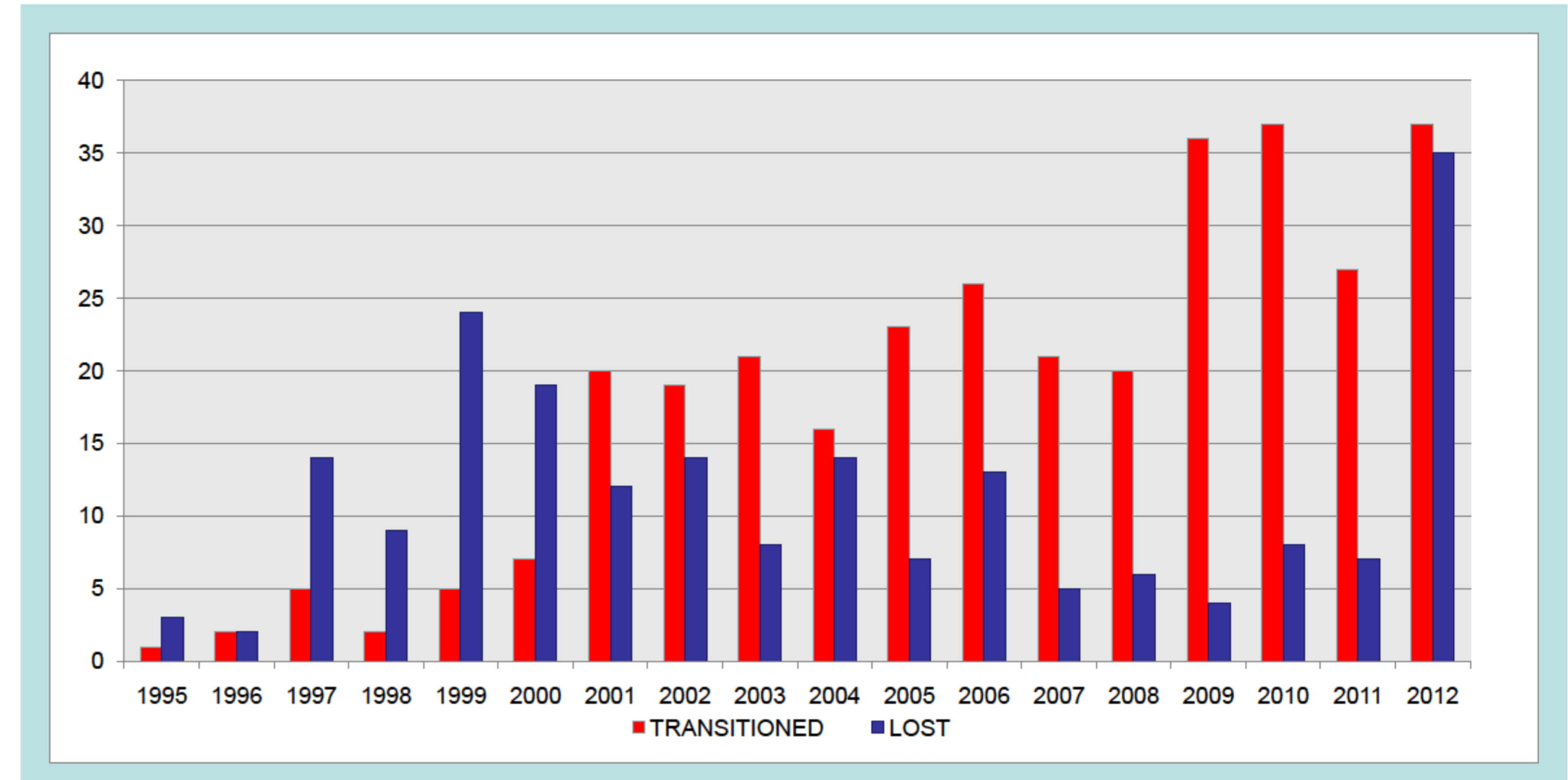


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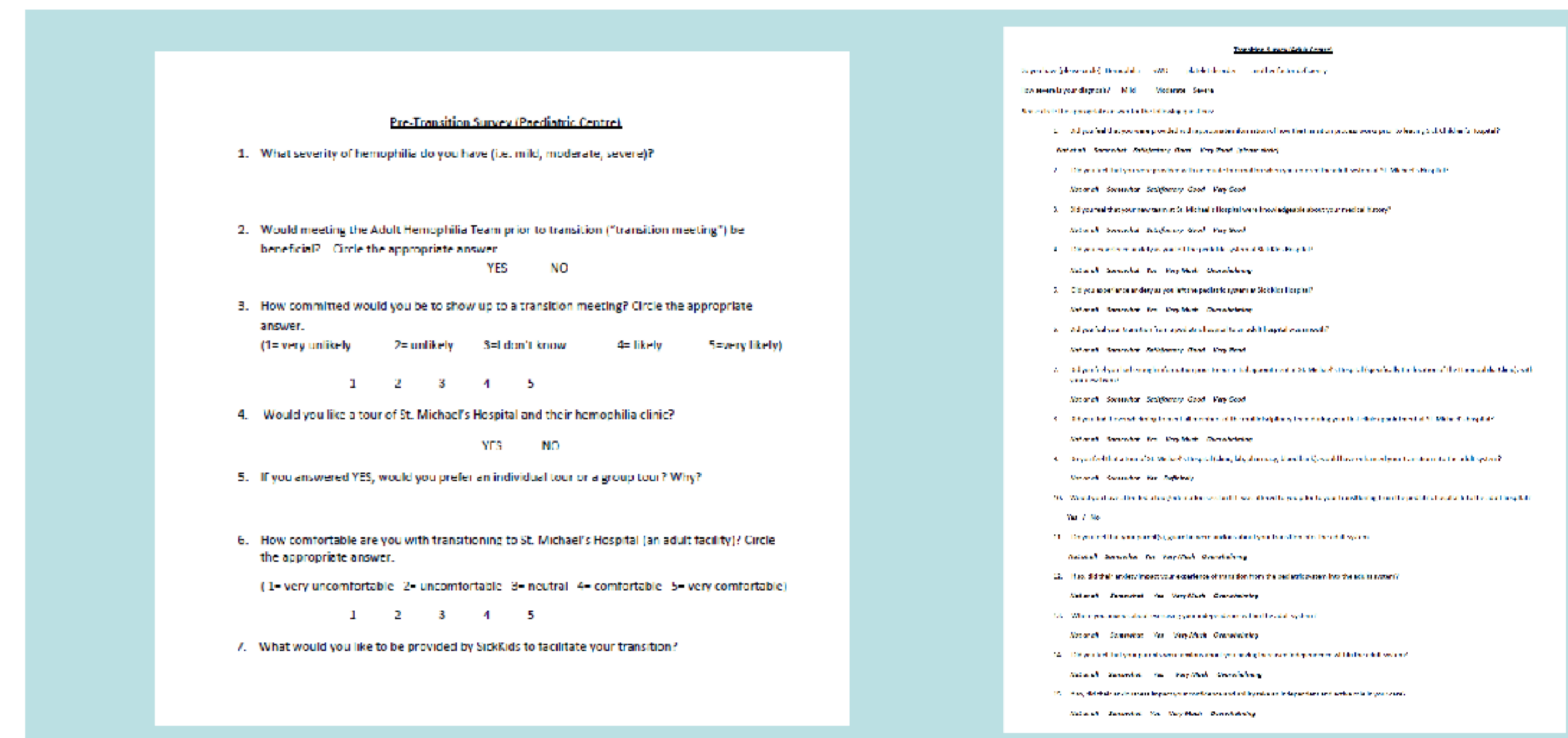
INTRODUCTION

- Transitioning from the paediatric to the adult Comprehensive Care Bleeding Disorders Centre in Toronto, Canada has been occurring for the last 3 decades.
- An established transition program was developed 10 years ago, and was implemented as an organized gathering integrating both healthcare professionals and transitioning patients and their families.
- The desired outcome of the gathering was to address the transitioning needs of this complex patient population.
- Despite the initial success of this program, in recent years attendance at this gathering fell dramatically and the number of patients who did not transition to adult care began to increase.



MATERIALS AND METHODS

- A questionnaire was developed by both Centres to elicit respondents' feedback on the current transition program and suggestions to improve the process.
- Twenty questionnaires were completed by 16 patients and 4 caregivers at the paediatric Centre.
- At the adult Centre, all patients transitioned within the last 12 months were mailed a questionnaire to complete. Of the 28 questionnaires disseminated, 5 responses were obtained.

