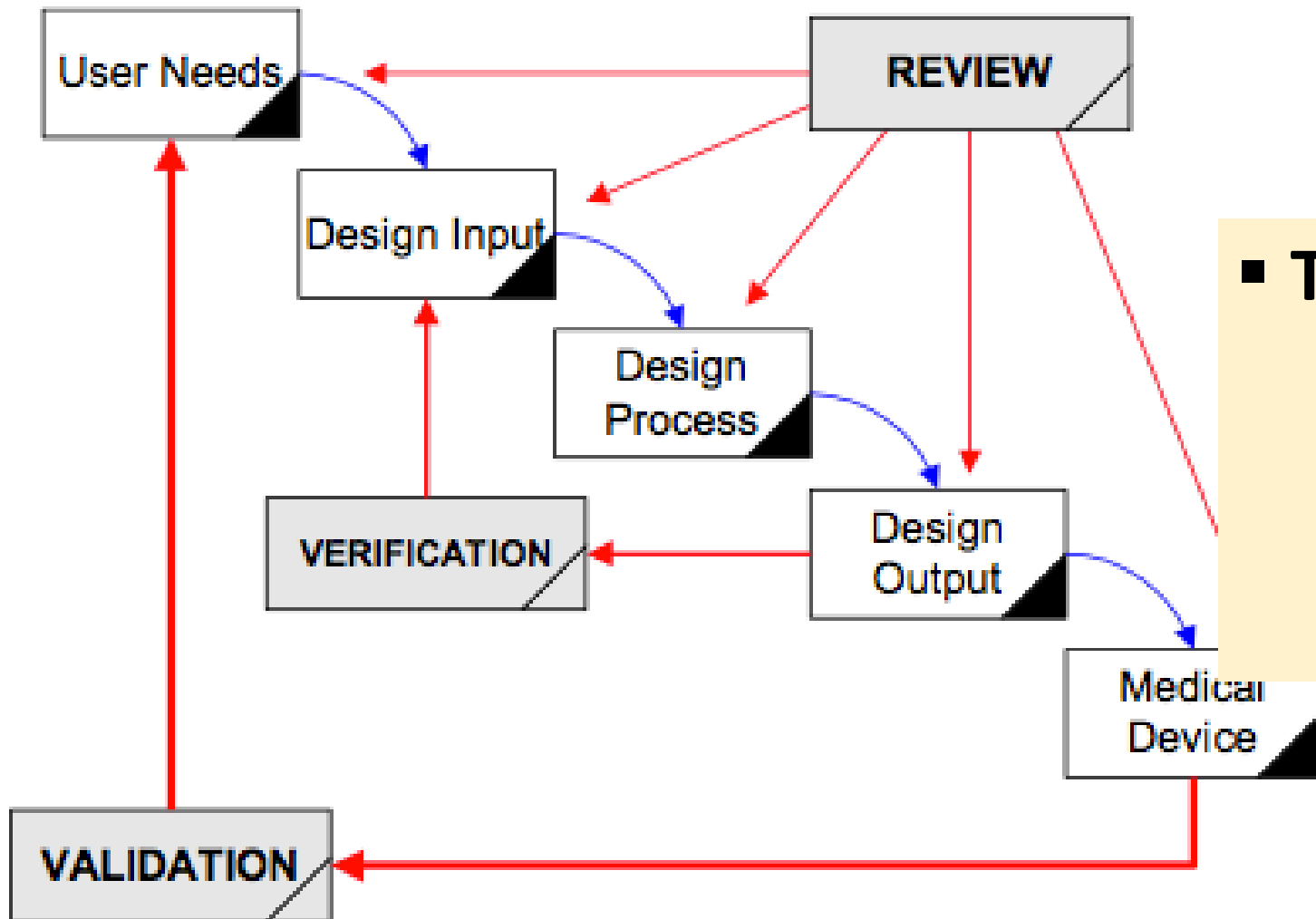


# Research Findings

Dr. Patrick Trotter & Tom Wright BSc MA MMRS  
Medilink Yorkshire & Humber Ltd.

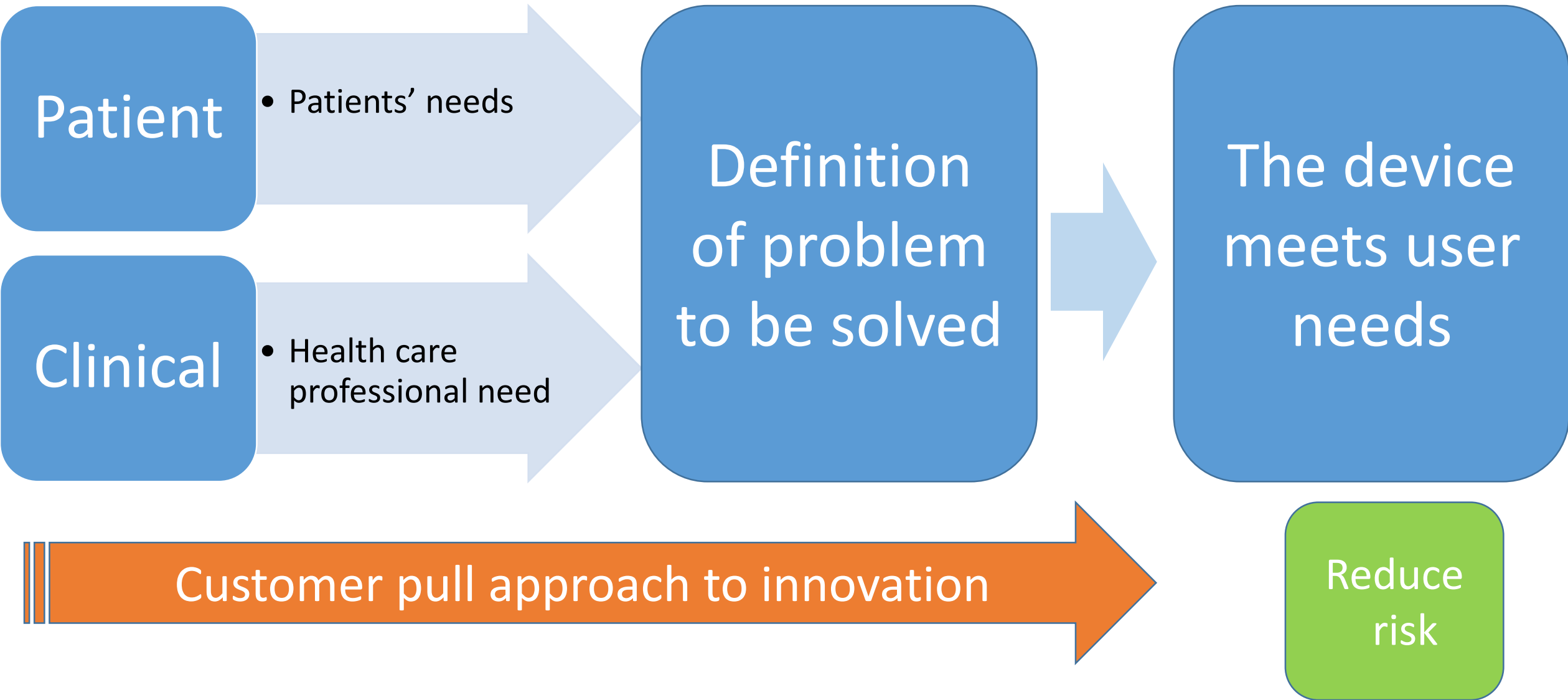
# Patient/clinical needs assessment - Why?



