

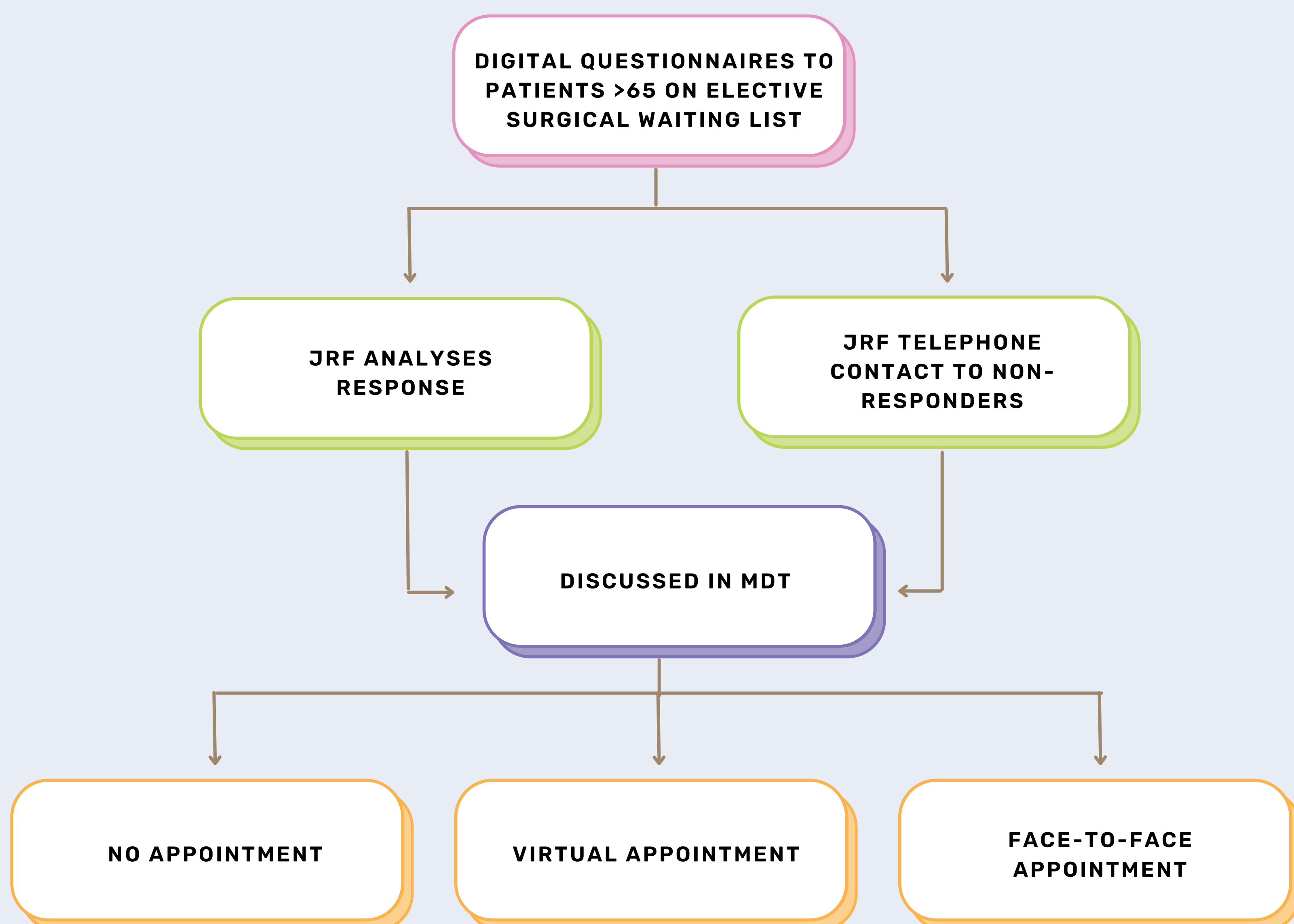
THE ROLE OF NON-CONSULTANT STAFF FOR PERIOPERATIVE SCREENING OF PATIENTS WITH FRAILTY ON ELECTIVE SURGICAL WAITING LISTS

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INTRODUCTION

Waiting lists for elective surgery remain high with latest figures from November 2024 showing **802,268 patient pathways waiting in Wales** with limited availability in perioperative services and perioperative assessment clinics. Recently, two **research fellows (JRFs)** were appointed to support an already established **Geriatrician led clinic** with the aim of **identifying frail patients on elective surgical waiting lists** for intervention.