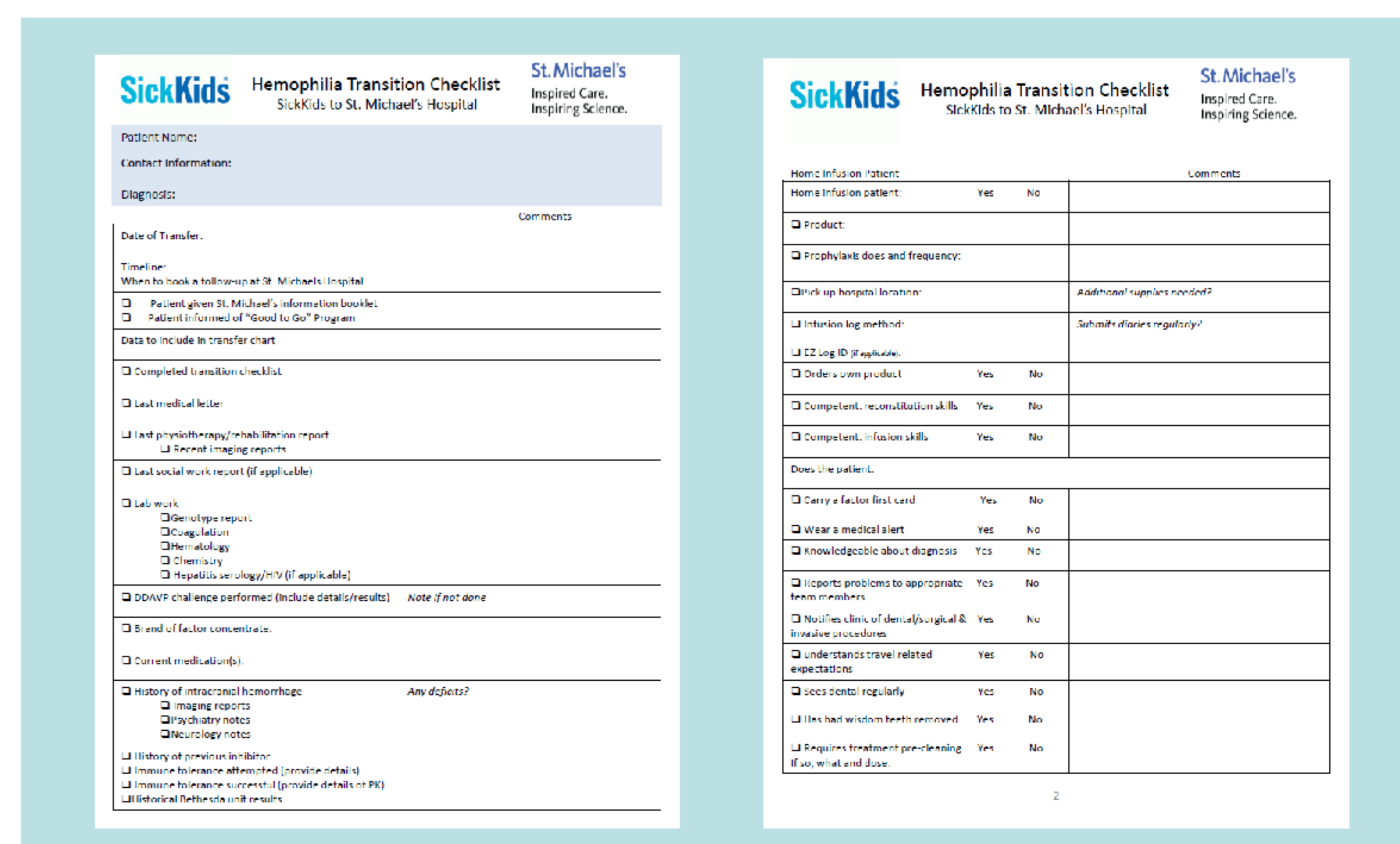


RESULTS

- The common theme that emerged from the paediatric respondent feedback was anxiety around unfamiliarity of the adult hospital and treatment team. Caregiver responses focused on the perceived lack of involvement in their child's care as the focus of care moves from family-centred to patient-centred.
- The adult respondents indicated retrospectively that the transition was smooth and not anxiety provoking.

SUMMARY & CONCLUSIONS

- Interestingly, the initial concerns around transition previously identified remained consistent with current findings. Therefore, given the lack of participation at the previously-offered program, a different approach to address the needs of transitioning patients was necessary.
- A standardized process for transition from paediatric to adult care has been formalized. The process includes:
 - Quarterly clinics designated for transition at the paediatric facility attended by adult care team members and
 - Implementation of a transition checklist.
- The success of the modified transition process has improved overall satisfaction of patients and decreased the number of patients that remain lost to adult transition.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