## ■ The design process

- Required for regulatory approval (e.g. FDA)
- Reduces technical and commercial risk
- **AN ASSESSMENT OF USER NEEDS IS CRITICAL**

# Focus on Patients and Clinical Needs



# Identification of user requirements

User and  
technical  
requirements

Design  
Inputs

Idea  
generation

Concept  
selection

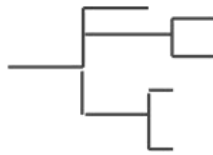
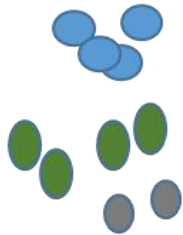
FOCUS GROUPS x 2

Team R&D activities

Soft prototyping

Matrix  
prioritisation

Focus group



Wireless or cable

**OUTPUT**  
FINALISED  
CONCEPT  
TO MOVE TO  
PHASE II  
CLINICAL  
STUDY

# Clinician Interview Research

Conducted 27<sup>th</sup> February - 10<sup>th</sup> March 2017

# Rationale

- Interview clinicians & health professionals in several different 'parts' of the care pathway
- Objective was to understand:
  - Current practice – and the way the machines are used to monitor patients
  - Attitudes towards the technology
  - Identify unmet needs – What works well, what doesn't work, and what could be improved upon in a future device
- **Outcome:** A clear picture of the technical requirements for a new device, driven by the clinical understanding of the issues surrounding pulse oximetry monitoring

# Clinical & Health Professional participants

Consultant in  
Respiratory and Sleep  
Medicine

Well Child Clinical  
Nurse Specialist in  
Ventilation

Team Leader, Helena  
Homecare Specialist  
Nursing Team

Respiratory Nurse

Lead Sleep  
Physiologist

Medical Student  
(Respiratory Interest)

Consultant in  
Respiratory Medicine

Consultant  
Paediatrician

Specialist Sleep  
Clinical Physiologist

Team Leader/Clinical  
Educator Paediatric  
Palliative Care

Staff Nurse

# Clinical & Health Professional participants

Children aged **3 months – 4 yrs**  
With a variety of  
respiratory conditions

Children aged **0 – 18 months and 10 yrs to 18 yrs**  
With ventilation required

Children aged **18 months – 10 yrs**  
With chronic respiratory  
conditions but well most  
of the time

Children aged **3 months – 10 yrs**  
With long-term  
conditions requiring  
periodic hospital care

Children aged **3 months – 10 yrs**  
With suspected  
OSA/sleep disorder

Children aged **3 months – 4 yrs**  
With suspected  
OSA/sleep disorder

Children aged **3 – 18 months**  
With chronic conditions  
requiring oxygen in the  
home

Children aged **0 months – 4 yrs**  
With chronic conditions  
requiring  
outpatient/inpatient care

Children aged **3 months – 10 yrs**  
With suspected  
OSA/sleep disorder

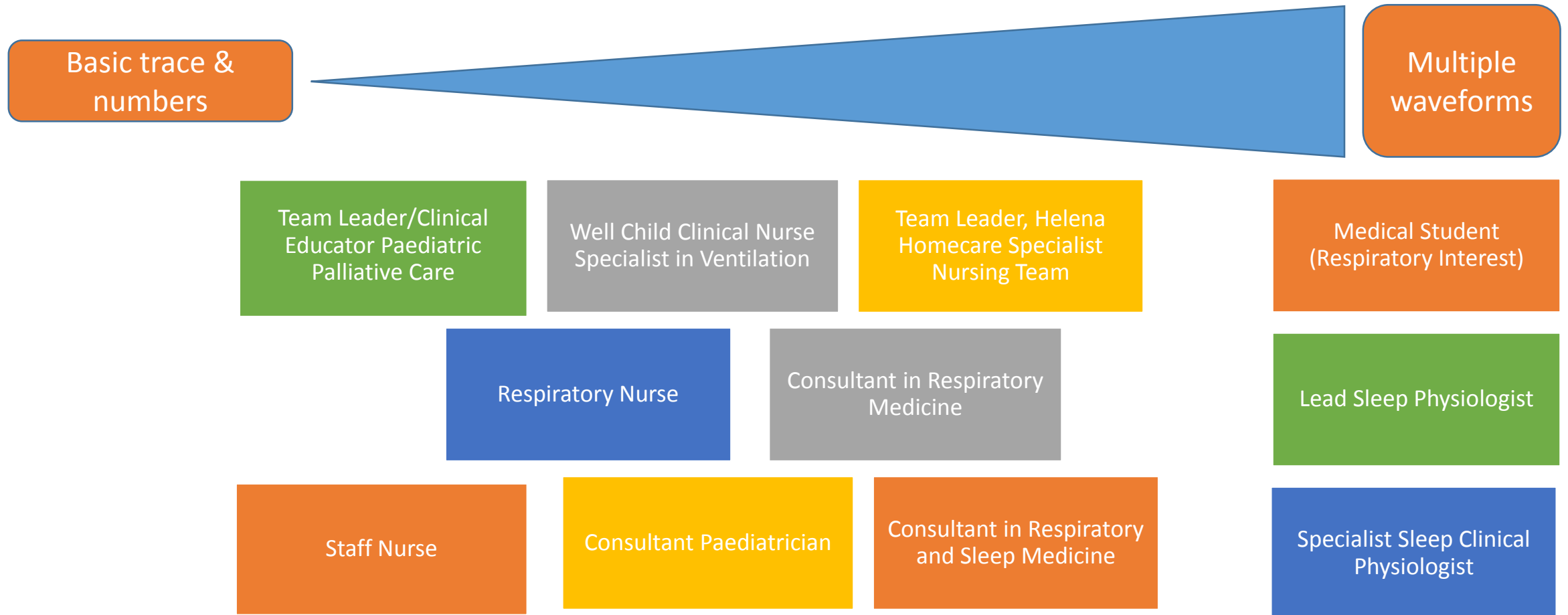
Children aged **18 months – 18 yrs**  
With chronic life limiting  
conditions requiring  
palliative care

