

Expanding the OPAT Team

Experiences of a new F1 Doctor

Thekli Gee, OPAT Consultant (Medical Microbiologist)

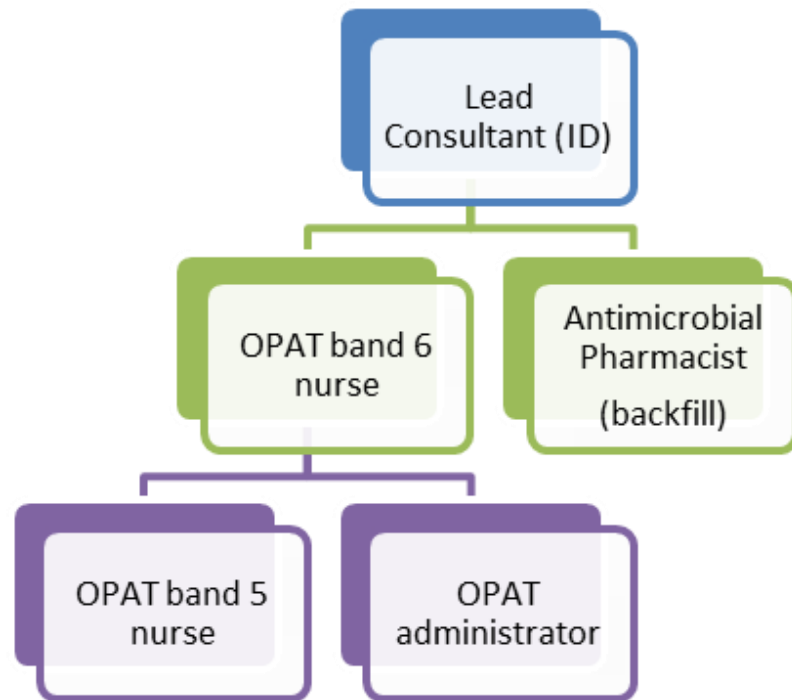
&

Emmanuel Shofoluwe, OPAT F1

Outline

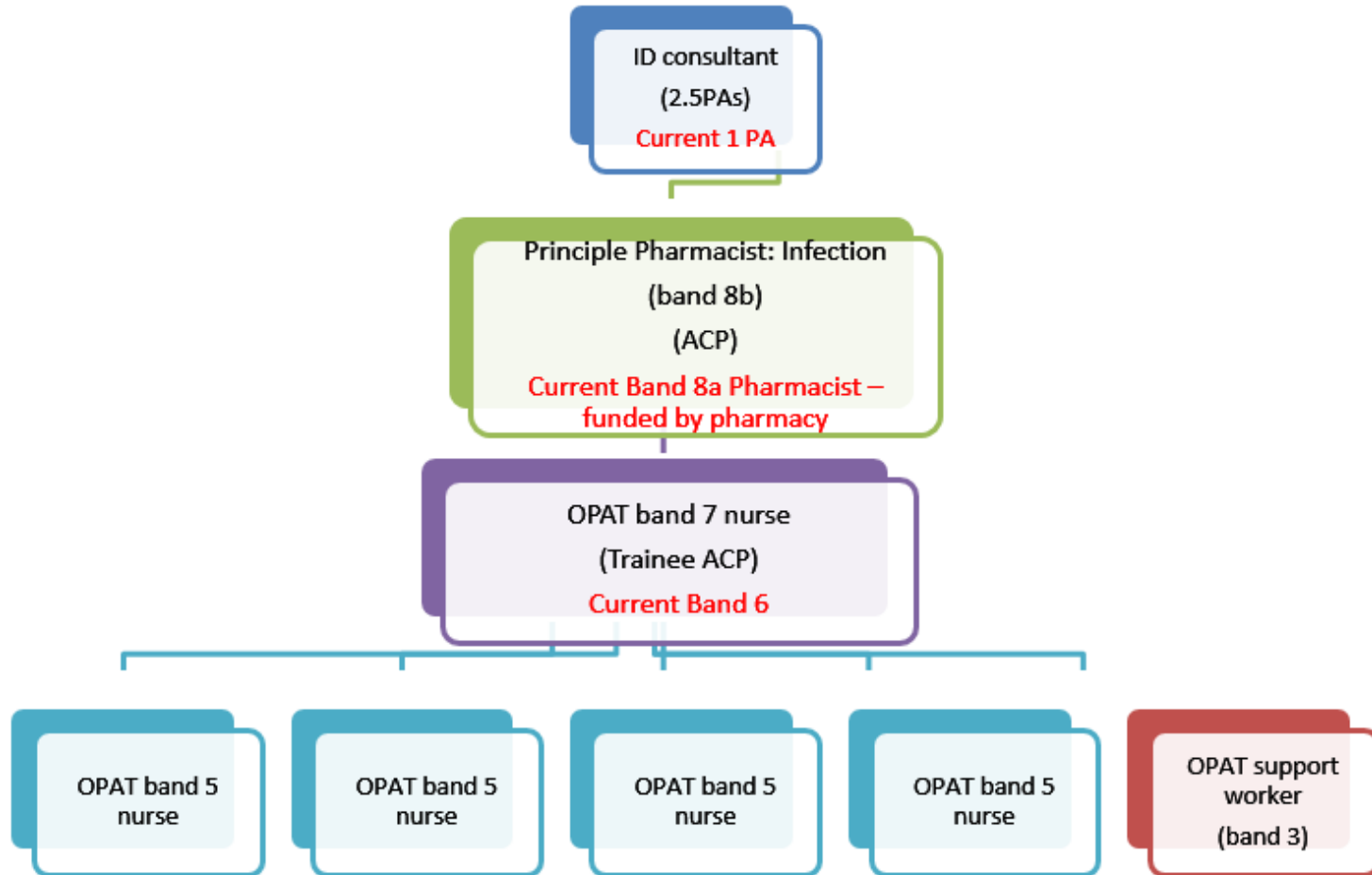
- Warwick OPAT
- How the team has grown
- Experiences of the First F1 in OPAT at Warwick

