



# Local Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening (South Yorkshire & Bassetlaw)

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## Raising awareness for Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA) and the importance of early detection

### AAA Screening:

#### **A free NHS check for Men Aged 65 and over**

- AAA usually has no obvious symptoms.
- Screening detects AAA early so it can be monitored or repaired timely.
- AAA can rupture at anytime, making it life threatening.





AAA Screening is making a difference to the health of men in Barnsley, Bassetlaw, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield.

It is estimated that  
**4 out of 5** men  
with a ruptured AAA  
will die before getting  
to hospital or fail to  
survive emergency  
surgery

SYB AAA aim to reduce  
**ruptured AAA  
mortality by up to  
50%** through early  
detection, strict  
monitoring and timely  
treatment (*national goal*)

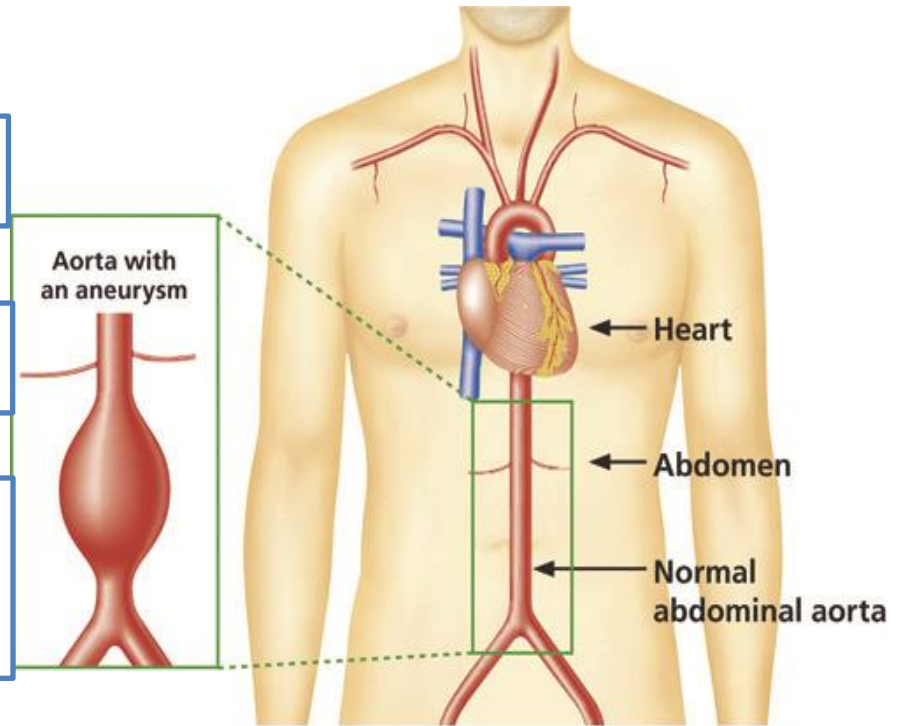


## Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA)

A normal Abdominal Aorta should have a maximum diameter of  $<3\text{cm}$ . A measurement  $\geq 3\text{cm}$  would indicate an aneurysm.

In some people, as they get older, the wall of the aorta in the abdomen may become weak and starts to expand.

An expanding abdominal aorta can be serious if it's not detected early enough because it has the potential to keep expanding and may eventually burst (rupture). **Rupture can occur at any stage.**





## AAA screening advocacy with Partnership with Healthcare Practitioners

- Variation in uptake across GP practices
- Varying levels of awareness of the NHS AAA Screening Programme amongst Health professionals and Community health workers.
- Health professionals and Community health workers are in contact with the communities we are trying to engage!
- A need for increased understanding of the programme if we want to increase uptake



## Who is most at risk

- The main risk factors:
  1. Age
  2. Male
  
- The condition is six times more common in men.
  
- Risk is increased by smoking, high blood pressure and Family history.

Screening for AAA isn't routinely offered to *women, men under 65* and *people who've already been treated for an AAA*. This is because the risk of an AAA is much lower in these groups.



## Who can be screened/booking an appointment

- ✓ Currently, screening programmes detects the largest number of AAA.
- ✓ The NHS routinely invites all men for screening in the year they turn 65.