METHODOLOGY



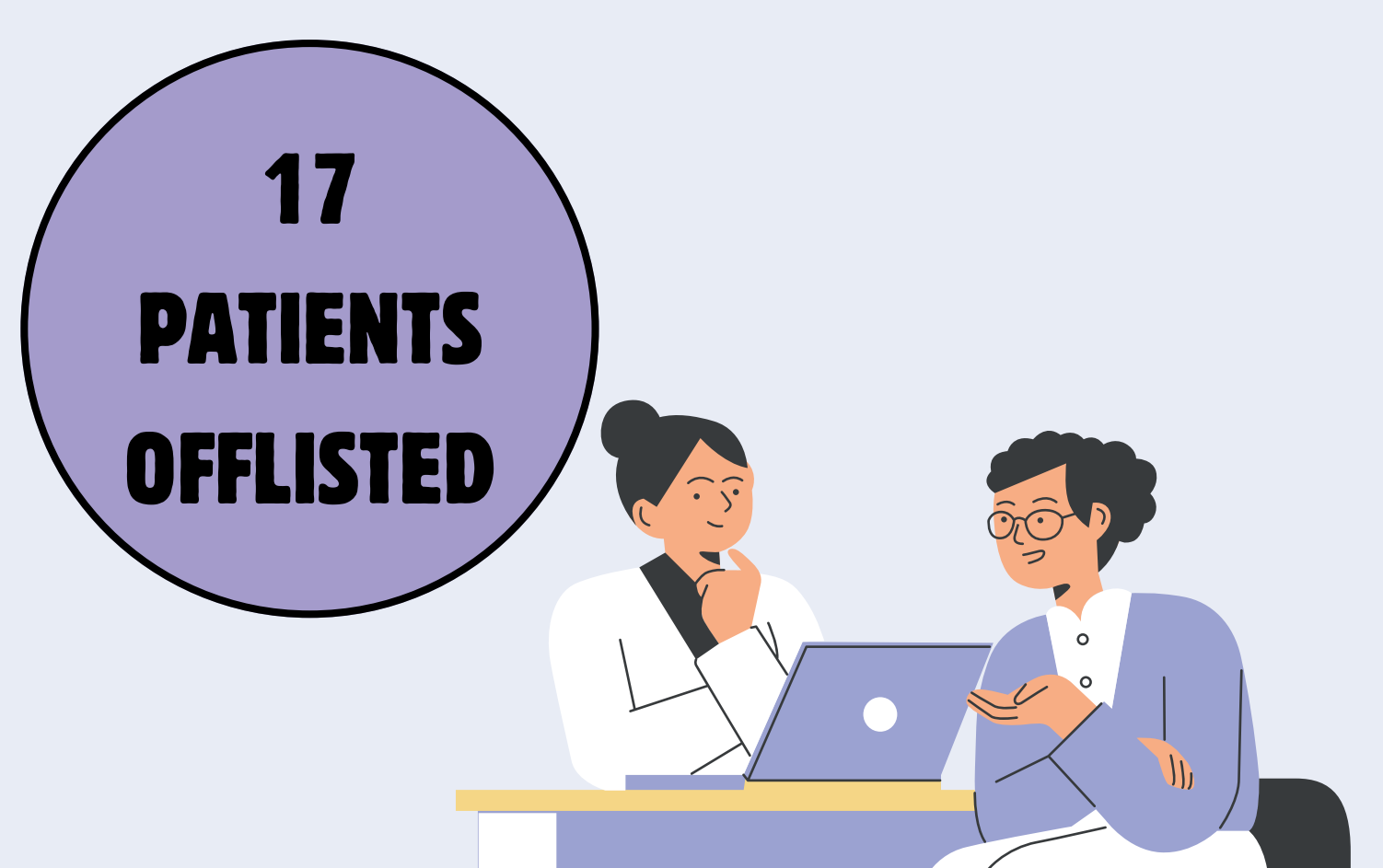