Business case 1 – where we started (2015)



- Purpose was to meet the OPAT team standards in national OPAT guidelines
- Only two staff in post initially. Both had other trust roles which needed backfill.
 - Consultant in Infectious Diseases & Acute Medicine and
 - Lead Antimicrobial Pharmacist
- Band 7 pharmacist 0.5 WTE backfilled part of role to free up for OPAT time.
- Funding for band 6 nurse approved Aug 2016
- Band 5 and OPAT administrator initially rejected but band 5 approved Oct 2017 and Band 3 approved Dec 2018

Business case 2 – proposed team



- Developing the Nursing service
- Further increase in patient numbers
- Increase in number of complex patients
- Accufusers
- Nursing home patients
- Virtual reviews (started during COVID)
- Increased road visits for patients who require transport to get to hospital reducing transport costs, Hospital attendances etc

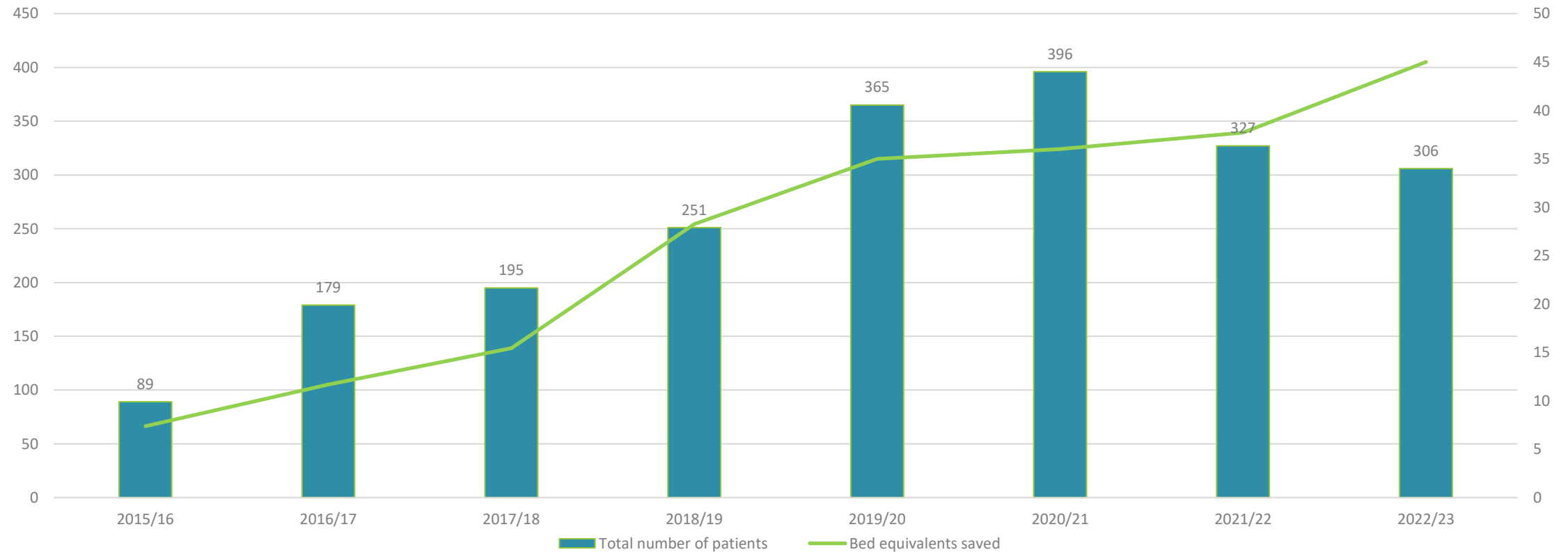
A new consultant – Feb 2021

- 3rd business case prepared June 2020.
- Ran alongside infection control doctor business case which was approved later in 2020
- 2nd OPAT consultant started February 2021
- Role split between OPAT, Infection Control Doctor and Antimicrobial Stewardship
- Brings a Medical Microbiology speciality to the team supporting antimicrobial stewardship and providing real time information on culture results.