### *What about men aged over 65?*

- ✓ Men aged over 65 who have not been screened before are still welcome.
- ✓ They can self refer by contacting South Yorkshire & Bassetlaw **AAA office** at **01709649100** or email ***dbh.tr.dbhaaa@nhs.net*** to arrange a free screen.
- ✓ The programme would send the man an information pack containing AAA information leaflet, a letter of invitation, self referral form and list of screening clinics to choose from).



## Headliner figures for Barnsley

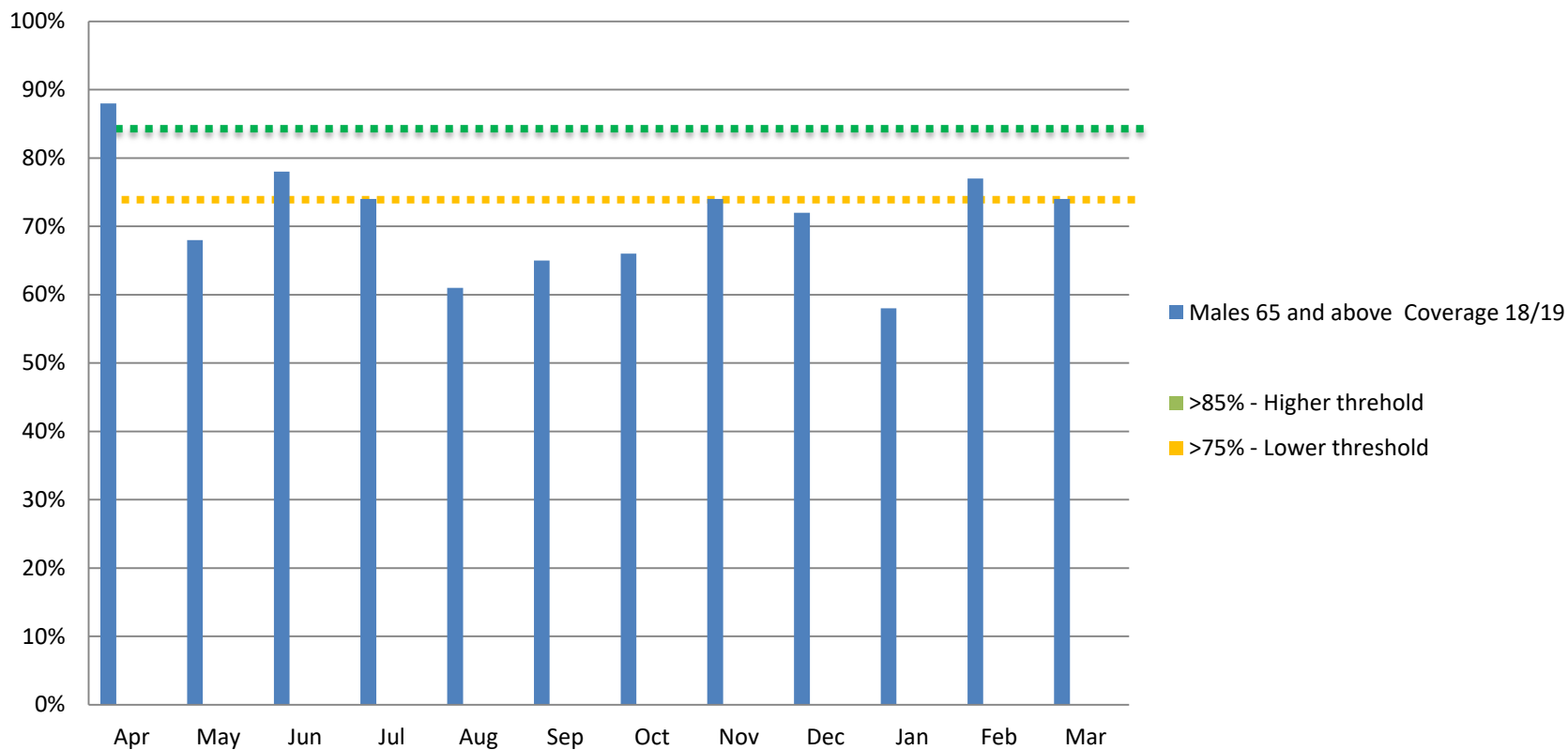
- First clinic - held 1<sup>st</sup> March 2013 at Sheffield city GP Medical centre
- Screened a total of nearly 7,009 men in Barnsley to date (from 2013-2019) out of a possible 8,216, this equals a coverage of 85%.
- Currently have 49 men on our surveillance pathway (monitored 3 monthly or 12 monthly ) depending on AAA size.
- Referred a total of 5 men with large AAA to vascular centre for repair.
- 5 wide spread accessible clinic sites in the city plus access to The Health Bus.





