



University Hospitals Bristol  
NHS Foundation Trust

Patient information service  
Bristol Heart Institute (Zone C)

# A guide to the Adult Congenital Heart Disease (ACHD) service



Respecting everyone  
Embracing change  
Recognising success  
Working together  
**Our hospitals.**

  
**Above  
& Beyond**  
Fundraising for Bristol city centre hospitals



The Bristol Heart Institute (BHI) was built in 2009, it is the specialist surgical centre for adult congenital heart service for the South West and South Wales.

All invasive cardiology and cardiac surgery for Adult Congenital Heart Disease (ACHD) is undertaken here, with some outpatient clinical care provided in partnership with district hospitals in the region. State of the art cardiac imaging such as echo, TOE, cardiac CT and MRI also takes place here.

The heart institute has 92 beds.

There are currently 8,000 adults in the South West and South Wales living with ACHD.

Our team consists of four consultant cardiologists, with additional sessions from specialist paediatricians, three cardiac surgeons, four clinical nurse specialists, three cardiac radiologists and our admin team.

We also work closely with the following:

- Pulmonary hypertension team
- Cardiovascular genetics
- Cardiac obstetrics
- Cardiac intensivists and anaesthetists.

We carry out 30 outreach clinic days per year in Barnstaple, Torbay, Exeter, Swindon, Cheltenham, Truro and Taunton.

# Meet the team

## Cardiologists

<b>Dr Stephanie Curtis</b> - clinical lead Secretary: Lisa Curthoys	<b>0117 342 5967</b>
<b>Dr Graham Stuart</b> Secretary: Miriam Sturman	<b>0117 342 6576</b>
<b>Dr Mark Turner</b> Secretary: Edith Taylor	<b>0117 342 6575</b>
<b>Dr Radwa Bedair</b> Secretary: Edith Taylor	<b>0117 342 6575</b>
<b>Dr Demetries Taliotis</b> Secretary: Lisa Curthoys	<b>0117 342 5967</b>
<b>Dr Guido Pieles</b> Secretary: Miriam Sturman	<b>0117 342 6576</b>

## Cardiac surgeons

<b>Mr Andrew Parry</b> - lead surgeon	
<b>Professor Massimo Caputo</b>	
<b>Mr Serban Stoica</b>	
Secretary: Maureen Sutherland	<b>0117 342 6571</b>

## Cardiac radiologists

**Dr Mark Hamilton**  
**Dr Nathan Manghat**  
**Dr Stephen Lynn**

## **Clinical nurse specialists**

Sheena Vernon - Lead nurse, congenital heart disease network  
[Sheena.Vernon@UHBristol.nhs.uk](mailto:Sheena.Vernon@UHBristol.nhs.uk)

Caryl Evans  
[Caryl.Evans@UHBristol.nhs.uk](mailto:Caryl.Evans@UHBristol.nhs.uk)

Wendy Visser  
[Wendy.Visser@UHBristol.nhs.uk](mailto:Wendy.Visser@UHBristol.nhs.uk)

Jessica Strange  
[Jessica.Strange@UHBristol.nhs.uk](mailto:Jessica.Strange@UHBristol.nhs.uk)

Clinical nurse specialist advice telephone line  
**0117 342 6599**



**In a clinical emergency contact the on call  
cardiology registrar via the trust switchboard  
0117 923 0000**

# **Our team carry out the following diagnostic and interventional procedures**

## **Investigations**

- Diagnostic cardiac catheterisation
- Echocardiography
- Exercise tests (treadmill tests)
- 24 hour ECG and blood pressure monitoring
- Cardiac MRI and CT.

## **Interventions**

- Percutaneous atrial septal defect and PFO closure
- Coarctation stenting
- Percutaneous valve implantation
- Simple and complex pacing and ICD implantation
- Electrophysiology (EP) studies and ablations
- Complex occlusion and stenting procedures.

## **Our surgeons perform many different operations, including:**

- Valve repairs and replacements
- Repair of septal defects
- Complex congenital surgery
- Aortic surgery.

# The clinical nurse specialists

The nurse specialists provide a point of contact for patients and offer advice and information on:

- Surgical/cardiology queries and general clinical queries
- Transition (transferring from the children's hospital to the adult hospital)
- Pregnancy advice
- End of life support
- Learning disability support
- Psychological support
- Lifestyle advice
- Financial/employment issues.

The nurse specialists provide an advice telephone line and email for clinical queries for patients, their families/carers and allied health professionals. They aim to respond to a telephone or email query within 48 hours.

The nurse specialists provide support for patients when they are admitted into hospital. The nurses will aim to see their patients daily. They support patients and their relatives/carers throughout their stay.

The nurse specialists support outpatient clinics.

We provide a 24 hour consultant-led service throughout the week for inpatients.

**Outpatient clinics include:**

- New patient
- Follow-up
- Device follow up
- Inherited cardiac conditions (ICC)
- Cardiac obstetrics
- Pulmonary hypertension
- Pre op assessment
- Teenagers and young adults clinic (TYA).



Outpatient care provides a one stop approach including ECG, echocardiography, and consultation with the cardiologist or surgeon and nurse specialist.

Every year we see more than 3,500 outpatients, including 200 new teenage outpatients.

**We do approximately:**

- 150 congenital cardiac surgical operations
- 200 adult congenital cardiology interventions and diagnostic catheterisations.



