

Patients Who Stay “Very Long” (10+ Years) -  
An Evaluation Of Patients  
Discharged From Low  
And Medium Secure  
Forensic Services  
(Oxleas) In The Last 15  
Years

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# Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust



- Offers a wide range of health and social care to people living in south east London and parts of Kent, including prison health services
- Oxleas received foundation status in 2006

## Secure Forensic Mental Health Placements

- Bracton Centre – provide medium security
  - Birchwood – Bracton
  - Burgess – Bracton
  - Crofton – Bracton
  - Danson – Bracton
  - Heath – Bracton
  - Joydens – Bracton
- Memorial Hospital – provides low security
  - Greenwood – Memorial
  - Hazelwood – Memorial

# Aims

- To evaluate data that is routinely collected, regarding all the discharges from Bracton MSU and Memorial LSU wards during 2006-2021 (15 years).
  - Establish length of hospital stay and socio-demographic, clinical and forensic variables associated with it.
    - i.e. patient's gender, age, length of stay, diagnosis, index offence (if applicable), place of discharge.

# Methods & Ethical Approval



## Methods

Retrospective case note analysis study from 2006-2021 (15 years)

All patients admitted on any ward LSU or MSU within Memorial Hospital or Bracton Centre

- Defined “very long” stay patients as length of stay being in excess of 10 years.



## Approval

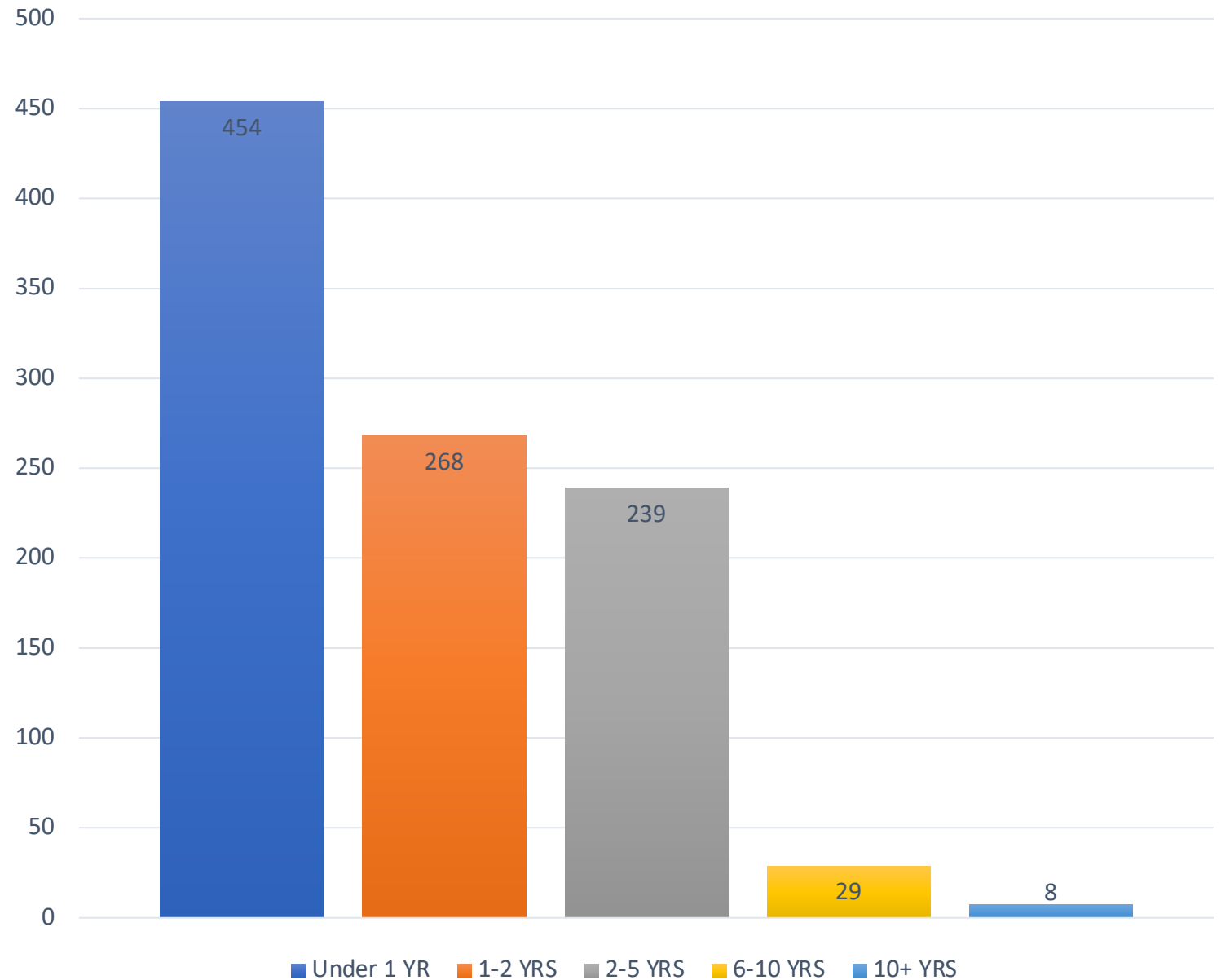
Oxleas Research & Development approved the project as a service evaluation of discharges from the Bracton and Memorial Hospitals

