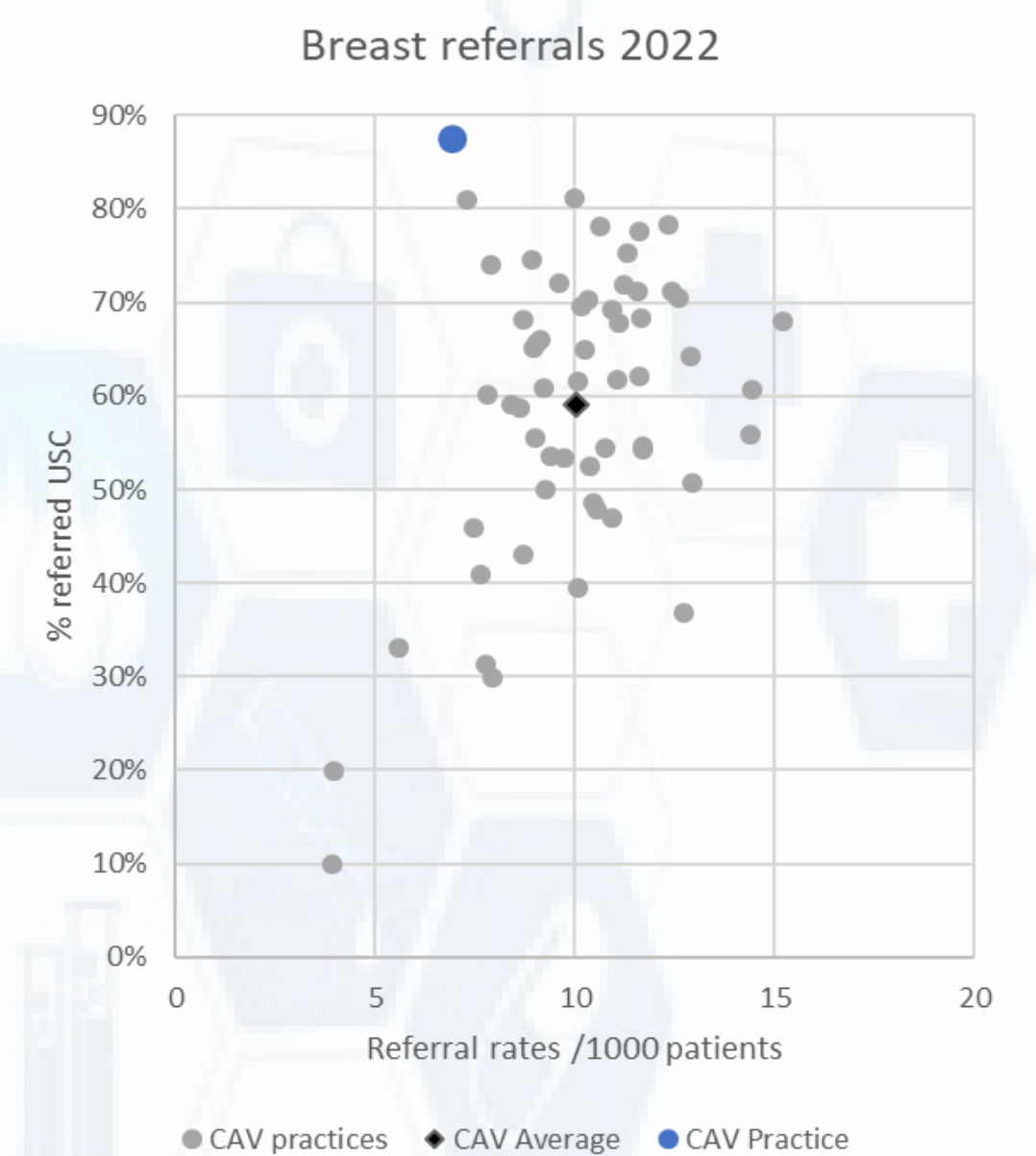
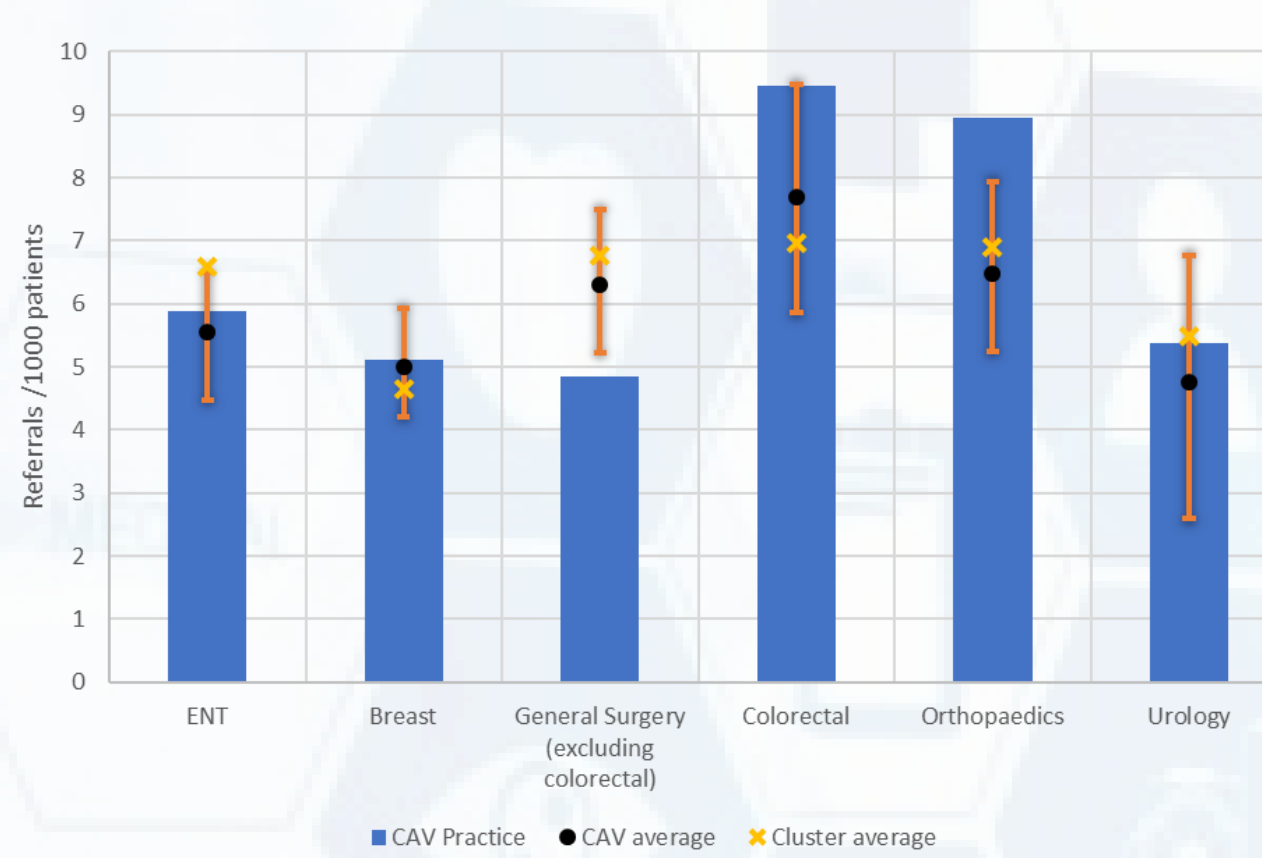
	All CAV referral rates	Practice referral rate	Cluster average	CAV average
ENT	Lowest referring quartile < 5.99 Highest referring quartile > 8.72	7.27	7.18	7.68