Children aged **18 months – 18 yrs**  
With chronic conditions  
requiring  
outpatient/inpatient care



# Clinical & Health Professional participants

Richness of data required (from pulse oximeter)



# Current Practice

## Section 1

# Favourite machine & why?

## Home Monitoring

### Machines

Konica Minolta 300i

### Advantages

- Given to parents to take home
- Smaller than other units

### Disadvantages

- Not good at filtering movement artefact

## Home & Hospital monitoring

### Machines

Masimo Radical 7  
Masimo Radical 7 Touch  
Masimo Radical 8

### Advantages

- Portable
- Superior artefact filtering
- Gold standard for monitoring
- Visual Pleth Data

### Disadvantages

- Difficult for parents/carers to use
- Device can fail to record data at times

## Hospital monitoring

### Machines

Nellcor 500/5  
Nellcor Oximax

### Advantages

- Large machines
- Mains operated
- Easier to use than alternatives
- All nurses trained on this machine
- Best for inpatient care
- Durable and easy to use

### Disadvantages

- Not as good at Masimo devices for artefact rejection

# Favourite machine & why?

## Home Monitoring

### Machines

Konica Minolta

### Advantages

- Given to patients
- Smaller than other machines

### Disadvantages

- Not good at rejecting artefact

**Masimo units**  
favoured by respondents

## Monitoring

alternatives  
to this

re  
use

- Device can fail to record data at times

### Disadvantages

- Not as good at Masimo devices for artefact rejection

# Favourite sensor & why?

## Reusable

### Sensors

With Elastoplast style fixings  
Crocodile clips

### Advantages

- Crocodile clips ones are easier than adhesives to use – something which clips straight on
- Easier to use for lay-people and nurses than disposable
- Better for spot checking

### Disadvantages

- Expensive to replace
- Get damaged and replaced too often in home care (by carers)
- Crocodile clips do not fit on small fingers

## Disposable

### Sensors

Adhesive kits in packet

### Advantages

- Single use downloads quicker
- Cheaper to replace – home care go through probes very quickly
- Better for long term monitoring
- Easier to put on a child

### Disadvantages

- Can lead to poor placement on child fingers – difficult to use for lay people

# Favourite sensor & why?

## Reusable

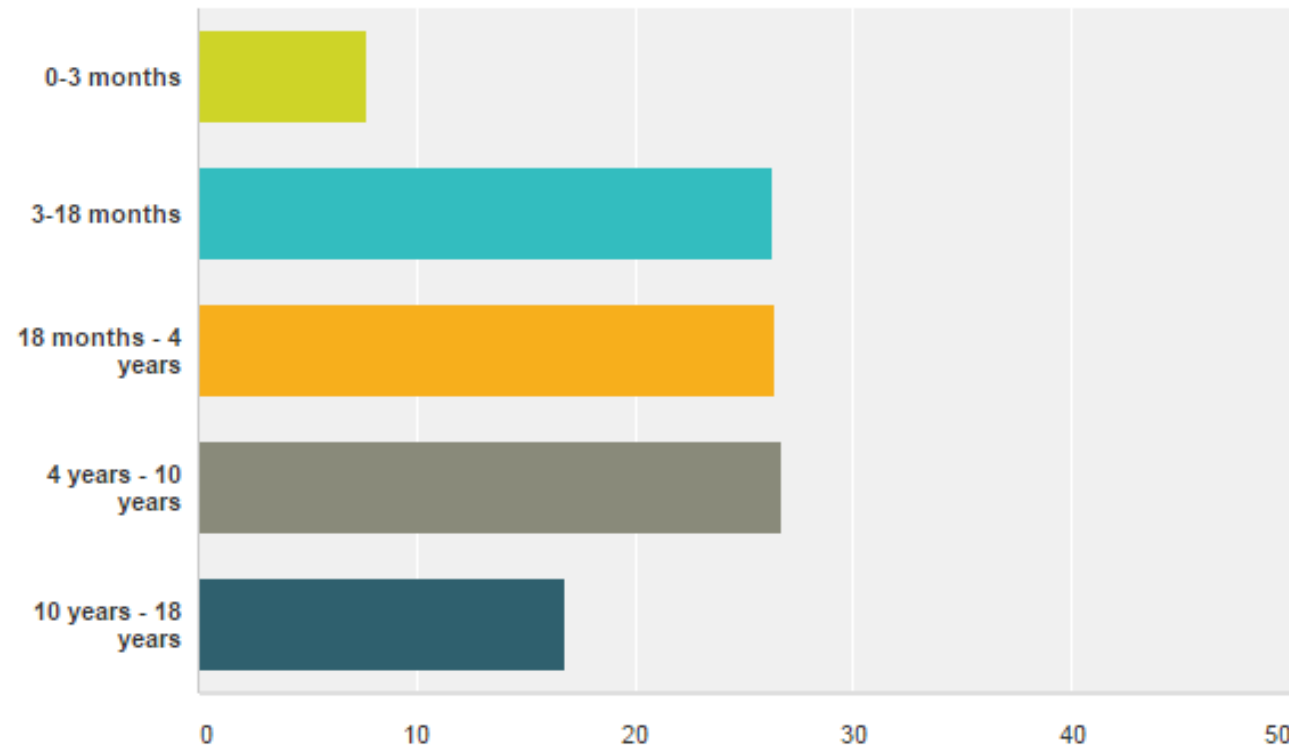
**Reusable probes** in the sleep lab, some hospital scenarios, for machines sent for short studies

## Disposable sensors

For continuous home care (cost pressure), and small babies

- Get damaged and replaced too often in home care (by carers)
- Crocodile clips do not fit on small fingers