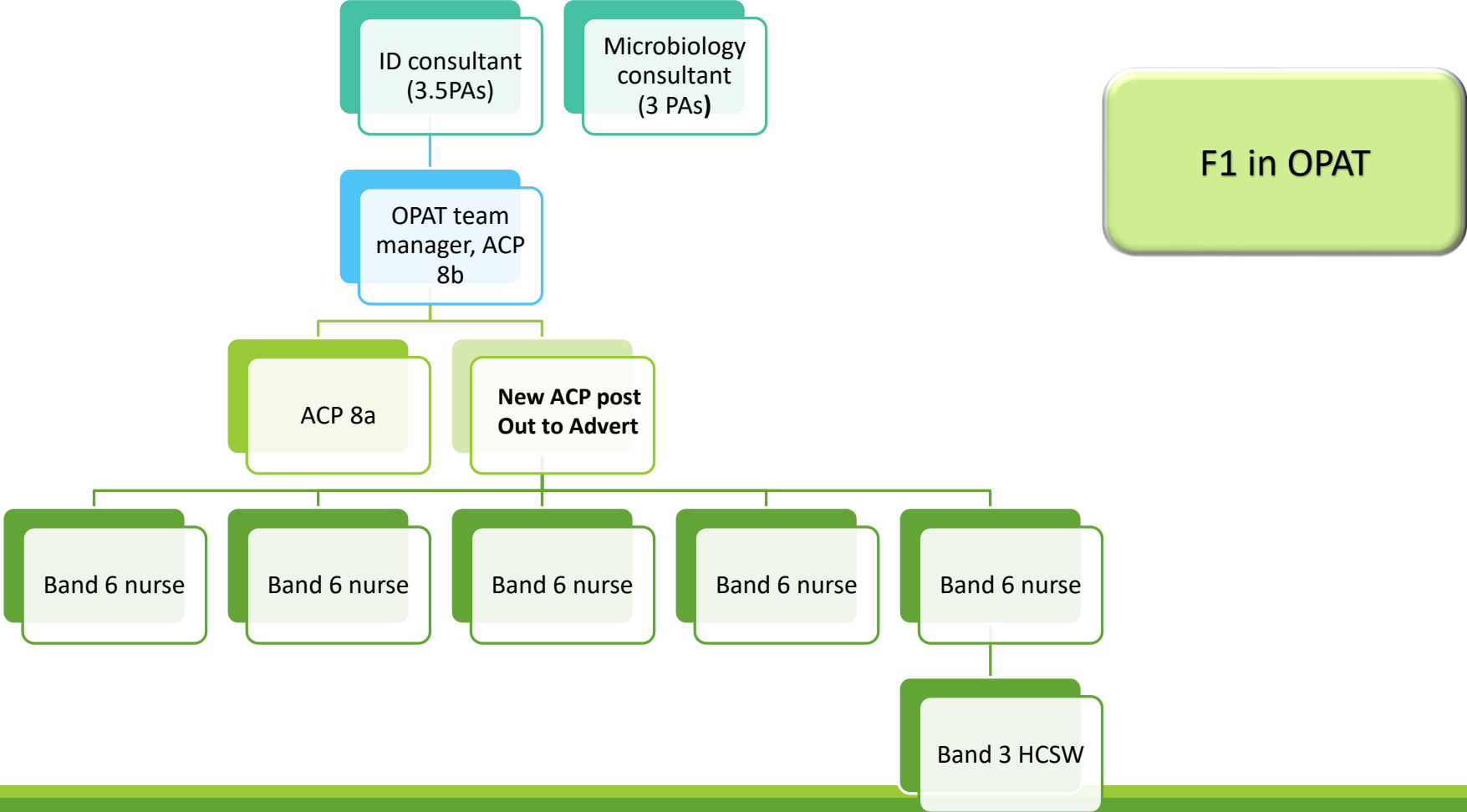
Activity data

OPAT Activity by Bed Equivalents saved and by total patient number

Annual number of OPAT Patients and Bed Equivalents saved



Current team structure



An F1 for OPAT

- 2022 – Request to all clinical teams to take on new F1s in 2022 or 2023
- Past Educational supervisor
- Team agreed to take on an F1 from August 2023
- Call in July 2022 from the Foundation team:
“Your F1 is starting in August this year!”

Setting the scene

- 1st undergraduate degree in Biomedical Science
- Graduated in July 2022 from the University of Warwick Medical School
- I had previously worked in a microbiology lab
- Attempted to pick a job that I thought I would be most familiar with to start F1
- Met with my Educational Supervisor (OPAT consultant) during induction.

What I gained from my time in OPAT

- Increased antibiotic knowledge
- More opportunities to clerk than other F1's at Warwick
- Multiple 'taster' days
 - Diabetes foot clinic
 - Microbiology lab
 - T+O
 - Change Grow Live (CGL) Charity
- Practical skills
 - Midlines
 - Increased confidence for gaining access

What I brought to the team

- Teamwork
- Worked closely with the ACPs
- Clinical advice at a junior level
- Helped to ease the workload
- Incoming clinical calls
- Screening potential referrals
- Helping out in clinic
 - Patient discussions
 - Patient procedures i.e. midlines

Summary

“I think all F1s should have a rotation in OPAT!”