Practice referral rates /1000 patients shown numerically as well as your cluster and the CAV average referral rate
Figures and colour coding compares a practice's referral rate to the other practices in CAV:
Green – in the lowest quartile of practices
Yellow – in the middle 50% of practice
Red – in the highest quartile of practices

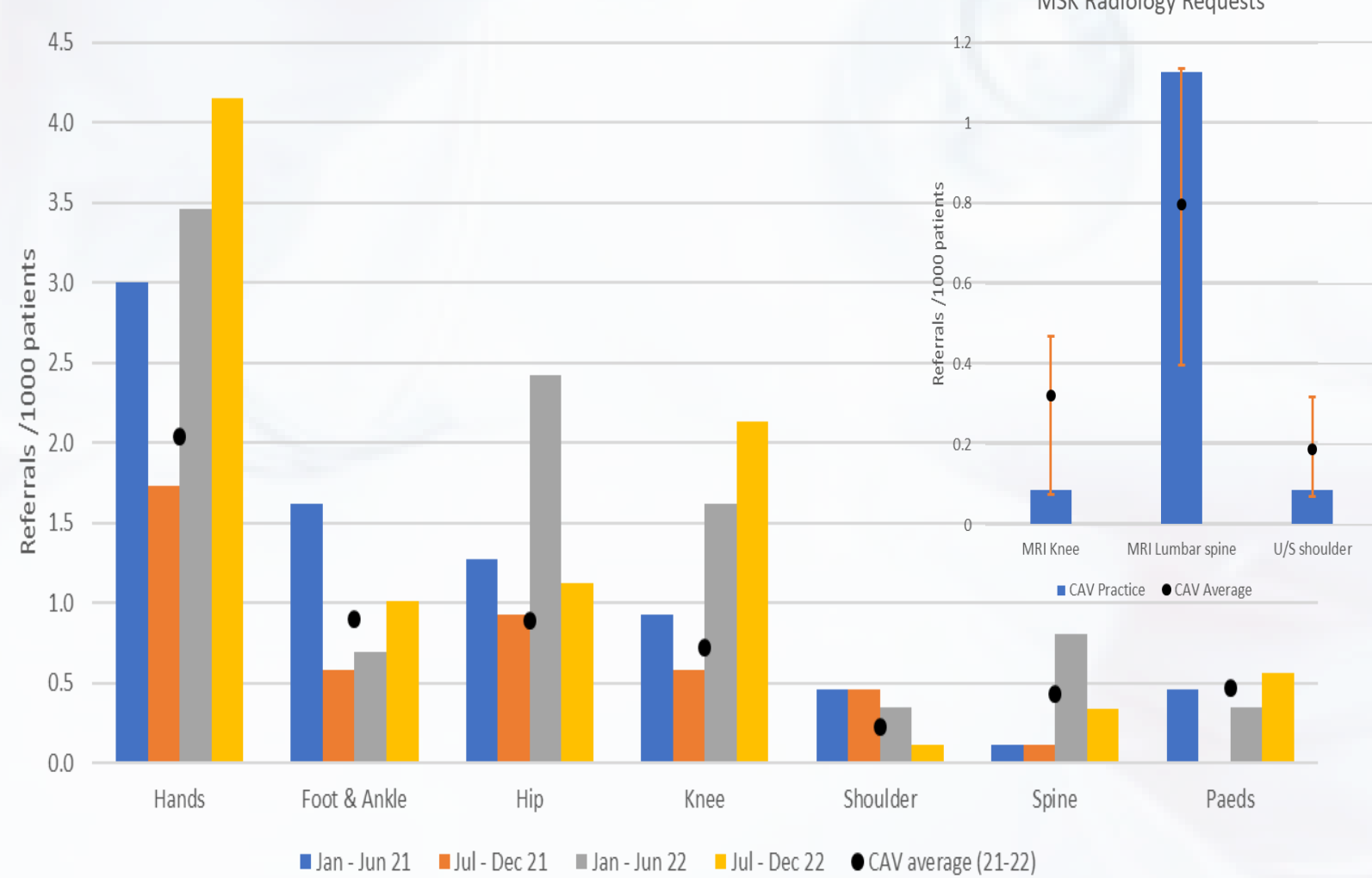


Practice Referral Information

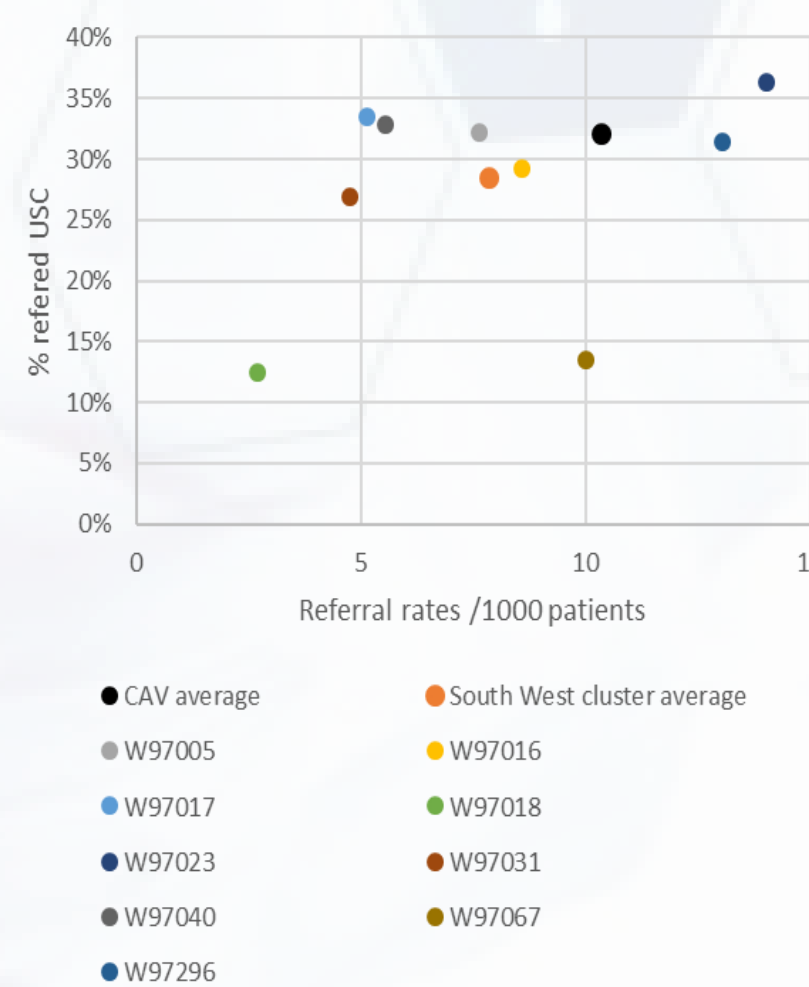
	July - Dec 2022	All CAV referral rates	Practice referral rate	Cluster average	CAV average
ENT		Lowest referring quartile < 4.47 Highest referring quartile > 6.51	5.88	6.59	5.55
Breast		Lowest referring quartile < 4.20 Highest referring quartile > 5.93	5.11	4.65	5.01
General Surgery (excluding colorectal)		Lowest referring quartile < 5.22 Highest referring quartile > 7.50	4.86	6.76	6.31
Colorectal		Lowest referring quartile < 5.87 Highest referring quartile > 9.48	9.46	6.96	7.69
Orthopaedics		Lowest referring quartile < 5.25 Highest referring quartile > 7.93	8.95	6.90	6.48
Urology		Lowest referring quartile < 2.60 Highest referring quartile > 6.77	5.37	5.48	4.76



Orthopaedic Referral Rates Trends



South West Cardiff Cluster - Urology referrals 2022



Key HealthPathways	All CAV referral rates	Practice referral rate	Cluster average	CAV average
Breast Pain	Lowest referring quartile < 0.50 Highest referring quartile > 1.09	0.39	0.71	0.77
OA hip	Lowest referring quartile < 0.45 Highest referring quartile > 1.33	0.39	0.57	0.95
OA Knee	Lowest referring quartile < 0.40 Highest referring quartile > 1.09	0.52	0.33	0.80
Rhinosinusitis	Lowest referring quartile < 0.69 Highest referring quartile > 1.41	0.77	0.95	1.07
Tonsillitis	Lowest referring quartile < 0.40 Highest referring quartile > 0.98	1.03	0.60	0.71