# How much of your time is taken up caring for patients in the following age categories?



- Average of 11 responses
- Over 75% of all time taken by 3 months – 10 years age group
- Neonates and >10 years relatively small proportion

## Forms of information collected during monitoring

FEV1 and FVC ratio  
(obstructive lung disease)

Carbon Dioxide

Oxygen requirement

Colour (complexion  
of child)

Parental observations –  
sleep/wake, body positions,  
snoring

Ventilation settings

Secretions – colour  
and consistency

Humidifier temperature

Work of breath

Peak Expiratory Flow Rate

Spirometry examination

Amount of suction required

Breathing

Heart rate

Respiratory Rate & effort

Chest deformity

## Forms of information NOT currently collected (but which would be useful)

Activity

Carbon Dioxide

Respiratory rate

Video

Audio

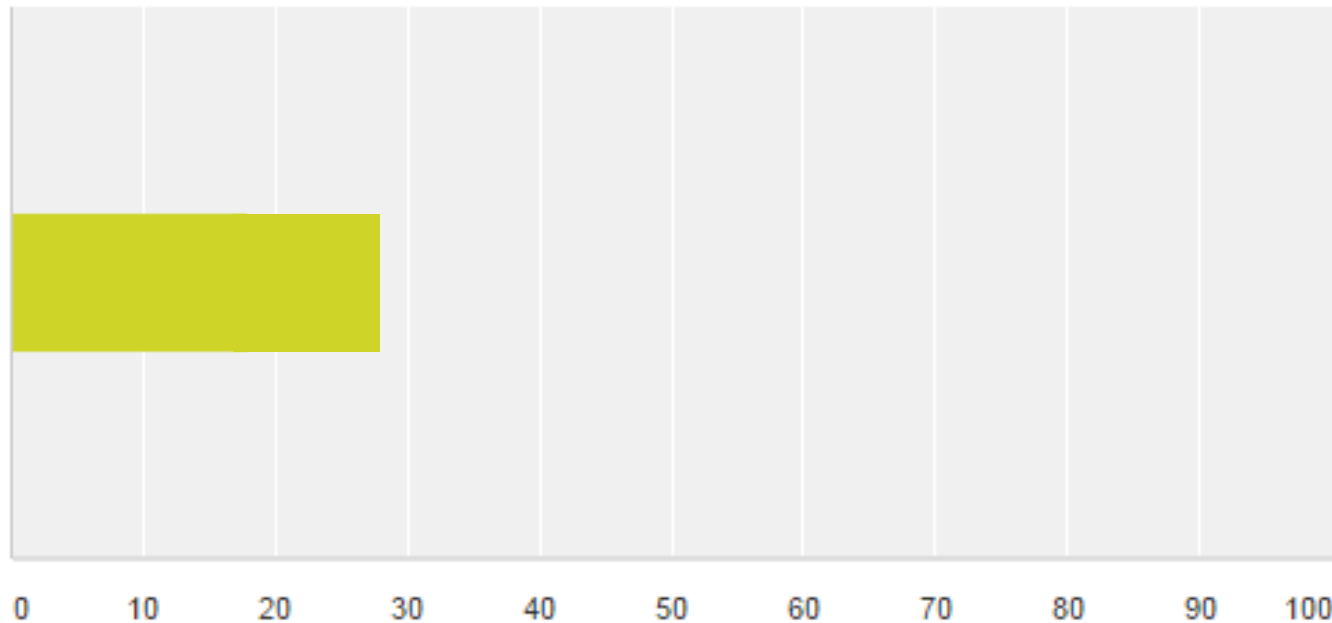
Integrated Diary Card

Sats and Respiratory  
Rate combined

Body position



By your estimation, what percentage of A&E admissions for children with chronic respiratory problems could be avoided by improvements in home monitoring technology?

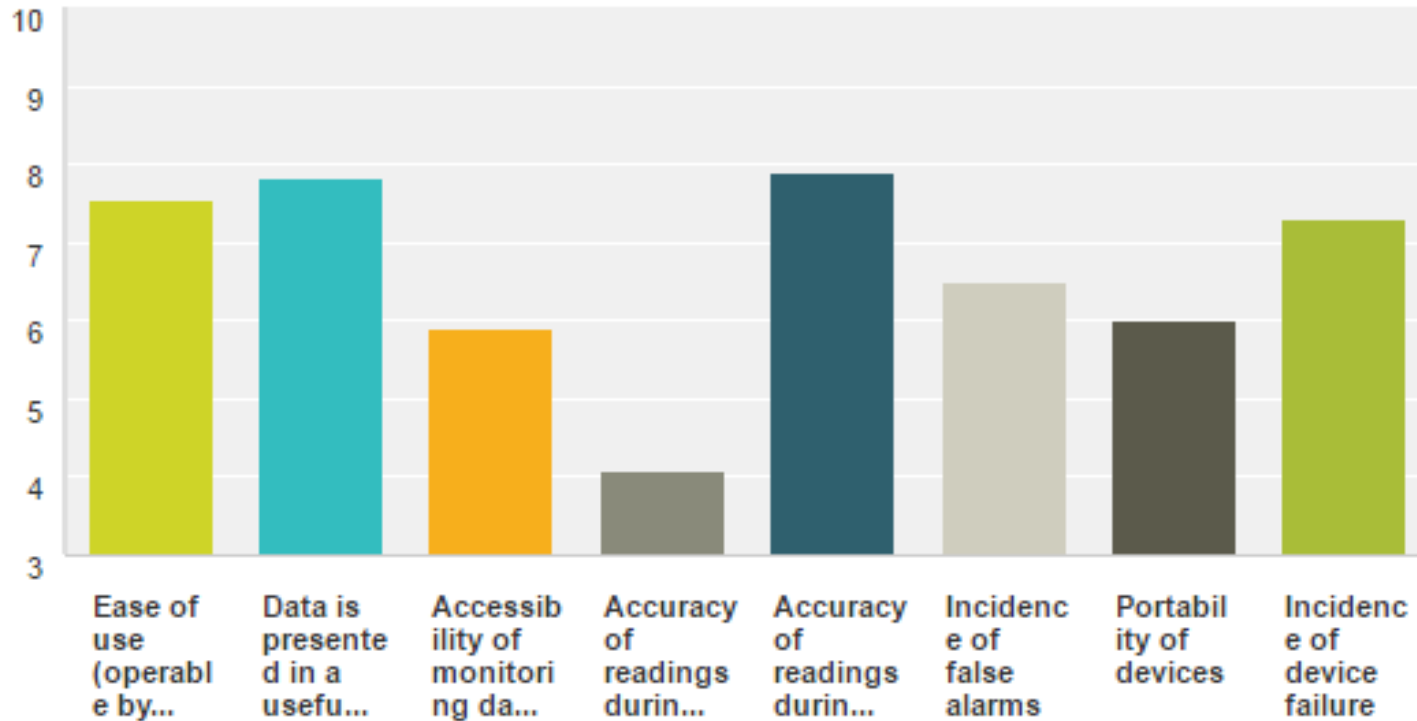


- An average score of 27%
- Responses ranged from 10 (Respiratory Consultant) to 60 (Team leader/Clinical Educator Paediatric Palliative Care)
- Examples of potential benefits included allowing bronchiolitic babies to remain under remote monitoring supervision at home instead of being admitted during outbreaks of RSV – reducing infection transmission

