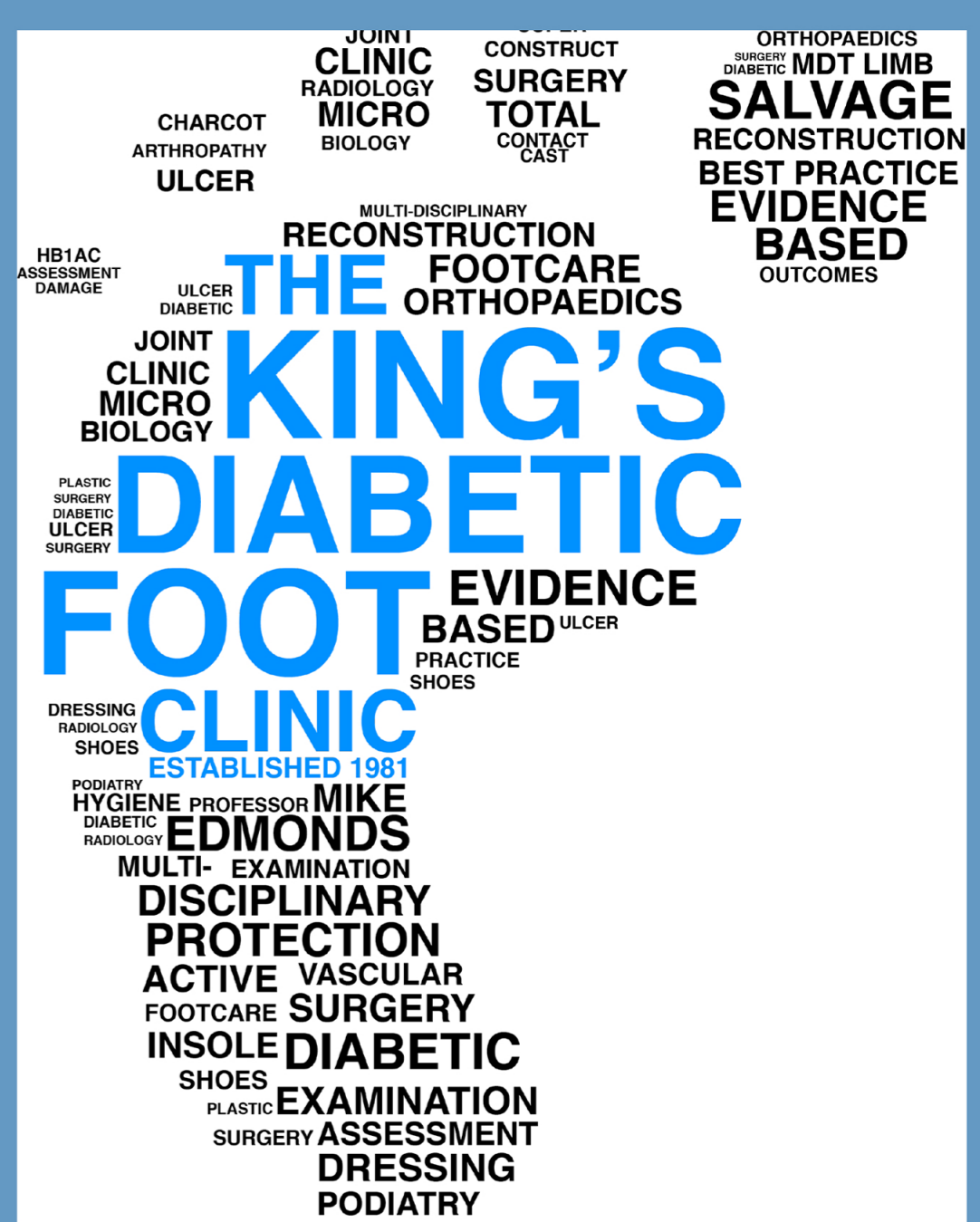




# England's first national weekly diabetic foot virtual multidisciplinary team meeting – the King's Collage Hospital experience

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## Introduction

Complex diabetic foot problems managed in multidisciplinary team (MDT) setting are associated with lower amputation rate and mortality. Our diabetic foot service (DFS) holds a weekly orthopaedic MDT and routinely receives referrals and treats patients from various parts of England. These meetings are attended by foot and ankle surgeons, diabetologists and podiatrist with further input from vascular and plastic surgeons. As part of our continuous service improvement endeavours during the covid pandemic, we present our experience of running the first national weekly virtual MDT service to manage complex diabetic foot external referrals.