- In order to protect the patients’ rights to confidentiality, we have not mentioned their names or any identifiable data in our analysis

# Results of Full Dataset

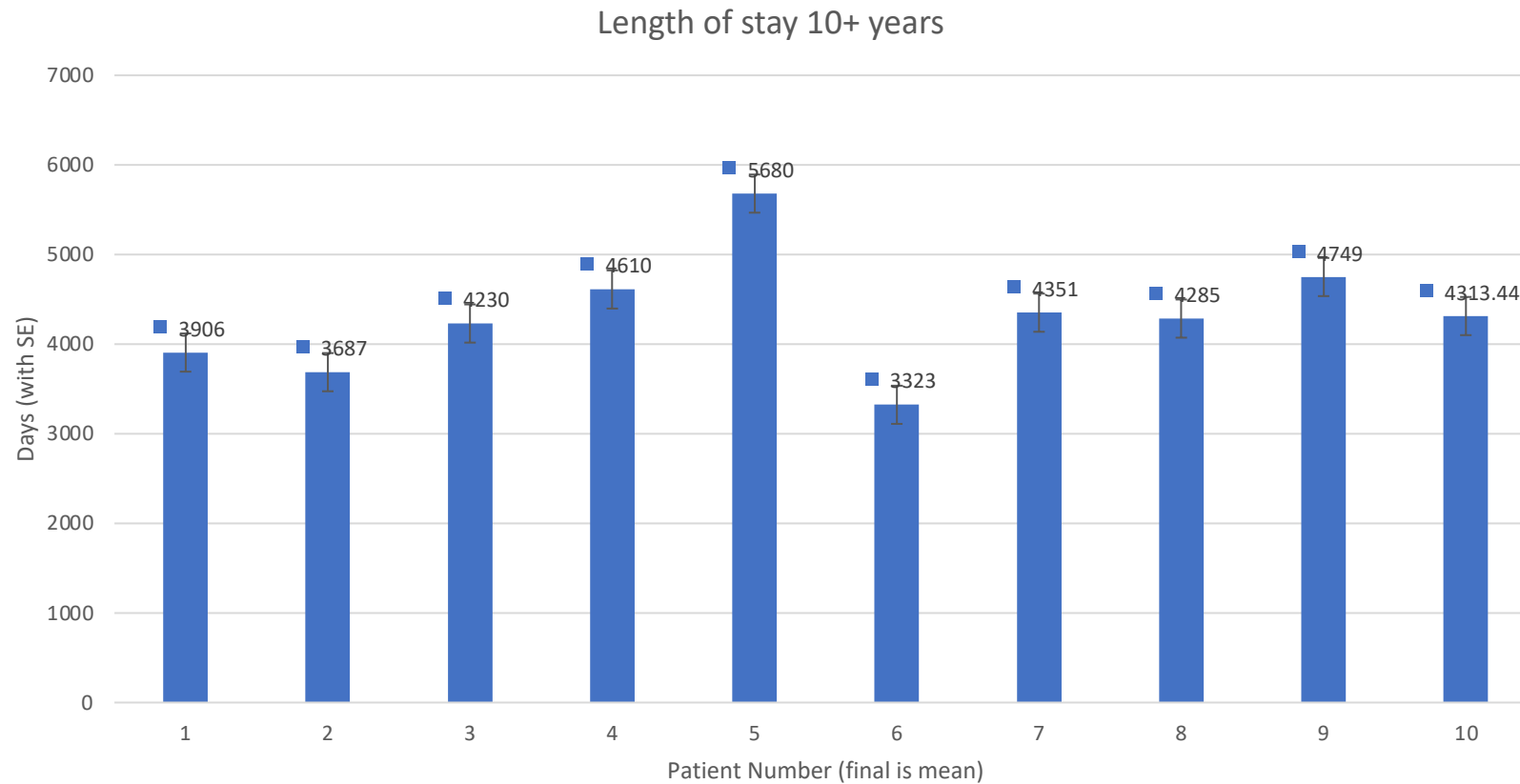
- Total = 998 patients discharged between June 2006 to June 2021
  - Bracton MSU (n = 776 patients) ; Memorial LSU (n = 222 patients)
  - 81% males ; 19% females
- Largest ethnic grouping = White-British (n = 292; 29.3%)
- Prison was largest patient's referral source
- Majority of patients were under Section 3
- Primary diagnosis = Paranoid schizophrenia (43.2%)
- A total of 9 patients were found to meet "very long" LoS criteria (>10years)
  - Disclaimer: One patient was found to have stayed slightly less than 10 years but remained in the sample

