

Bradbury LL, Watson CJE
on behalf of the NHS Blood and Transplant Kidney Advisory Group

Introduction and aims

This review reports key figures about kidney transplantation in the UK. It presents information about donor, transplant list, transplant activity and survival after kidney only transplantation for all 24 centres performing kidney transplantation in the UK.

Methods

Data were obtained from the UK Transplant Registry on kidney transplant activity between 1 April 2004 and 31 March 2014. Graft and patient survival estimates are reported at five-years post-transplant for the period 1 April 2005 to 31 March 2009. Results are described separately according to the type of donor (deceased and living). Patient survival from listing is reported at ten year post registration for a deceased donor adult kidney only transplant between 1 January 2002 and 31 December 2013. The centre specific results for survival estimates are adjusted for differences in risk factors between the centres. Patients requiring multi-organ transplants are excluded from all analyses and all results are described separately for adult (aged ≥18 years) and paediatric patients (aged <18 years).

Results

On 31 March 2014, there were 5,590 adult patients on the UK active kidney transplant list which represents a 7% decrease in the number of patients a year earlier (Figure 1). The equivalent number of paediatric patients was 70, representing a 7% decrease from the previous year.

The length of time a patient waits for a kidney transplant varies across the UK. The median waiting time for adult deceased donor kidney only transplantation is 1082 days (3 years) and varies between centres ranging from 572 days to 1768 days (Figure 2).

The rate of declining kidney offers from standard criteria DBD donors for named patients was 49% nationally ranging from 29% to 81% across centres (Figure 3).