# Attitudes towards the technology

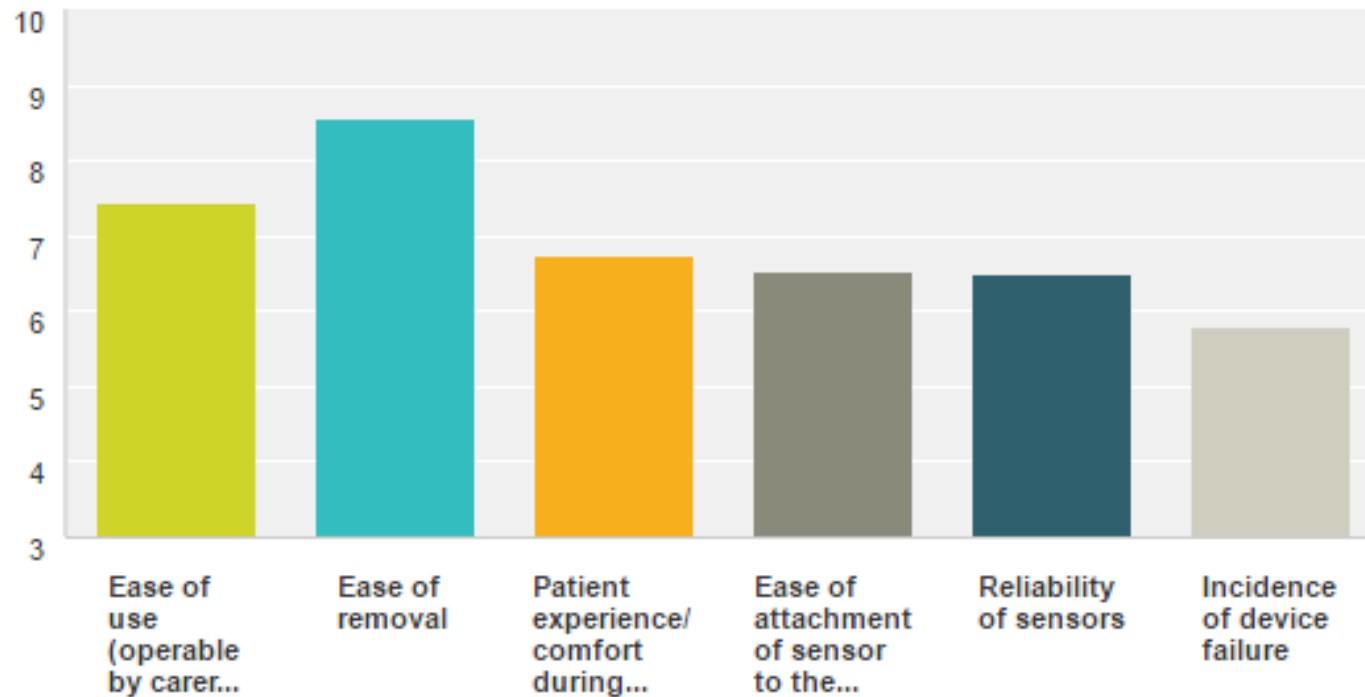
## Section 2

In your opinion, how well does your preferred pulse oximeter unit perform in the following areas? Please assign each area a score of between 1 and 10



- Results show respondents judge accuracy of readings during sleep/restfulness to be very good, however, during movement they are judged to be poor
- Accessibility of data, device portability and incidence of false alarms are rated poorly

In your opinion, how well does this pulse oximeter **sensor** perform in the following areas? Please assign each area a score of between 1 and 10



- Sensors do not perform as well as pulse oximeter units in the same analysis
- They are easy to remove, but poorer at reliability, patient comfort and ease of attachment

## Are there any particular limitations with the current technology not covered already?

Movement artefacts cannot be filtered easily

Unable to assess underlying reason for desaturations i.e central/obstructive events

Inability to transmit data remotely

Probes can be difficult to place correctly for inexperienced carers/nurses

Sensor probes aren't always the right size for the patient – leads to poor placement and patient discomfort