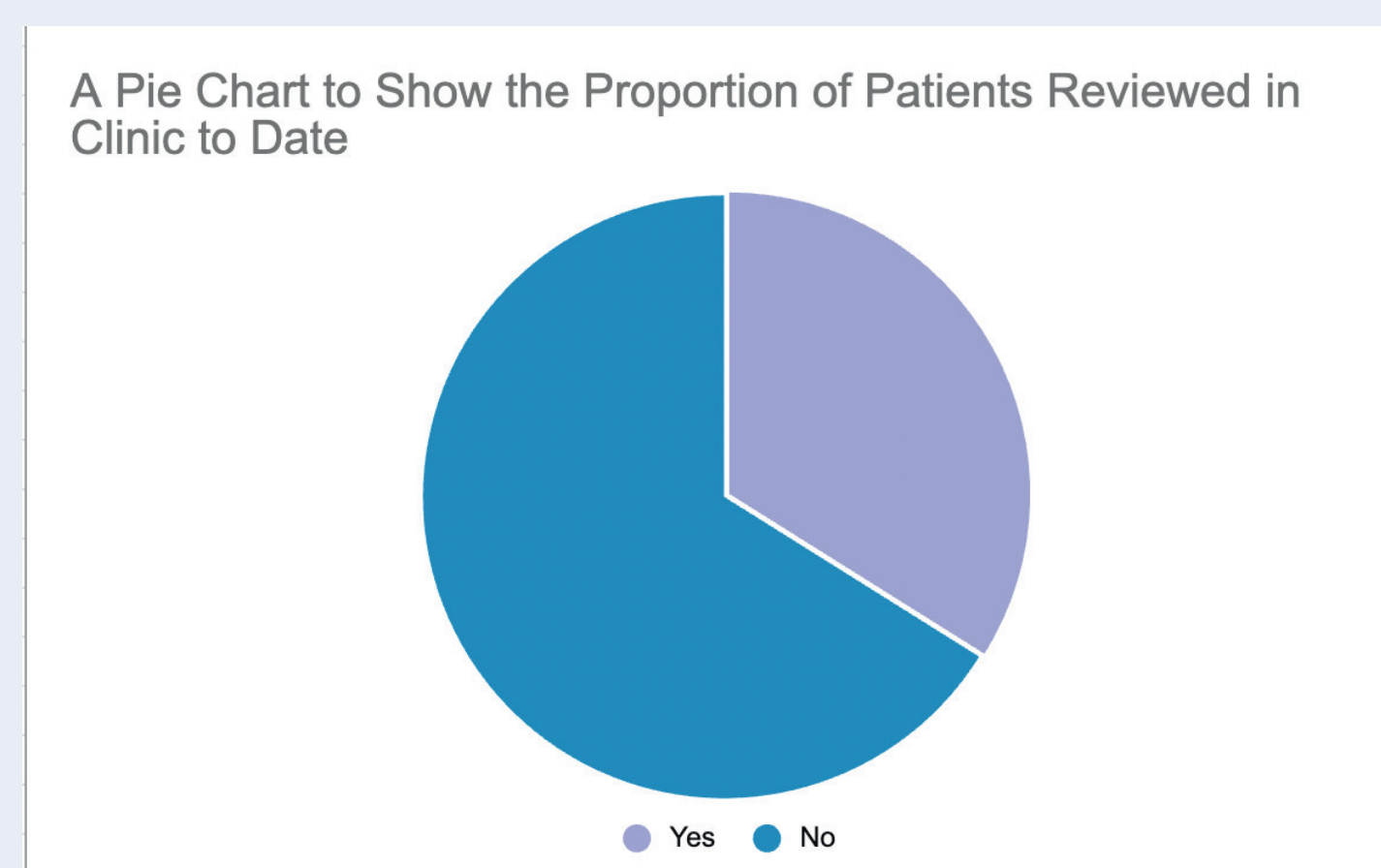
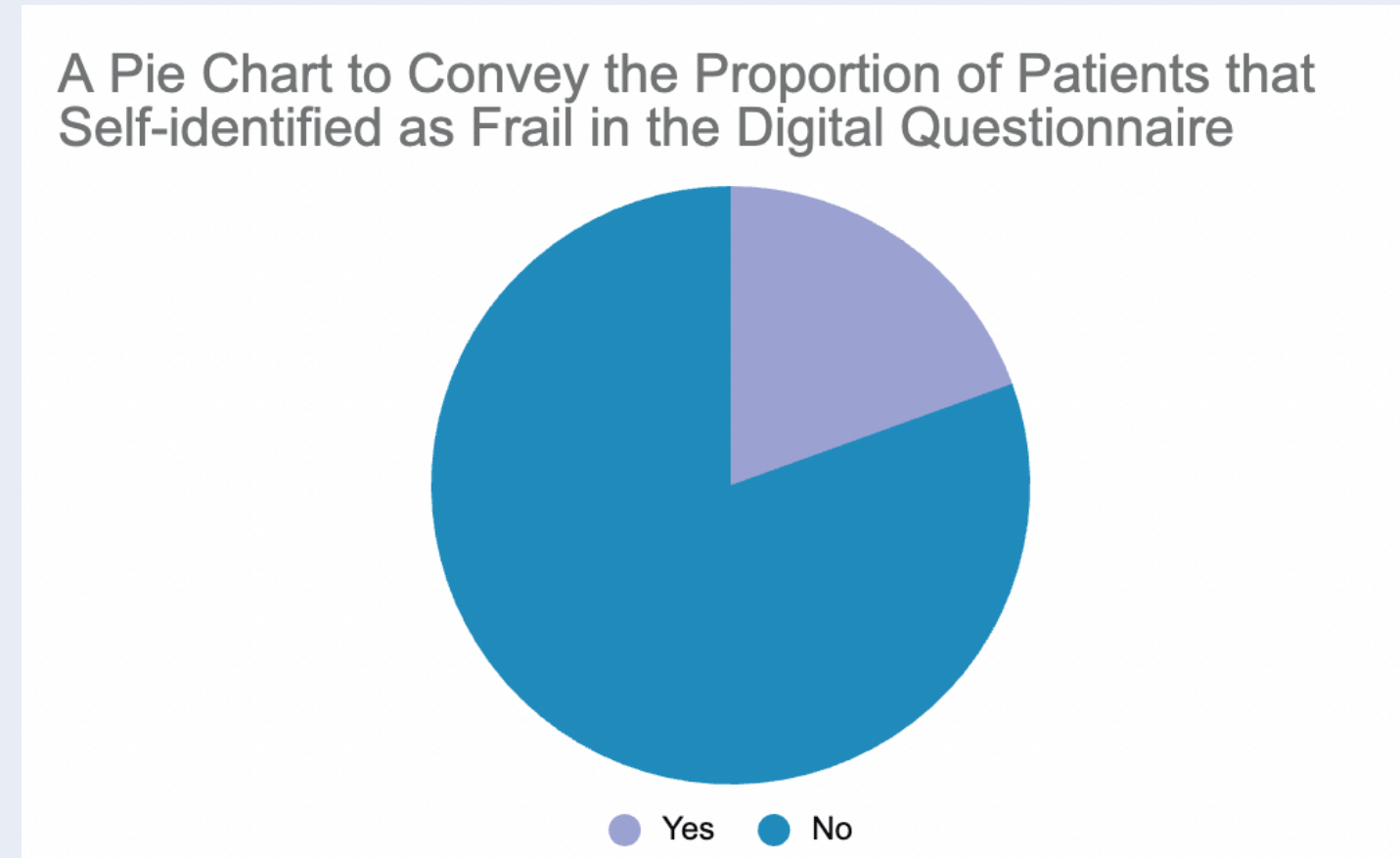