Figure 1 Adult patients on the kidney only transplant list at 31 March

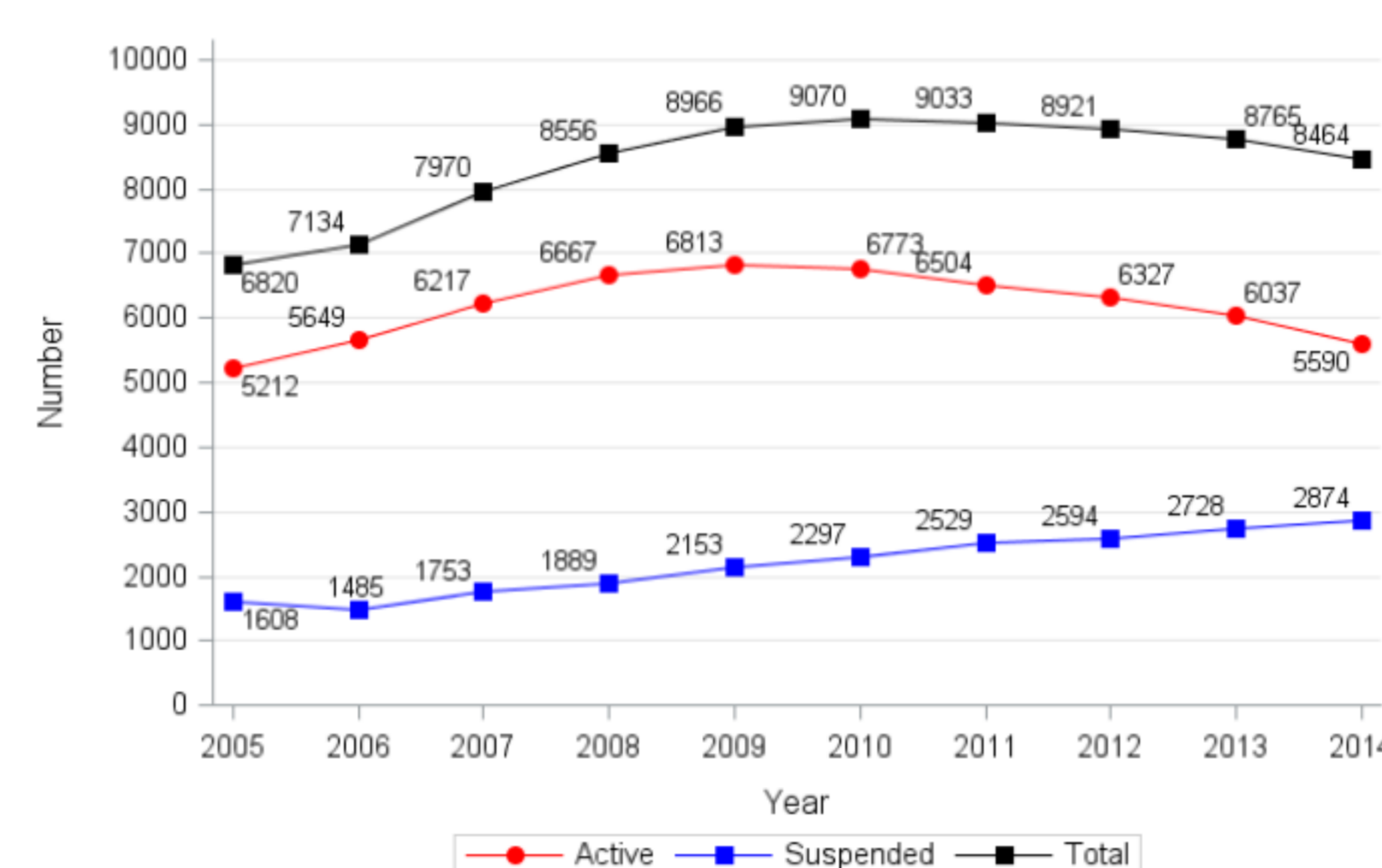


Figure 2 Median waiting time to deceased donor transplant for adult patients

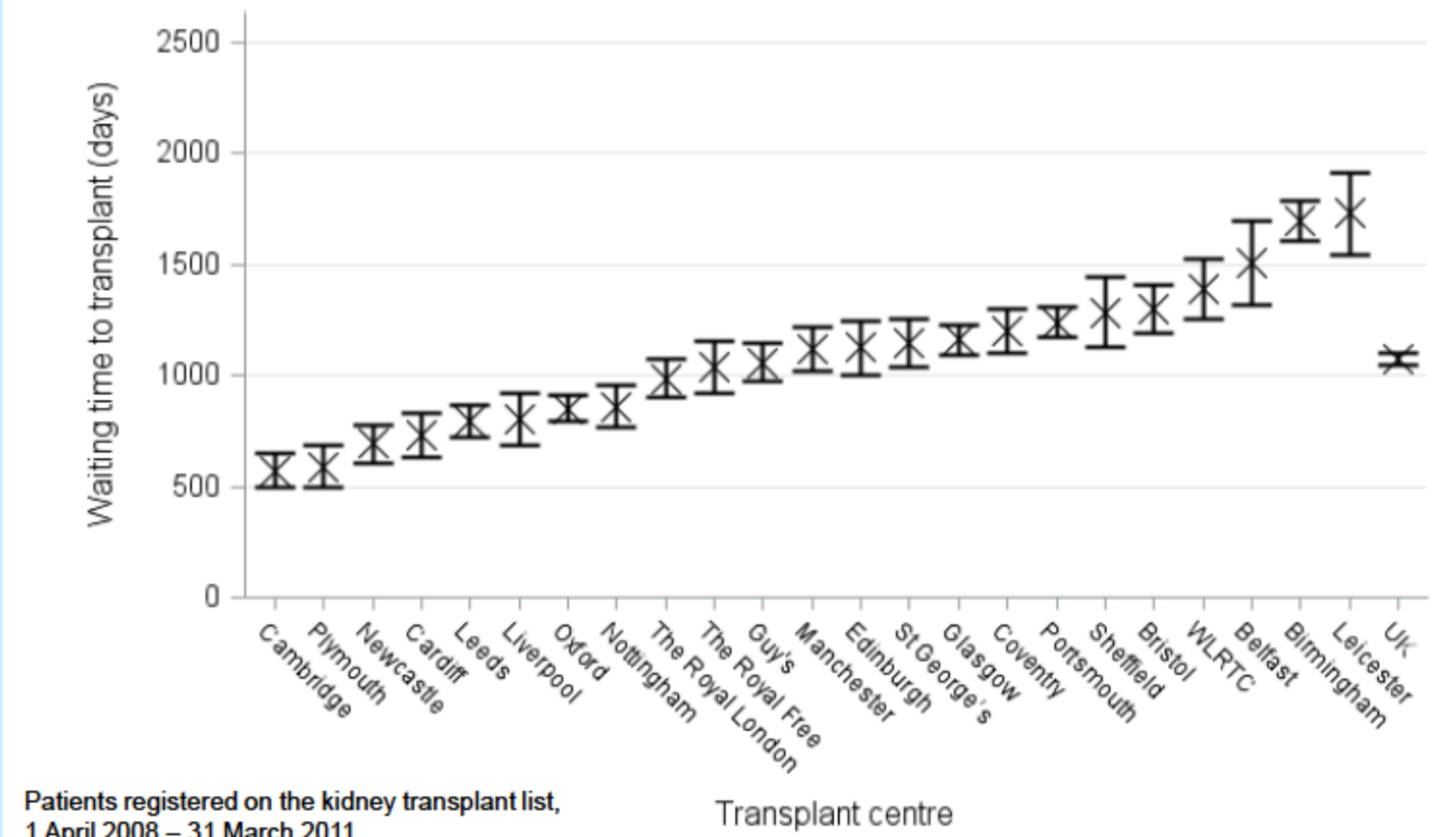