Portable models can give false readings in sunlight

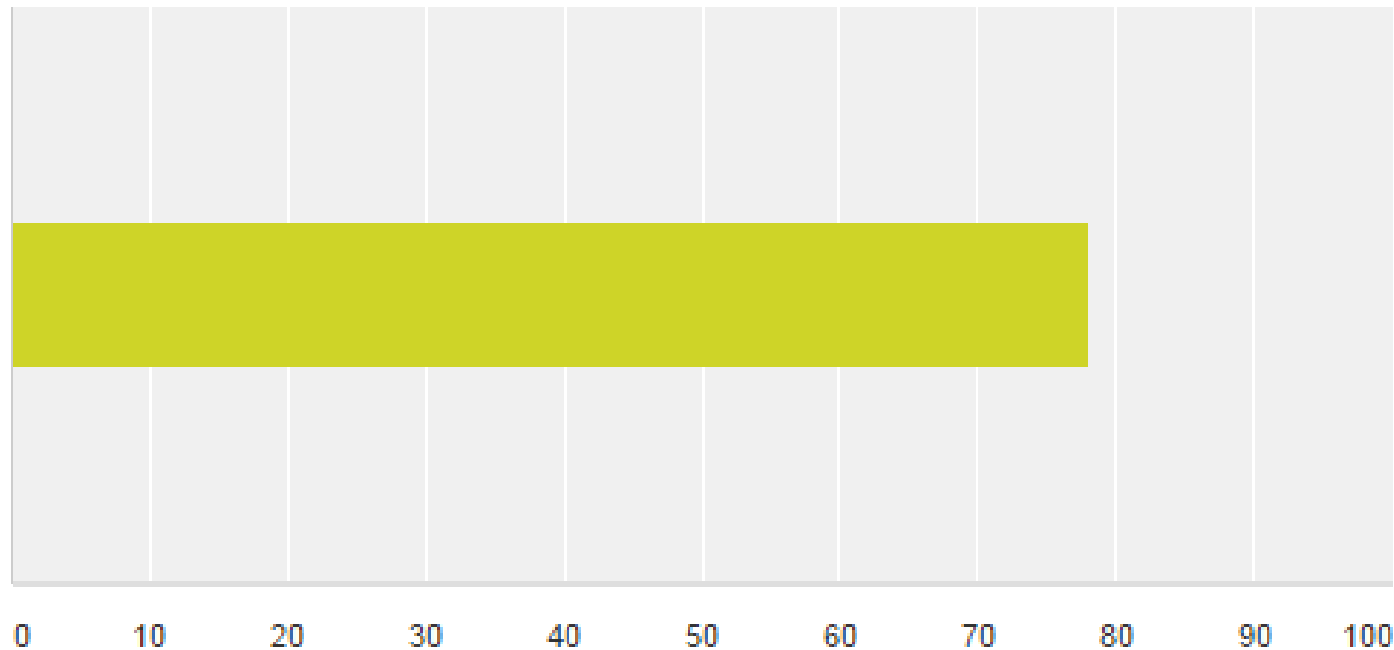
Getting good traces at home can be difficult – if it (the data) could be transmitted back to hospital automatically as it is created then we could guarantee it will be collected

Sensors can be fragile – re-usable “Y” sensors can break at the cable relatively easily - £150 each approx.

Analysis software for Masimo machines is not very good – crashes computers when downloading data, and download can take up to half an hour

Docking station for Masimo units fails occasionally – doesn't collect and store the data so study must be repeated

Overall, how much confidence do you have in readings taken from your preferred pulse oximeter?



- An average score of 78 from 11 respondents
- Responses ranged from 52% for the Well child clinical nurse specialist ventilation, to 95% for the Respiratory Nurse
- Overall, respondents had a good level of confidence in the readings they were obtaining from their pulse oximeters

# Identify unmet needs

## Section 3

## Future needs: List of prioritised features

### Tier 1

- Wireless sensor

### Tier 2

- Reduction in movement artefacts
- Earlier response warning system for carer/patient/health professional upon desaturation

### Tier 3

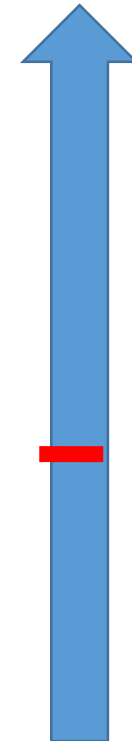
- Can be worn by patient during activity
- Event recorder (integrated diary card)

### Tier 4

- Reduced risk of probe becoming detached
- Patient comfort during monitoring
- Portability of the system
- Ease of application

### Tier 5

- Alarm system with direct link to health professionals
- Visual pleth data reading on screen
- Availability of real time data feed to health professionals



Consider

Needs less  
important to  
clinicians



## Sensor probe placement: list of prioritised locations

### Tier 1

- Forehead

### Tier 2

- Ear
- Chest
- Wrist

### Tier 3

- Lower Leg
- Hand
- Big Toe

### Tier 4

- Foot
- Stomach
- Thumb

Consider

Needs less  
important to  
clinicians

# Patient focus group

## Report

10<sup>th</sup> March 2017

# Background

- Objective
  - Patient focus group to identify unmet needs around oximetry and to use these in the new product design process
- 7 parents and 1 child (12 yr old)
- Location and time
  - Sheffield Children's Hospital
  - 10am, 9<sup>th</sup> March 2017



# Patient participants

Mum of 18 month old with achondroplasia (on a ventilator)

Foster Mum of 5 year old on a ventilator due to cervical spine injury following a road traffic accident

Mother of child with down syndrome

12 year old with chronic lung disease secondary to congenital diaphragmatic hernia and his Mum

Mother of 12 yr old with chronic lung disease secondary to congenital diaphragmatic hernia

Mother of child with downs syndrome

Foster Mum of 3 year old with chronic lung disease and neurodisability secondary to prematurity

# The patient focus group process

Baseline  
line

How is  
information  
used

Current  
devices  
Likes/dislike

Needs for  
future  
device

Placement  
of sensor



Beeping  
Suction  
Rosie  
Oxygen  
Bagging  
OBSERVATION  
Verbal  
oxygen

① HOME - DAY TIME  
OBSERVE  
SPOT CHECK  
TROUBLE SHOOTING  
oxygen

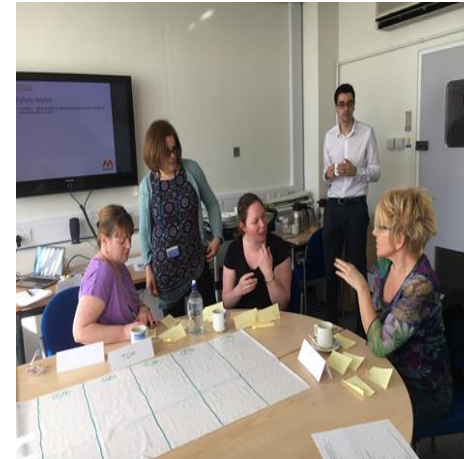
observation/  
Spot check  
Decision Making  
Hospital/oxygen

WHAT DO YOU DISLIKE ABOUT THE OXIMETER/ YOU ARE USING

To many wires.  
To Big  
flashes  
Over Sensitive  
Noisy / Beeping

Restrictive / Hinders been inclusive  
Finger / toes Can be pulled due to tight a wire.  
Noisy - Beeping  
No Hand waving  
Not discreet.

fall off / don't attach well  
Wires  
Easy for a child to Remove  
Break easily.  
need recting due to burn / pressure Points.  
Wires Can Cause Pressure marks to the skin and could break down the skin.  
Wire Can Create Pain due to pressure  
Uncomfortable / toe when on finger it gets in the way.