# Length Of Hospital Stay – Whole Dataset



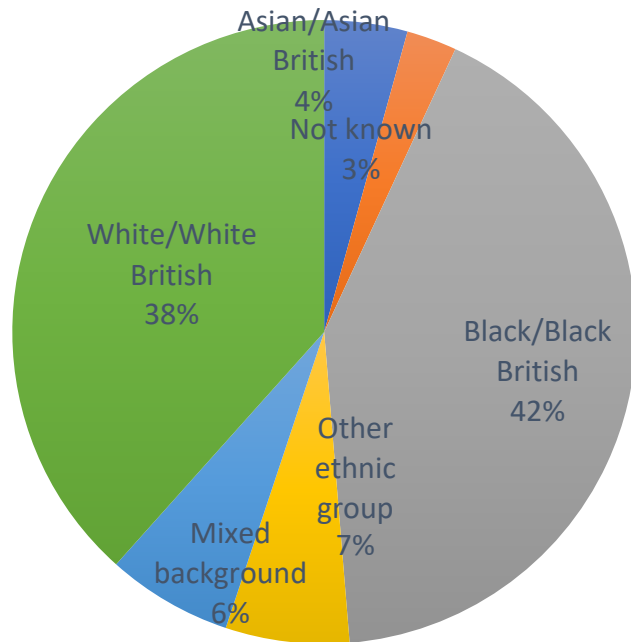


# Length of Stay – “Very Long” Stay

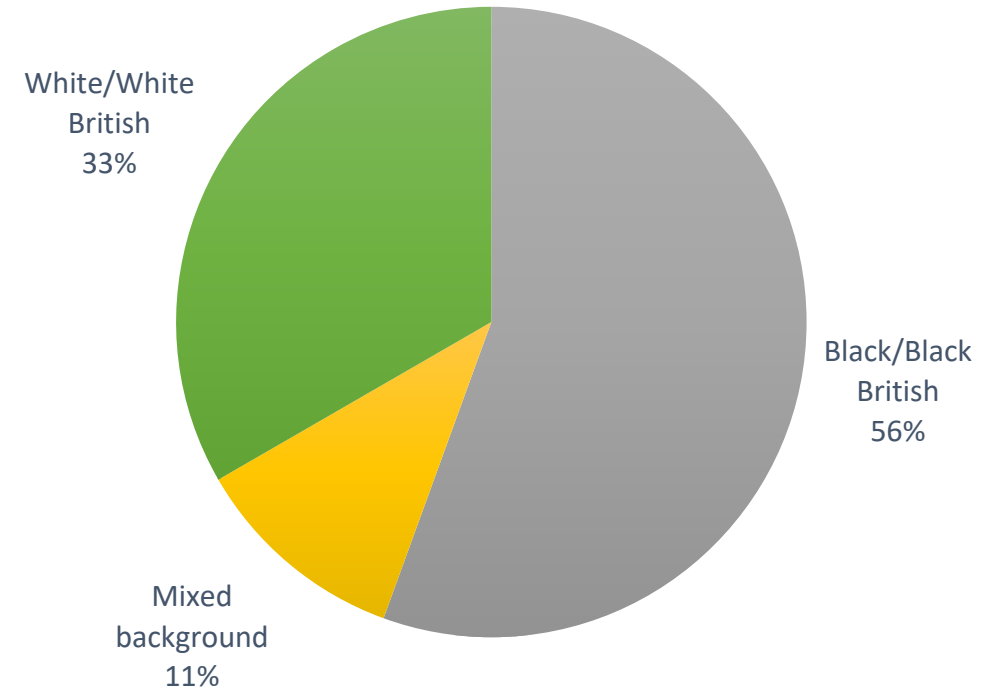


Average mean LoS  
= 11.89 years

# Demographics – Ethnicity



Whole Dataset



“Very Long” Stay Patients



# Forensic / Psychiatric History

All had previous psychiatric contact (8/9 previous forensic admission)

