

SPECIALISED COMMISSIONING - EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR A PROPOSITION FOR A SERVICE SPECIFICATION

URN: B10/S/a

TITLE: Thoracic surgery

CRG: Thoracic surgery

NPOC: Cancer

Lead: Nicola McCulloch

Date: 17/2/16

Question for panel	Conclusion of the panel
<p>The panel were asked to approve amendments to the service specification for B10/S/a Thoracic Surgery. The amended service specification was supported by an evidence summary demonstrating the relationship between clinical outcome and volume of practice.</p>	<p>The panel noted that the amended service specification required that units undergo a minimum of 150 primary lung resections per year. Clear evidence was demonstrated via the evidence review to support a minimum of 70 primary lung resections.</p> <p>The panel agreed that, although the evidence summary supported the cut-off of 150 primary lung resections per year, no evidence was presented to demonstrate whether intermediate volume levels (between 70 and 150) have an additional impact on outcomes. The panel would welcome additional evidence in this range.</p> <p>The panel noted that there may be other elements that should be taken into account in the service specification, particularly the viability of a 1 in 3 on call rota.</p> <p>The panel noted that no evidence was presented on the optimum volume for individual surgeons.</p> <p>The panel noted that should further detailed analysis of the papers included additional information on these points, they would be happy to receive this. The panel would welcome further evidence including a description of other papers in the study, to identify a minimum volume.</p>

Overall conclusions of the panel

Report approved by:

James Palmer

Clinical panel Chair

17/2/16