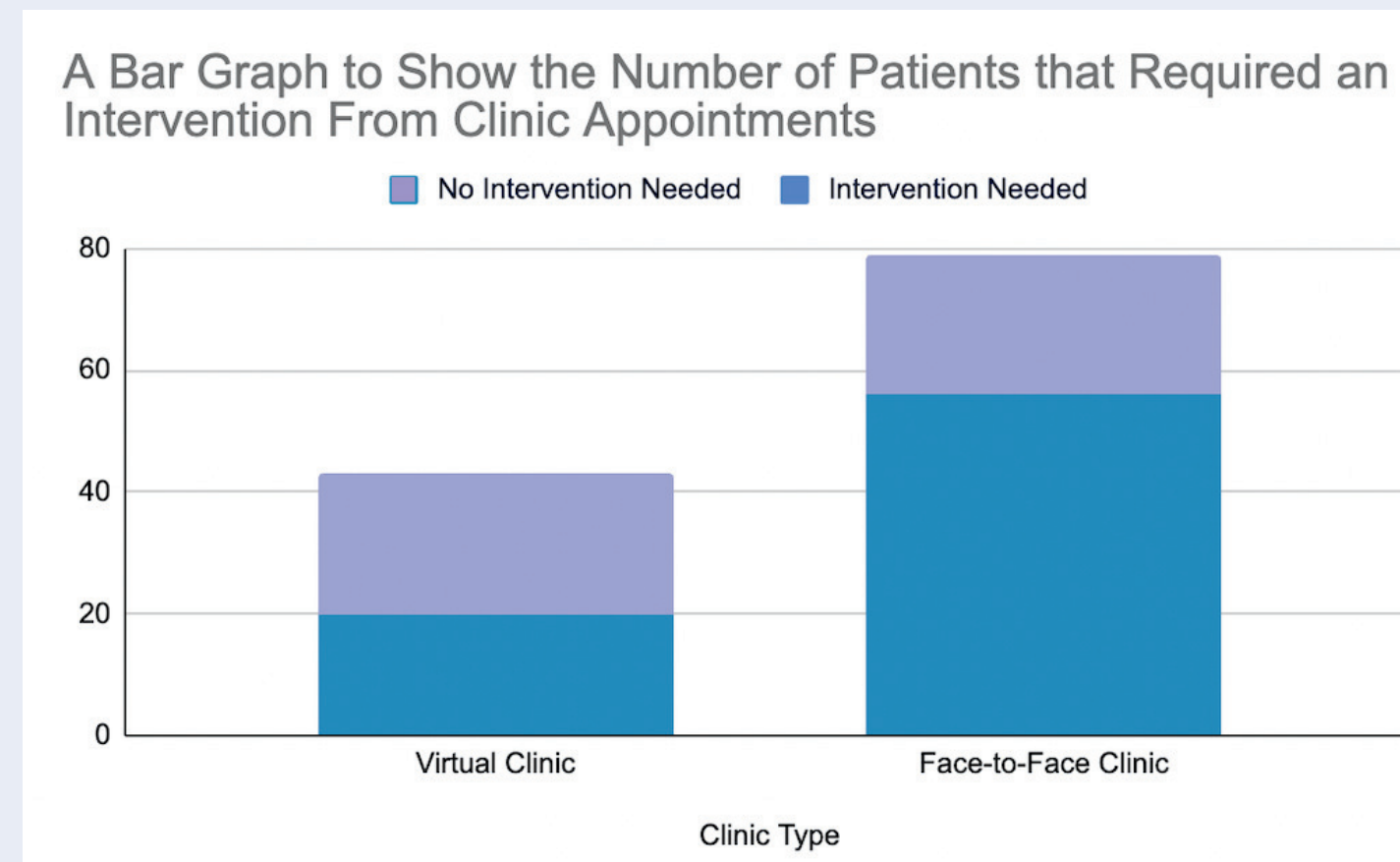
The overall cost for two JRFs with an administrator is £11,000pcm.

