

## 6.02 An analysis of care needs of patients with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy

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**Background:** Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD) is an inherited progressive, ultimately fatal disease of skeletal muscle wasting with cardiomyopathy and respiratory muscle failure. Recent advances in cardiomyopathy management and non-invasive ventilation have improved survival. A multidisciplinary clinic, including respiratory, cardiology and neurology, has been established in Beaumont Hospital to care for these, following transition from paediatrics. **Methods:** A retrospective chart review was undertaken of all patients attending the specialist DMD clinic. Data collected on respiratory, cardiac and neurological status, medications, mobility and swallow deficits. **Results:** Forty patients with DMD attend the service. Data on 39 was available for analysis. All are male, with a median age of 22.3years (range 17.4-36.9). 58% of patients require assisted ventilation, wearing NIV from 5-20h/day, 71% have cough-assist devices, while 15% require mouth-piece ventilation. 92% of patients have cardiac disease. 48% continue on steroid maintenance therapy with a range of regimens. **Conclusions:** Our service analysis highlights the complexity of patients with DMD. Cardiac disease is extremely prevalent, and over half of patients require assisted ventilation. As respiratory and cardiac failure are the most common causes of death in this population, our analysis highlighting the importance of a multi-disciplinary review to best manage these diseases concurrently. **Conflict of Interest:** The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.