Previous HSU (n = 1)

Previous MSU (n = 6)

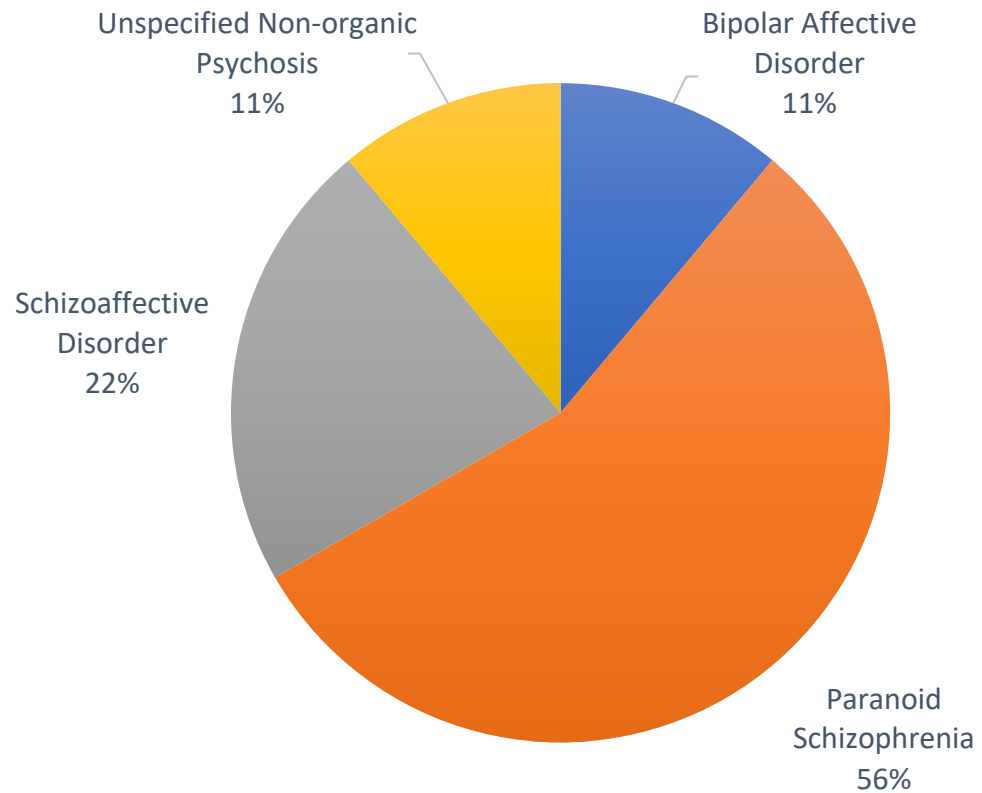
Previous LSU (n = 3)

Where did they come from? 4 prison, 3 acute ward, 2 forensic (1 MSU & 1 LSU)

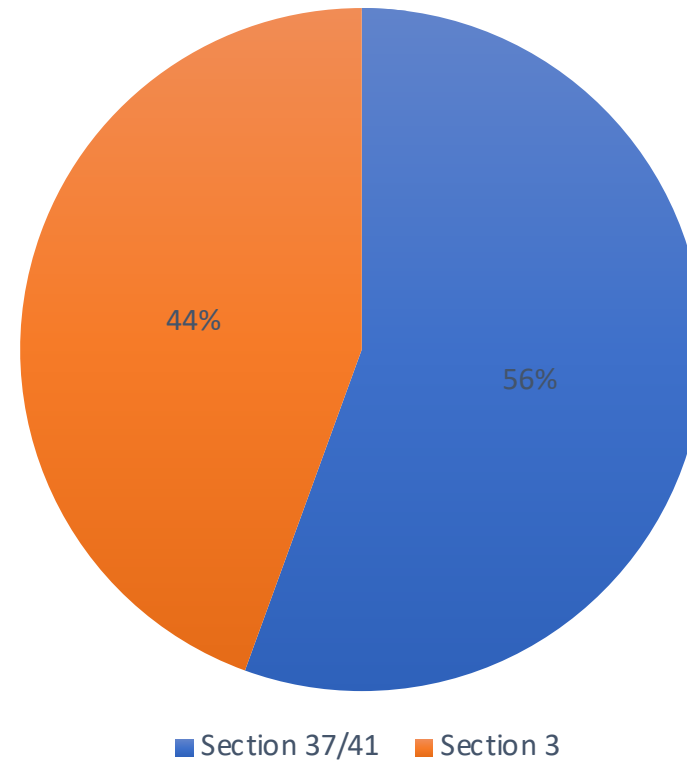
Demographics	Average/Percentage	Range
Age of first contact	17.67	8-23
Age at admission	31.25	17 - 45
Gender - Male	100%	