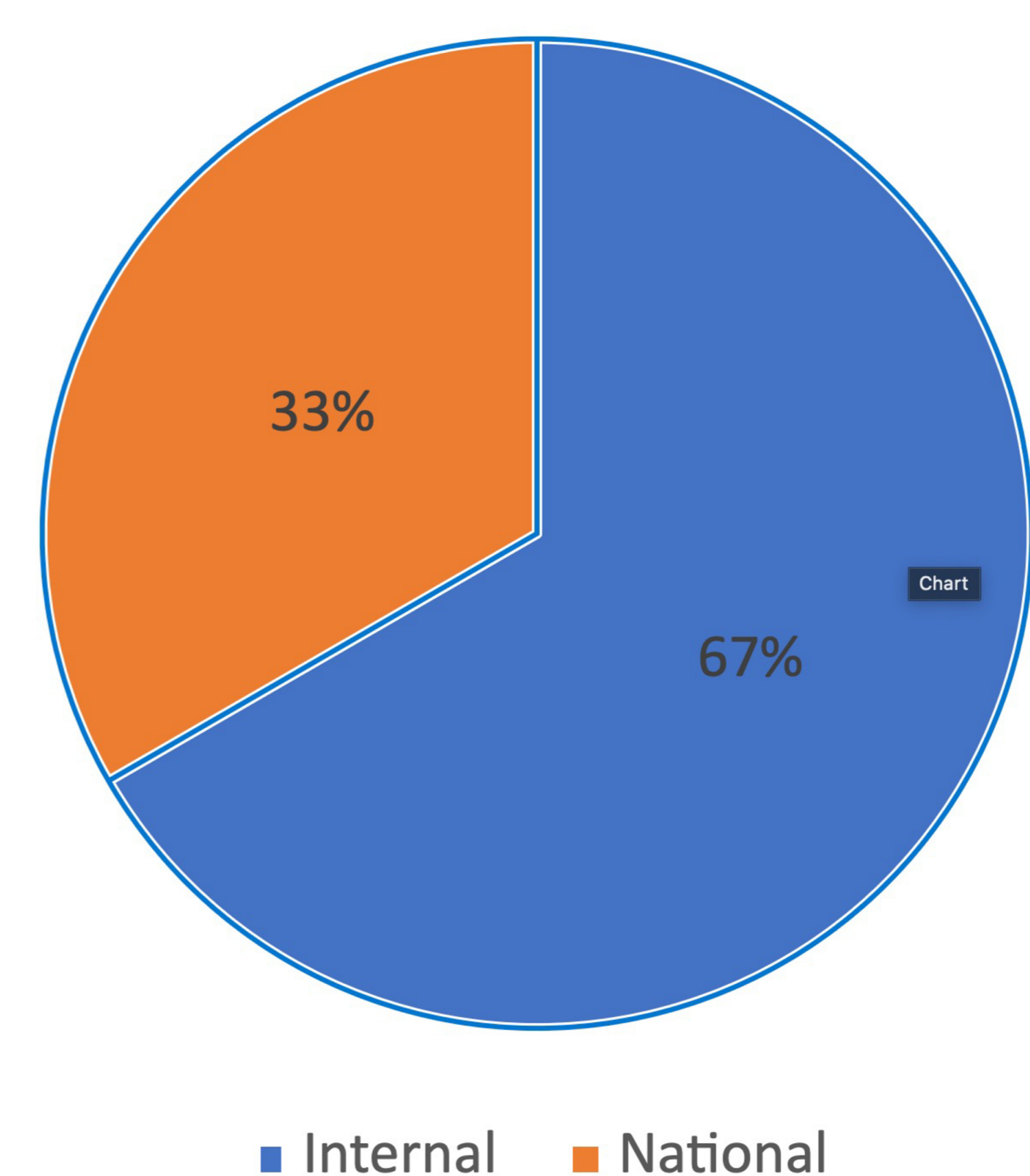
## Methods

We analysed the prospectively collected data over the period from 1st September 2020 to 31st December 2020. This date range was chosen as during the Covid pandemic, this period was the most representative of the normal volume of referrals seen by our DFS. External referrals were vetted by the senior author and referring clinicians were invited to attend the meeting virtually and discuss patient management at the MDT meetings. Attendance compliance and outcomes of the MDT discussions were also recorded.