RESULTS

The team screened **343 patients** via digital questionnaire, noting frailty, continence concerns, falls and cognitive decline. 49.3% were identified as requiring an intervention.

Of the patients reviewed in clinic, **62.3% needed further investigations or optimisation**, all had **medication reviews** and **shared decision making**.

17 patients decided they no longer wanted to proceed with their surgery, demonstrating **estimated savings of £59,500** with **66.1% of patients left to review** from the initial questionnaires.



Appointment Type	Specialty Referrals Sent	Community Service Referrals Sent	Imaging Requested	Medication Changes Made	Medication Review
Virtual	9	1	3	4	43
F2F	21	11	10	21	79
Total	30	12	13	25	122

Figure 2: Table to show a breakdown of the interventions required from clinic appointments

CONCLUSION

The **addition of JRFs** allowed **upscaling of screening for frailty** along with **decreasing digital bias**, despite limited resource on a consultant level. This demonstrates potential for varying models to be used to **improve patient care** and **achieve cost savings**.

REFERENCES

- Audit Wales (2024) All Wales level at the date of most recent data release (November 2024) Available at: <https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoieGZGFiYTk4OGEtODU4NC00NjU1LWExYmMtN2UxYTQyNDZlMGYzZiwiIDCI6ImRmZDY5MmYwLTE2YmYtNDQ0OS04OGUzLUWU3NzMTZGZjY2ZiOCIsImMiOjph9> (Accessed 6 February 2025)

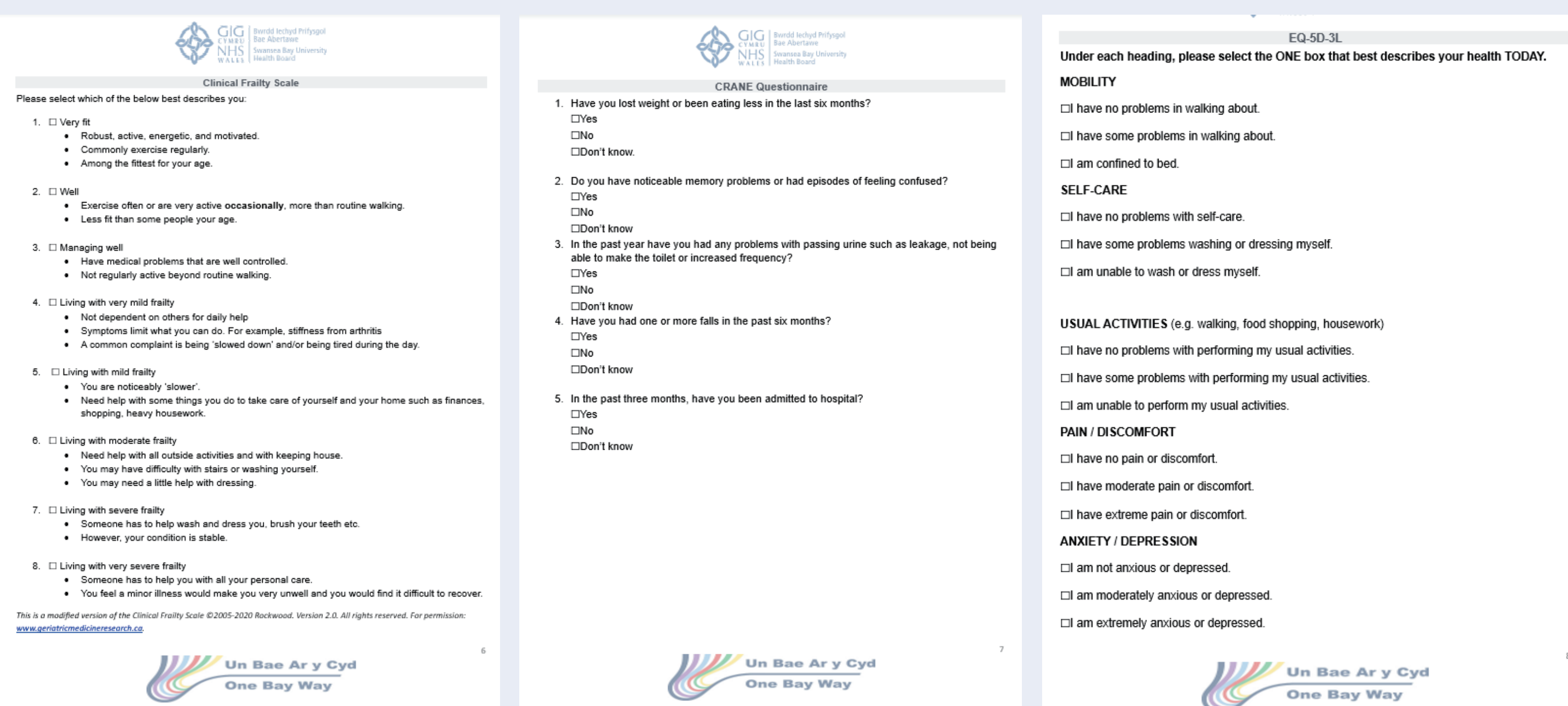


Figure 1: Digital questionnaires delivered on Promptly online platform