## Our performance: Men attending AAA screening appointments

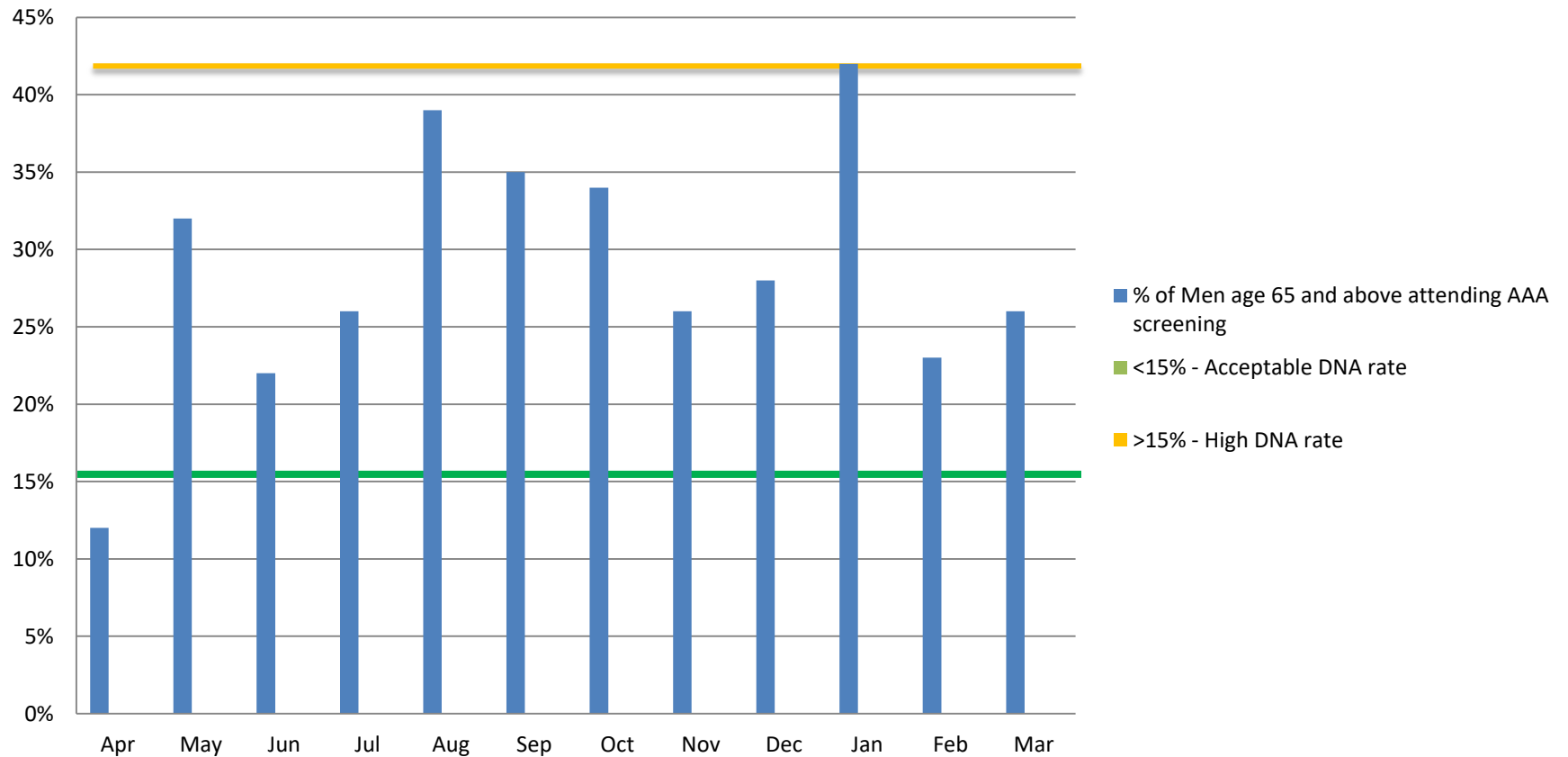
### % Monthly Clinic Appointment Uptake in Barnsley