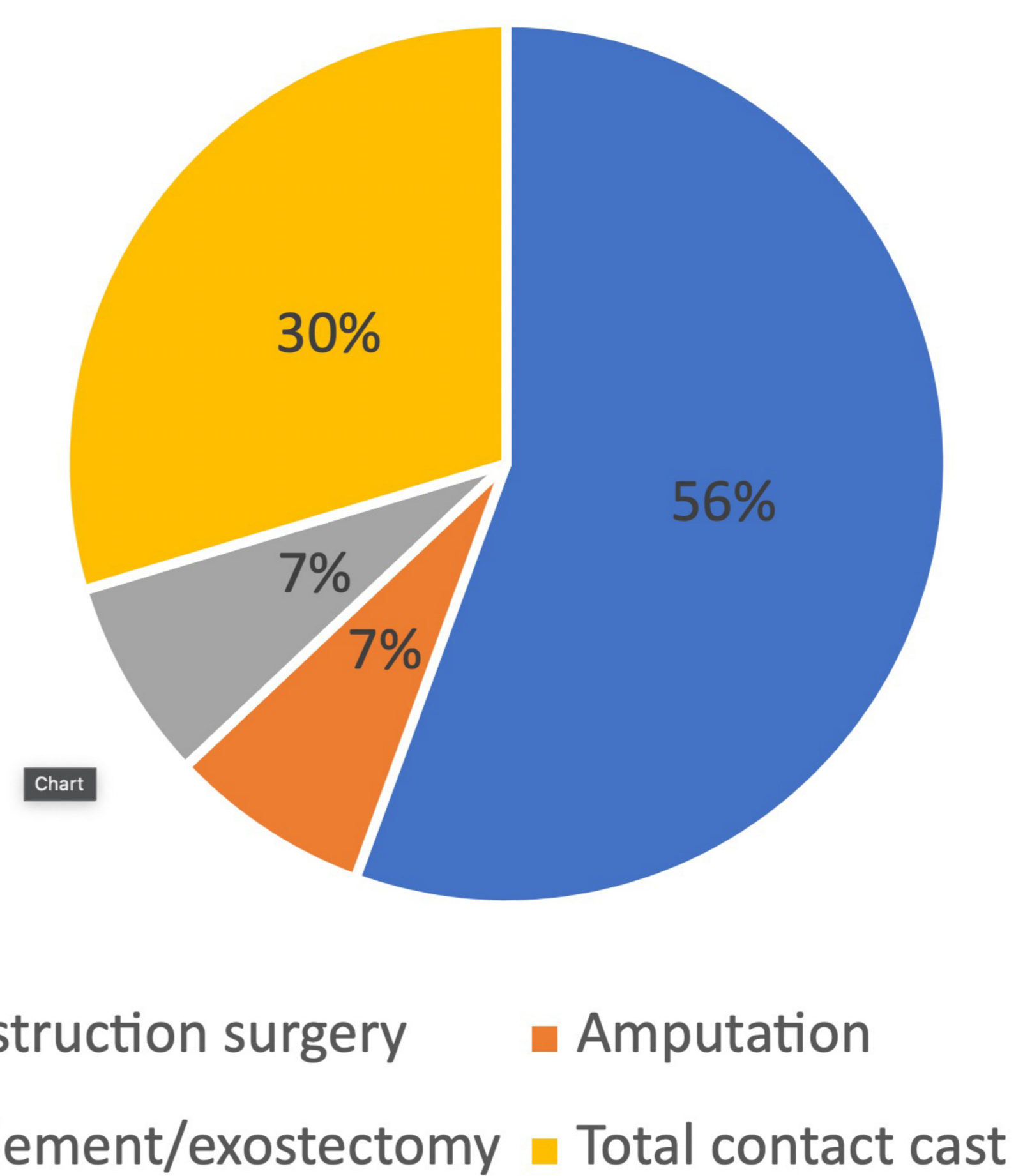
## Results

10 virtual MDT meetings took place each running for 45 minutes. 27 patients were discussed (18 regional and 9 national cases). Attendance compliance was 100%. All external case discussions were attended via a video link by a senior member of the referring team. Of the 9 national referrals 8 of were offered clinic appointments for assessment and 1 was advised for local treatment. Following the discussions, 6 patients had further investigations organised locally prior to their clinic visit, and a management plan was formulated on the initial visit. Of the total referrals, 15 patients were listed for Charcot reconstruction, 2 for amputation, 2 for debridement and exostectomy and 8 for total contact casting and podiatric care.

Origin of referrals to the virtual MDT



Outcome of all referrals to the virtual MDT



## Conclusion

Virtual platforms are valuable tools that should be capitalised on for MDT management of complex conditions on a local, regional & national levels.