# Diagnosis & MHA Section

## Diagnosis



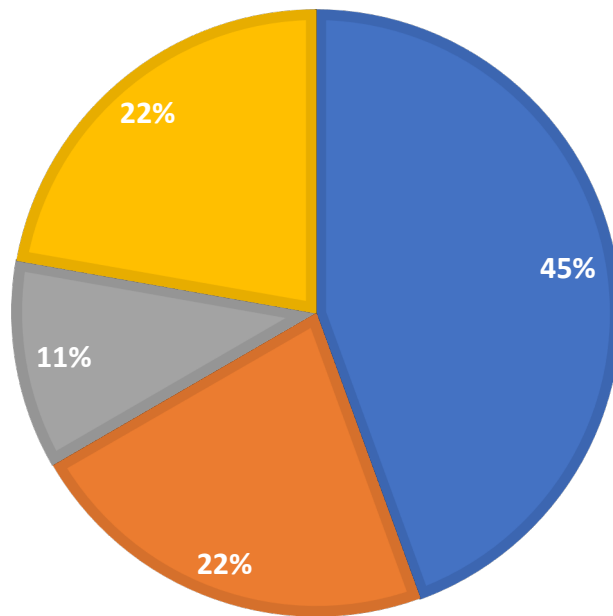
## Mental Health Act



# Index offence, substance abuse, previous offending

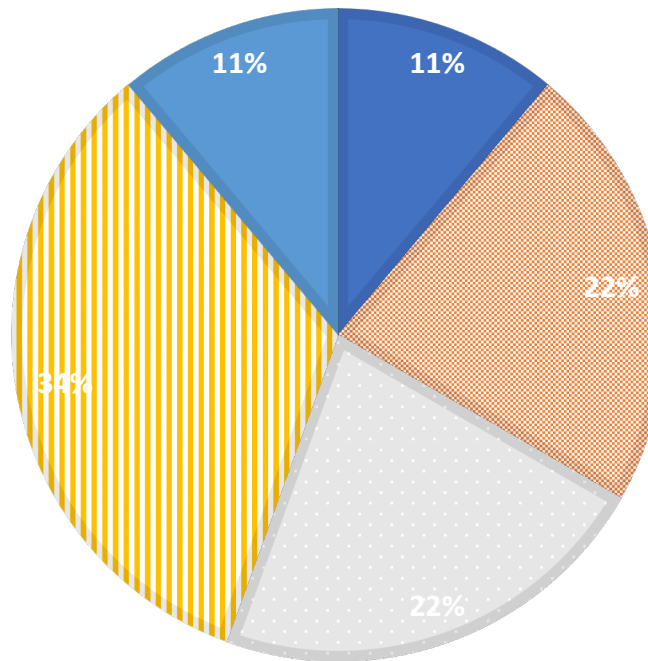
## INDEX OFFENCE

- None
- Violent Offence
- Manslaughter
- Sexual Offence



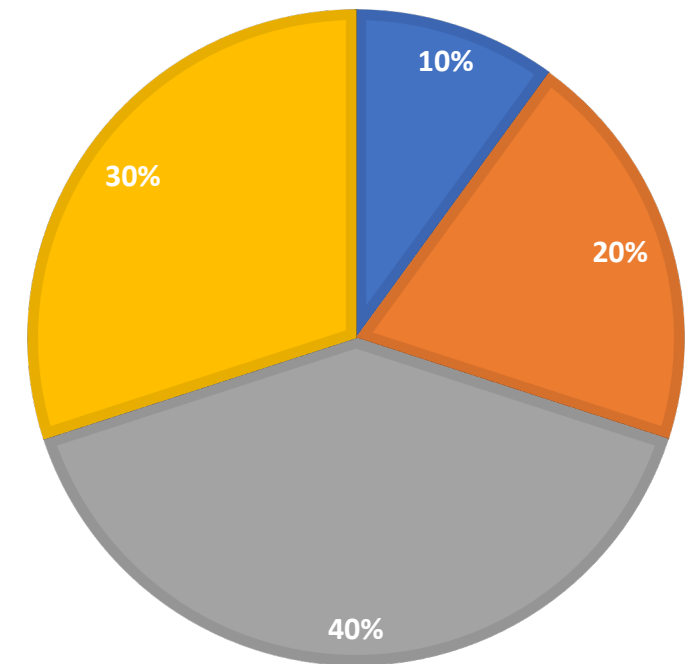
## SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- No history
- Cannabis
- Cannabis & Alcohol
- Alcohol
- Cannabis & Class A Drugs