## Our performance: Men not attending AAA screening appointments

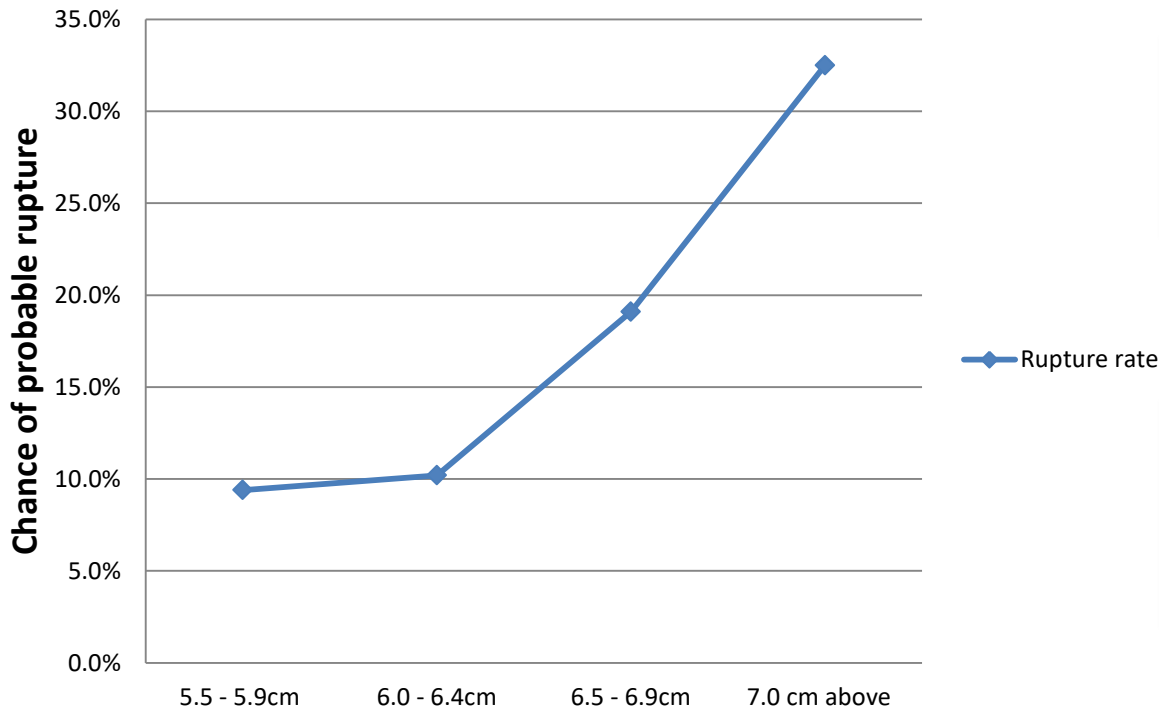
### % Monthly Did Not Attend Rate in Barnsley





# Likelihood of A Ruptured AAA

## Rupture Rate of Abdominal Aortic Aneurysms



The mortality rate from ruptured AAA is around 80% <sup>1</sup>.

The mortality rate after planned surgery to repair a Screen detected AAA is around 2-3% <sup>2</sup>.



## Graham's Experience

### **Graham said:**

*"I'd never heard of AAA until my sister in law told me about the local clinic, it fills me with dread thinking I was walking around with a large aneurysm which could have been a ticking time bomb. "I feel very lucky".*



*Graham White, from Wath Upon Dearne.*



## Paul's Experience

### **Paul said:**

*"I felt fit and well prior to my scan so when I was told I had a very large AAA measuring 9.1cm it was a real shock. If I had ignored my invite and the aneurysm had burst I dread to think what would have happened to me. I had surgery within the week - I feel really lucky, grateful to be alive and fit."*



*Paul Scholey, from Sheffield .*



## References

1. <sup>1</sup>Screening men for abdominal aortic aneurysm: 10 year mortality and cost effectiveness results from the randomised Multicentre Aneurysm Screening Study. *BMJ*, 2009, vol./is. 338/(b2307), 0959-535X;1468-5833
2. <sup>2</sup> Outcomes after Elective Repair of Infra-renal Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm. A report from The Vascular Society March 2012