Figure 3 Adult standard criteria DBD donor kidney offer decline rates

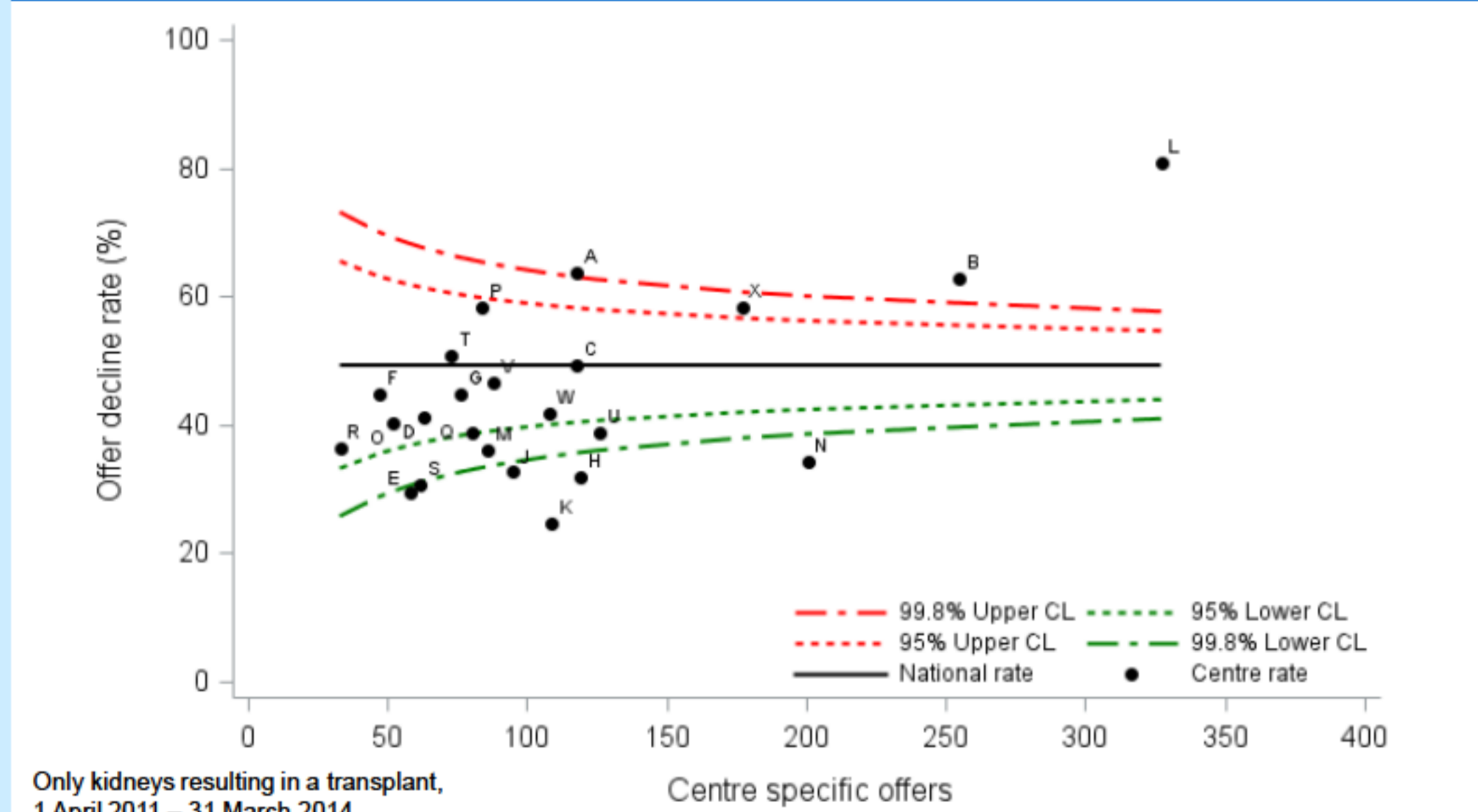
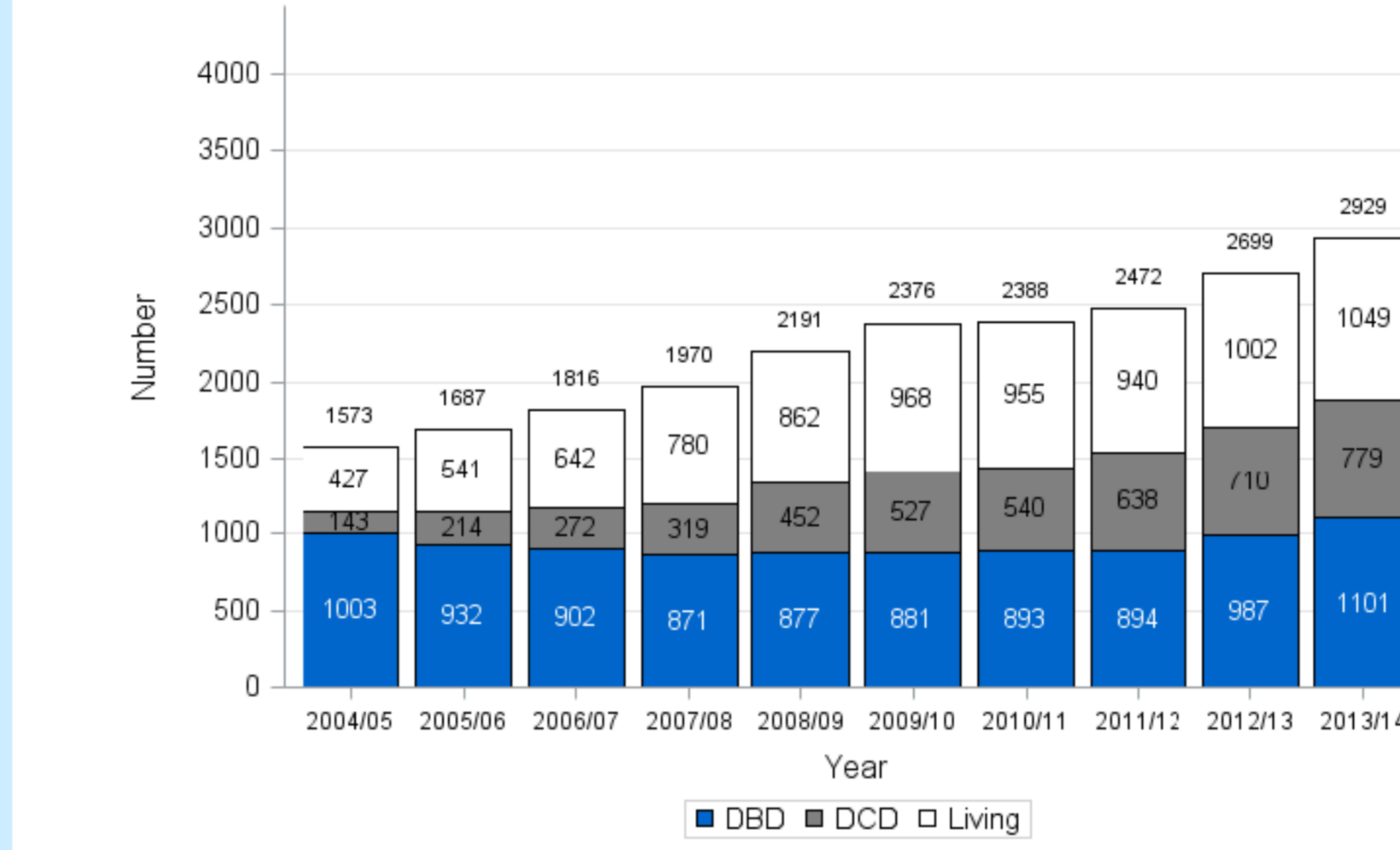


Figure 4 Adult kidney only transplants



There were 2,930 adult kidney only transplants performed in the UK in 2013/14 an increase of 9% compared to 2012/13. Of these, 1,101 (38%) were from DBD donors, 779 (26%) were from DCD donors and 1,050 (36%) were from living donors (Figure 4). The equivalent number of paediatric transplants was 125 representing a 5% increase from the previous year.