# Baseline understanding

- Mixture of patients using continuous monitoring and periodic measurements
- Common to have two or more devices
  - Tendency to use a smaller unit during the day (but still considered to large)
- Battery life highlighted as current frustrations
- Wires on current devices considered negative
  - Safety risk
  - Comfort (area connected to sensor highlighted as particularly problematic)
  - Reduced level of independence
- Durability of sensors
  - Even of reusable sensors considered poor
- Babycam system
  - would be nice to observe data remotely (e.g. in another room)



At this stage needs and frustrations with existing devices were unsolicited

# How is information used

Beeping  
Suction  
Rosie  
Oxygen  
Bagging

① HOME - DAY TIME

OBSERVE  
SPOT CHECK  
TROUBLE SHOOTING  
Oxygen

observation  
SPOT

OBSERVATION  
Verbal  
Oxygen

Beeping  
observation  
Manual movement  
Decision making  
Oxygen

② HOME - NIGHT TIME

OBSERVATION  
Decision making  
Oxygen

③ SCHOOL / CARE SITUATIONS

Observation  
Decision making  
Oxygen.

Just observation  
Decision making  
Oxygen

- Oximeter reassures me to stay at home and not bring my child to hospital

- False positives frustrating, particularly at night
- Reassurance was a recurring theme/ benefit
- One parent was monitored by sleep unit for 3 nights- no dip. On 4<sup>th</sup> night child had dipped four times by 11pm.



# Current oximeters: Likes

- Reassurance
- Monitoring+ less hospitalisation
- One make is relatively small and can be personalised (pink or blue)
- Bright numbers

The group struggled to identify any specific elements that they liked regarding existing devices



# Current oximeters: Dislikes

## MONITOR

- Even portable ones are too big
- Too many wires (get tangled worried about
  - Strangled, caught (e.g. in doors), easy to dislodge)
- Over sensitive (too many false alarms)

The presence of wires was the causative factor of many dislikes

## SENSOR

- Falls off/ doesn't attach well
- Wires make it easy for child to remove
- Break easily (even reusable ones)
- Need resiting due to burn pressure points/
- Wires can cause pressure marks and skin breakdown
- Wire can create pain due to pressure on toe (causes pain at point of sensor)
- It hurts when lying on the wire (from child)
- Need to unplug when visiting toilet (trails behind child and can get damaged)

# Future device (unsolicited wants)

Individual  
recorded needs



Affinity analysis



Prioritisation



## Tier 1

- Wireless probes (overcome dislikes and increase patient independence)
- Reduce pressure/ burning on sensor
- Access data remotely (via an app)

## Tier 2

- Better sensor that is more comfortable (e.g. soft materials)
- robust
- Easier to attach / does not fall off

## Tier 3

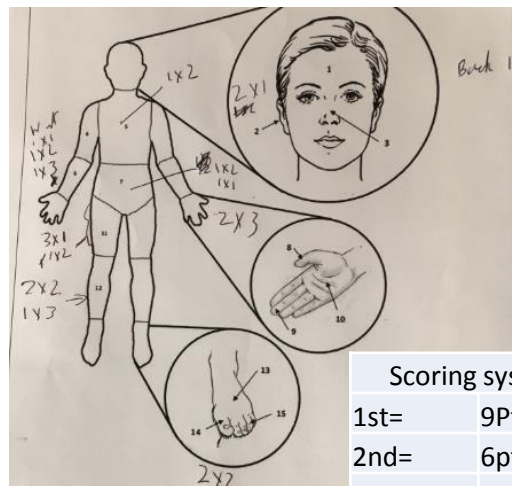
- More reliable/ less false positives
- Record data (e.g. on SD card or alternative)

## Tier 4

- Smaller
- Non visible probe
- Less clinical looking (e.g. more colourful)
- Chargeable monitor or longer battery

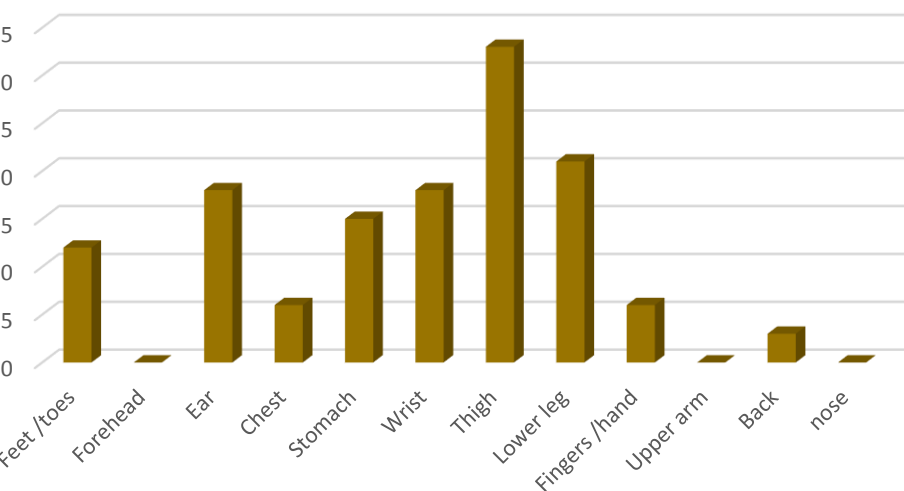
# Preferred placement of sensor

- 3 choices Per person 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Attach to mannequin