## PREVIOUS OFFENDING

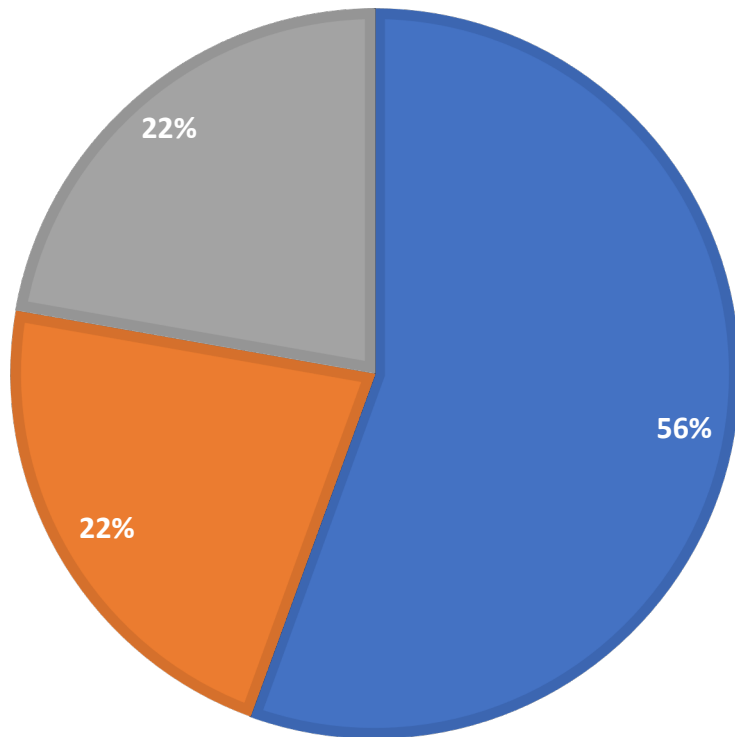
- None
- Minor
- Serious
- Prolific



# Vocation, Education, Relationships

## EDUCATION

■ No GCSEs ■ GCSEs ■ College/University



Marriage Status	Count (Percentage)
Single	6 (66.7%)
Has a Partner	3 (33.3%)

Previous Employment	Count (Percentage)
Yes	6 (66.7%)
No	3 (33.3%)

# Engagement and Violence on the ward

## Engagement in therapy or other treatment programmes

- Majority showed 'little' to 'no engagement / no report of engagement'
- 1 patients attended sessions but did not apply practices
- 3 patients showed 'high engagement' attending psychological sessions for over a year

## Institutional Aggression

- None reported = 1 patient
- Low = 1 patient
- Medium = 1 patient
- High = 5 patients (attacks on staff / patients)

## Findings - Conclusions

- The percentage of patients who stayed 10+ years was 0.9% of the total Oxleas discharge population (Average LoS = 1.59 years)
- Our findings suggest (although not statically significant):
  - All patients were male;
  - Majority were single (66%; n = 6) with little education
  - All had previous psychiatric contact before age 25 with majority (66%) having previous forensic admission
  - All had major mental illnesses
    - 88% had psychotic illnesses
  - All (except one) had alcohol or substance misuse (mainly cannabis n = 7)
  - Only a minority (n = 2) had serious violent offending (manslaughter and robbery) but a majority showed medium to high institutional violence (n = 6)

# Conclusions & Limitations

First evaluation of “very long” stay patients (to our knowledge)

Looks at nearly 1000 male and female patients over 15 years

Actual number of “very long” stay patients is small therefore only allowing for descriptive analysis

Cannot draw firm conclusion – “very long” stay data indicate high levels of institutional violence associated with well-known factors (i.e., psychosis and use of cannabis)

Evaluation is not complete and still analysing data

Future work should focus on this group