

National Burn Care Group

Access modelling for burns centres in England & Wales

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ORH'S APPROACH

There were 13 potential burns centres: four adult and paediatric centres and nine adult-only centres. A large set of towns and villages across England and Wales was chosen to develop a nodal framework, and ORH identified travel times for the resident populations of each to all 13 centres, using both private and public transport. The configuration of burns facilities and burns units was also modelled in relation to options for burns centres, and sensitivity analysis carried out on the chosen configuration.

RESULTS

ORH used these data on travel times and local populations to evaluate access times (displayed using isochrones) and the catchment population of each centre, for a range of configurations. ORH's optimising software was then used to find configurations that would deliver maximum coverage, using different numbers of centres from within the 13. Optimum configurations for six, seven and eight centres were identified based on car travel times, and then tested against the associated public transport travel times.

THE CHALLENGE

ORH was commissioned by the National Burn Care Group to evaluate different configurations of burns centres across England and Wales. A previous review had identified the need for burns facilities to be accessible across the country, with a more limited number of burns units providing resuscitation, and a small number of burns centres for those requiring the most complex care. The broad objective of the study was to model access times to potential burns centres, both by private car and public transport.

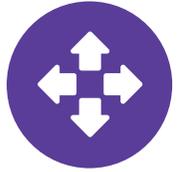


KEY BENEFITS

- Independent assessment of options
- Optimal balance found between clinical effectiveness and patient access
- Sensitivity analysis enabled various alternative proposals to be evaluated, including a 'greenfield' solution, providing confidence in the recommended option
- Study informed the planning of national and regional burns centres in relation to burns facilities and burns units



Nationwide travel-time networks for private and public transport were developed to enable the assessment of different configurations of burns centres



Optimising Locations – Health Facilities
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