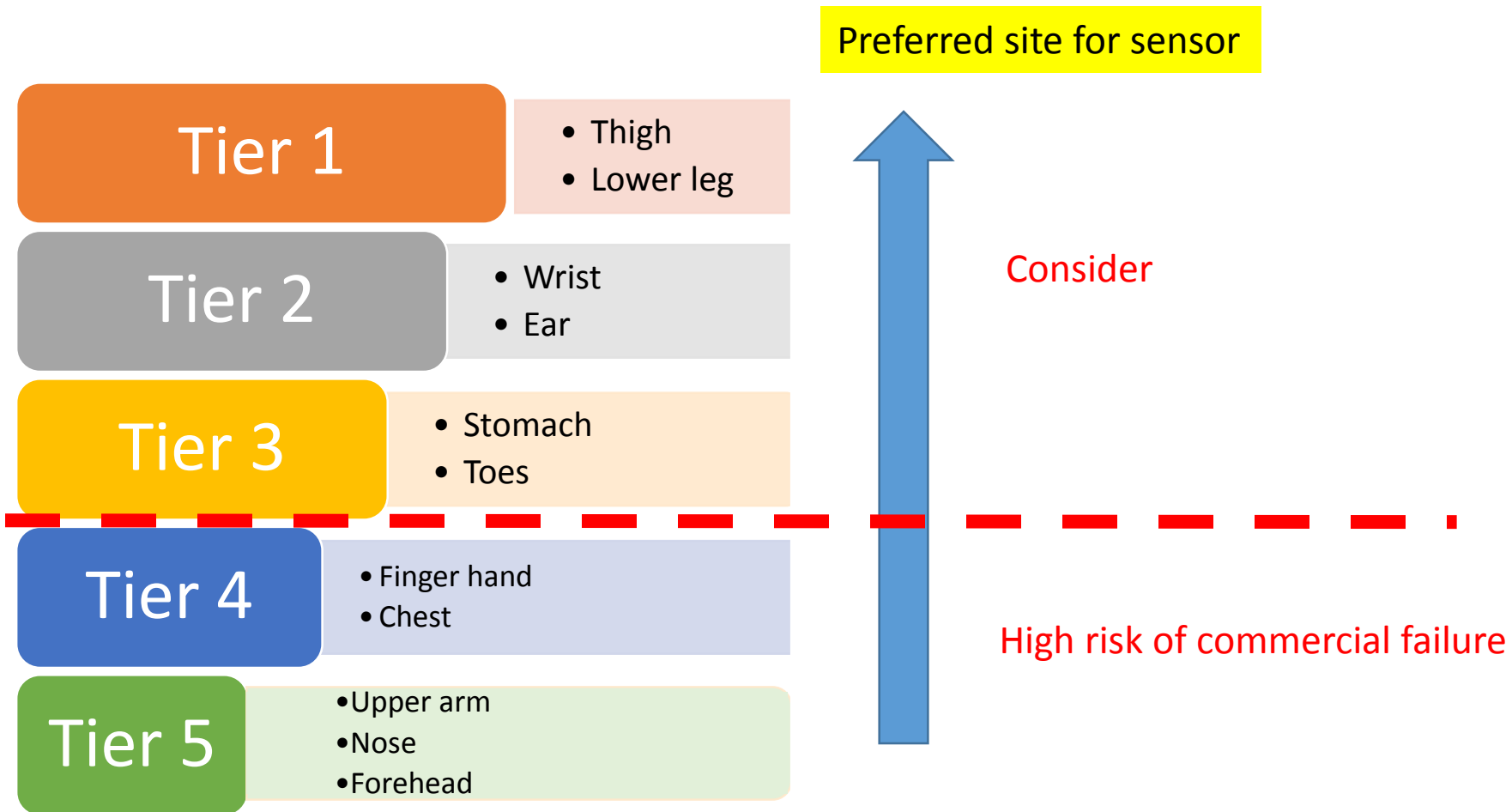
Location	Total scores	
Feet /toes	<div></div>	12
Forehead		0
Ear	<div></div>	18
Chest	<div></div>	6
Stomach	<div></div>	15
Wrist	<div></div>	18
Thigh	<div></div>	33
Lower leg	<div></div>	21
Fingers /hand	<div></div>	6
Upper arm		0
Back	<div></div>	3
nose		0

scores



Tier 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thigh</li> <li>Lower leg</li> </ul>
Tier 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wrist</li> <li>Ear</li> </ul>
Tier 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stomach</li> <li>Toes</li> </ul>
Tier 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finger hand</li> <li>Chest</li> <li>Forehead</li> </ul>

# Preferred placement of sensor



# Information form patient diary cards

Gender	Age	PMH	Comments
M		3 Respiratory Chest Issues	02:00 - woke up crying as did not want it on foot, refusing to have sensor back on, 04:30am - still refusing to have sensor on and kicking it off, does not want the machine on his toe
M		10 Duchennes Muscular Dystrophy	not the best night's sleep due to the wires and the machine buzzing
M		1 Down Syndrome	probe detached from toe after 1.5 hours
M		14 Epilepsy	2 nights - probe off 3 times first night, 2 times second night
M		0.88 Parental reports of breathing pauses	Night 1 - 10:15 woke after 2 hours as monitor off foot. 11:45pm - finally reattached to toe; 03:15am - turned off machine as patient woke up and machine fell off foot. Would not let me put it back on. Night 2 - 09:30pm attached; 09:44pm woke up - put it back on as wasn't on toe properly; 12:30 - turned off as patient fully awake and won't let parent put it back on. 01:00 am reattachedm working ok. 01:45am - turned off for the night as won't keep it on foot and distressed
F		3 Sleep related breathing disorder	Night 1 - 20:42 bedtime; 20:47 - asleep; 01:15 - came off toe ?exact time; 07:52- awake Night 2 - 18:30-asleep; 20:33 - came off toe; 07:15 - awake
F		3 Wheeze	Overnight - woke up several times taking off the wire and falling back to sleep. Had to reattach the wire using up most of the stickers
F		2 Choking, ?asthma	Moved wire and probe causing machine to alarm. Probe kept falling off causing machine to alarm.
M		7 ?sleep disordered breathing. Autism	Tried with machine at home for 2 nights - failed, no data

Confirms findings from focus group.

- Patients do not like it on foot
- Wires and buzzing result in poor nights sleep
- Sensor not remaining attached was a problem in a number of patients
- False alarm due to moved wire

➤ This non solicited opinion validates data and conclusions from the focus groups

# Summary sensor placement

## Clinician

- Forehead
- Ear
- Chest
- Wrist
- Lower Leg
- Hand
- Big Toe

## Patient

- Thigh
- Lower leg
- Wrist
- Ear
- Stomach
- Toes

## Acceptable to both

- Lower leg /thigh?
- Wrist
- Ear
- ?

# Summary -Future needs

## Clinician

- Wireless sensor
- Reduction in motion artefacts
- Earlier response warning system for carer/patient
- Can be worn during activity
- Event recorder
- Reduced risk of probe becoming detached
- Patient comfort
- Portability of system
- Ease of application

## Patient

- Wireless sensor
- Reduce pressure/ burning on sensor
- Access data remotely (via an app)
- Better sensor that is more comfortable (e.g. soft materials)
- robust
- Easier to attach / does not fall off
- More reliable/ less false positives
- Record data (e.g. on SD card or alternative)
- Smaller
- Non visible probe
- Less clinical looking (e.g. more colourful)
- Chargeable monitor or longer battery

## Potential design inputs

- Wireless sensor
- Reduced pressure on sensor
- Access data remotely
- Reduction in motion artefacts
- Can be worn during activity
- Event recorder
- More comfortable sensor
- Robust
- Easy to attach/ doesn't fall off
- Earlier warning system

Most important