The national rate of graft survival five years after first adult deceased donor kidney only transplant is 86%. This rate varies between centres, ranging from 81% to 92% (risk-adjusted) (Figure 5). The national rate of graft survival five years after first adult living donor kidney only transplant is 91%. This rate varies between centres, ranging from 84% to 97% (risk-adjusted) (Figure 6). The national rate of ten year patient survival from listing for deceased donor kidney only transplant in adult patients is 75%. This rate varies between centres, ranging from 69% to 84% (risk-adjusted) (Figure 7).

Figure 5 5 year graft survival following adult deceased donor transplant

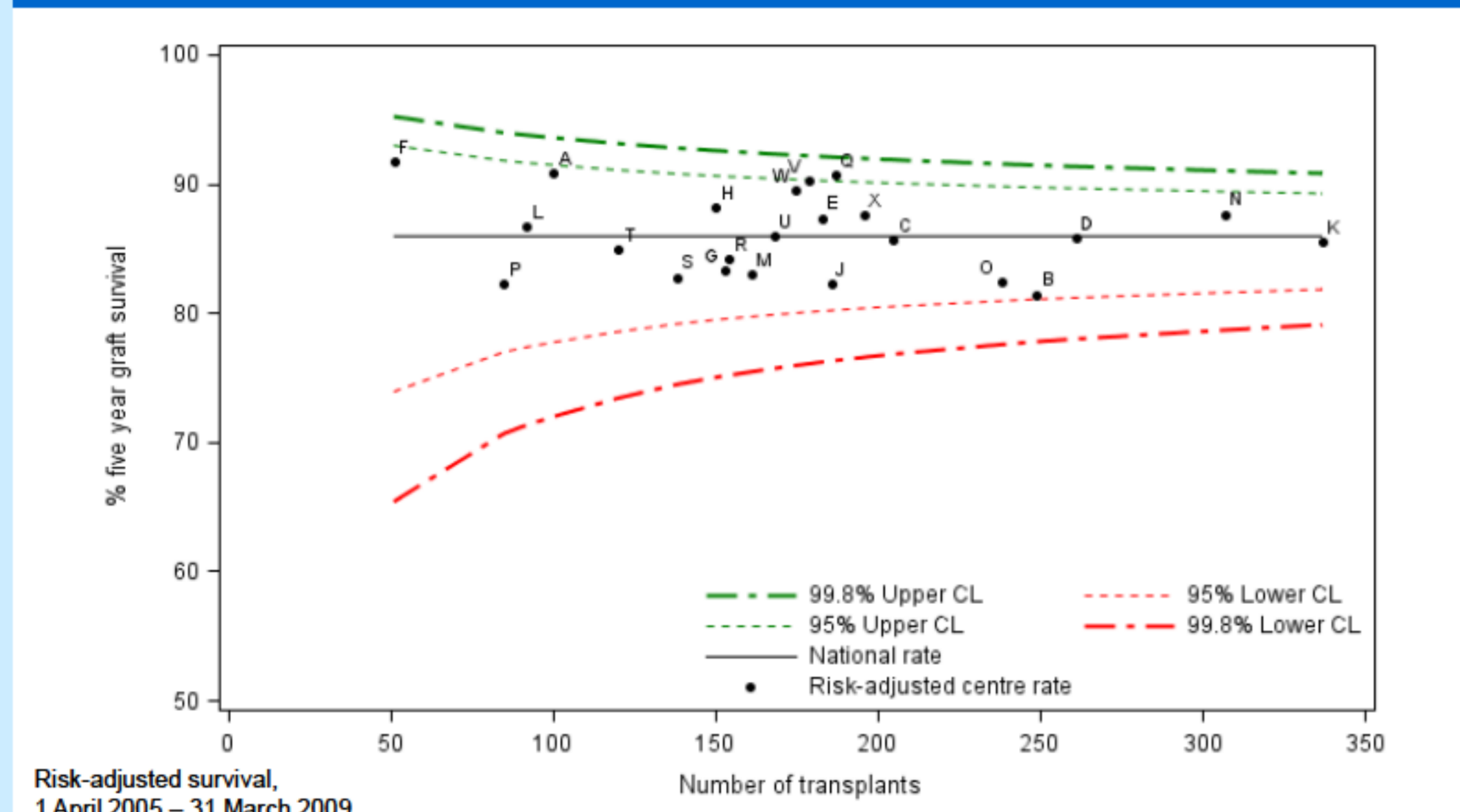


Figure 6 5 year graft survival following adult living donor transplant

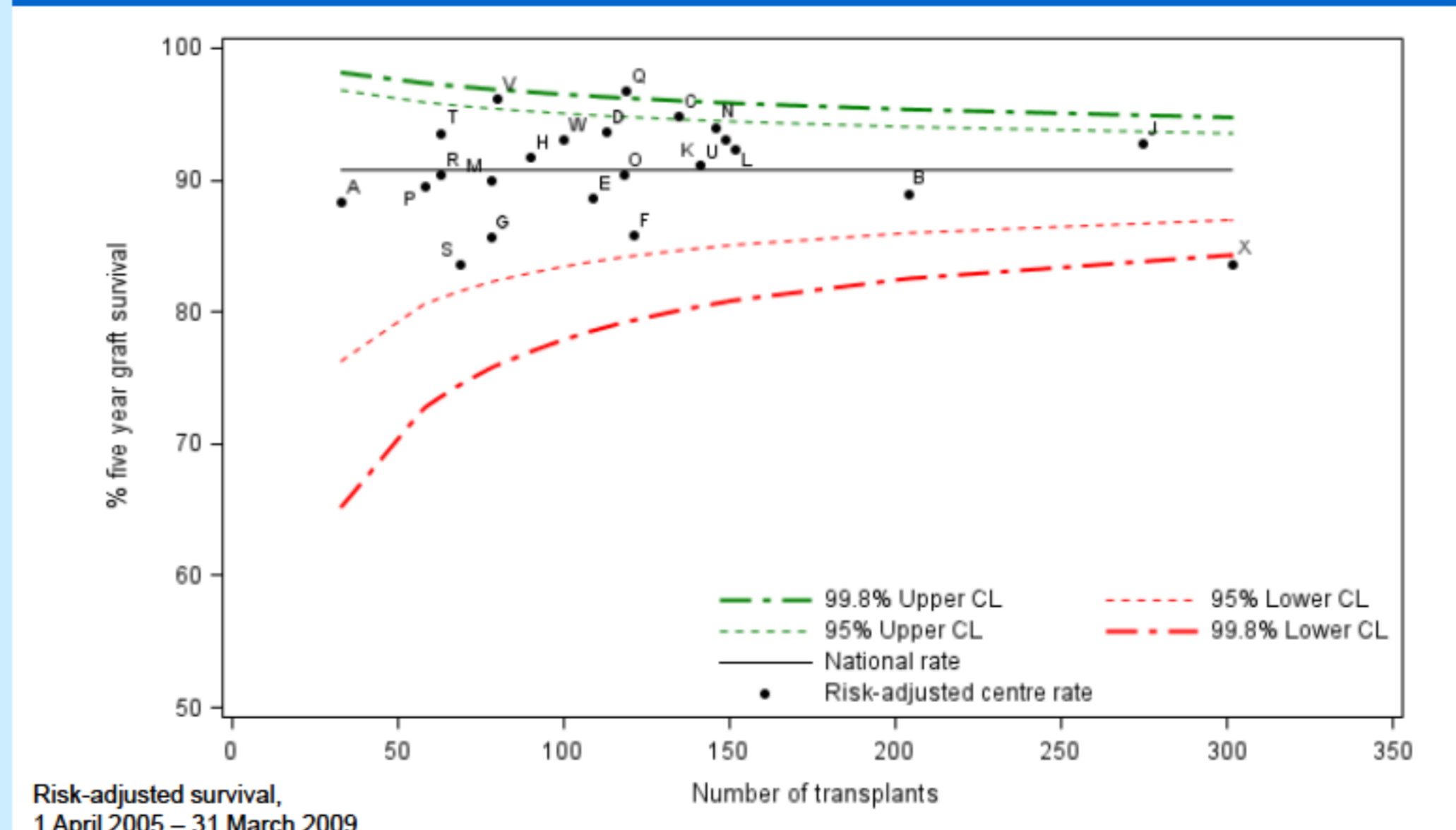
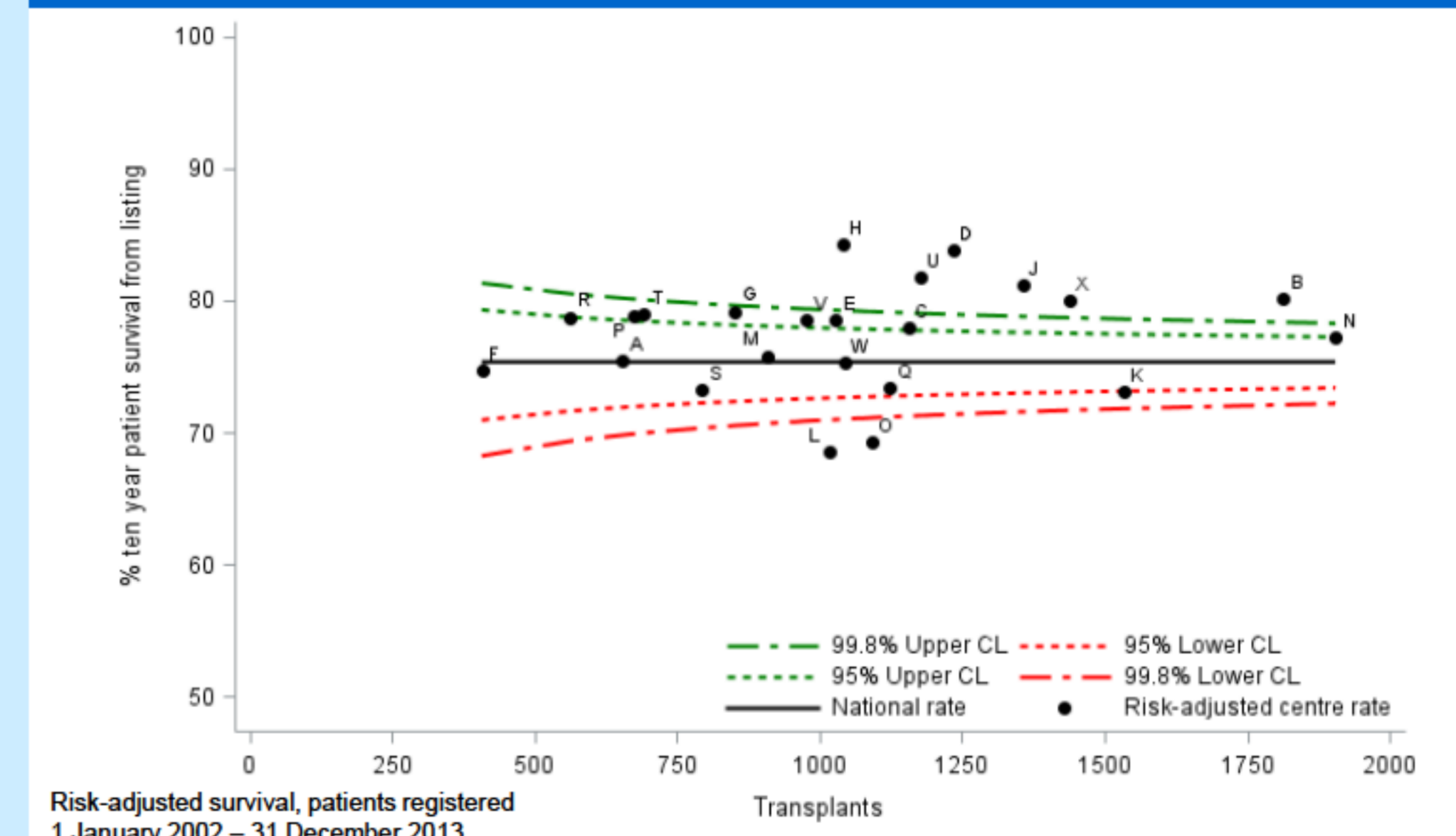


Figure 7 10 year patient survival from listing for adult DD transplant



Conclusions

This comprehensive comparison of transplant centre specific activity and outcomes is available on the NHS Blood and Transplant website: http://www.odt.nhs.uk/pdf/organ_specific_report_kidney_2014.pdf and provides transparency for patients and enables transplant centres to review their performance and respond accordingly.