# Support groups and information

We have a website dedicated to ACHD at the BHI:

<http://www.uhbristol.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/your-hospitals/bristol-heart-institute-clinical-services/adult-congenital-heart-disease/>

## Other useful websites

### British Heart Foundation

[www.bhf.org.uk](http://www.bhf.org.uk)

### American Heart Association

[www.heart.org](http://www.heart.org)

### Canadian Adult Congenital Heart Network

[www.cachnet.org](http://www.cachnet.org)

### The Somerville Foundation

[www.thesf.org.uk](http://www.thesf.org.uk)

### Information on heart disease in young people

[www.hearts4teens.org.uk](http://www.hearts4teens.org.uk)

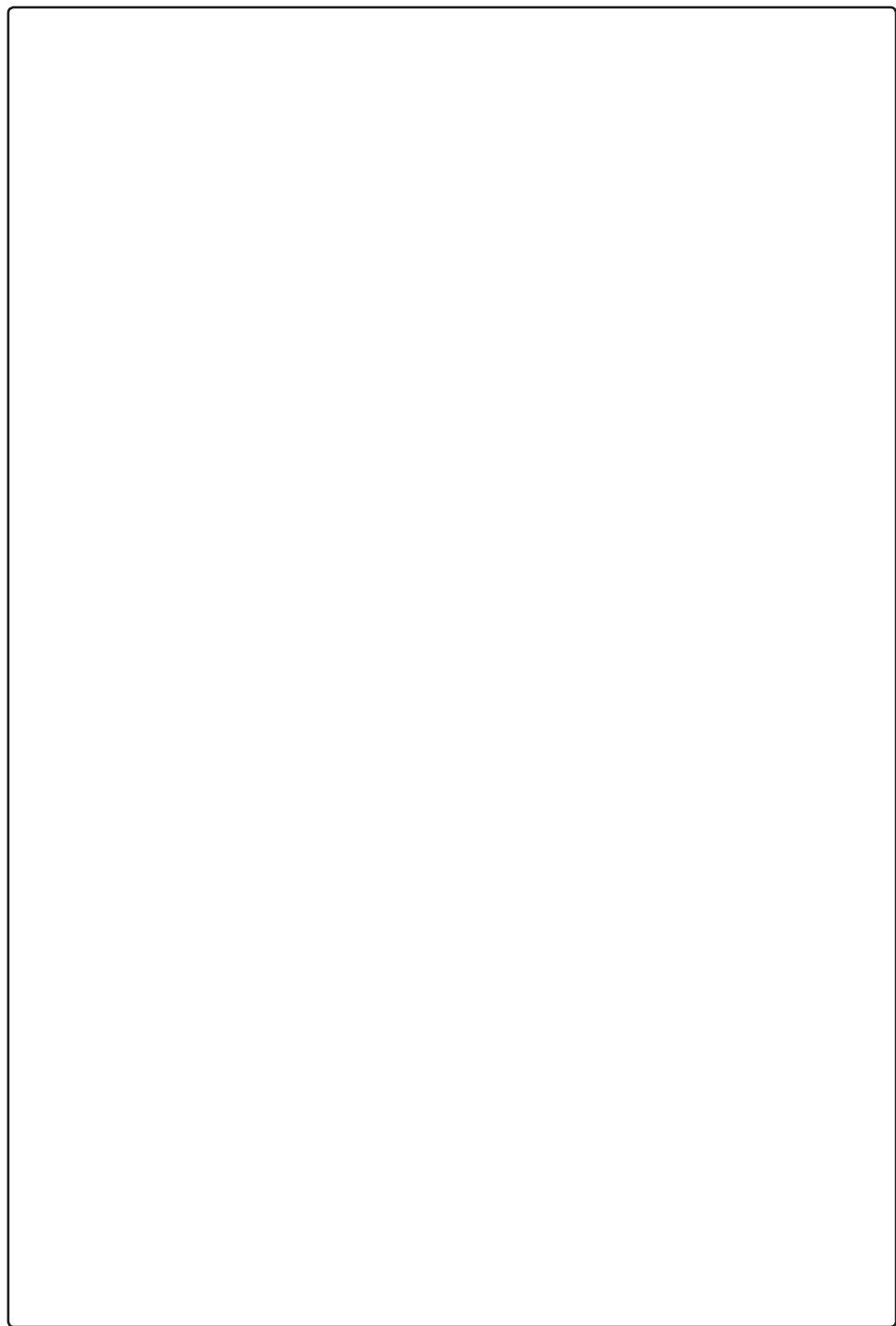
### Youth at Heart: CHD Charity - congenital heart disease

[www.youthatheart.co.uk](http://www.youthatheart.co.uk)



We offer support, awareness, and opportunity to teenagers, young adults and their families in Gloucestershire-born with complex congenital heart disease.

## Notes and queries



Please note that if for any reason you would value a second opinion concerning your diagnosis or treatment, you are entirely within your rights to request this.

The first step would usually be to discuss this with the doctor or other lead clinician who is responsible for your care.

Smoking is the primary cause of preventable illness and premature death. For support in stopping smoking contact **Smokefree Bristol** on **0117 922 2255**.

As well as providing clinical care, our Trust has an important role in research. This allows us to discover new and improved ways of treating patients.

While under our care, you may be invited to take part in research. To find out more please visit:  
**[www.uhbristol.nhs.uk/research-innovation](http://www.uhbristol.nhs.uk/research-innovation)**  
or call the research and innovation team on  
**0117 342 0233**.

For access to other patient leaflets and information please go to the following address:

**[www.uhbristol.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/information-for-patients/](http://www.uhbristol.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/information-for-patients/)**

**Hospital switchboard: 0117 923 0000**



**Minicom: 0117 934 9869**



**[www.uhbristol.nhs.uk](http://www.uhbristol.nhs.uk)**



For an interpreter or signer please contact the telephone number on your appointment letter.



For this leaflet in large print, audio or PDF format, please email [patientleaflets@uhbristol.nhs.uk](mailto:patientleaflets@uhbristol.nhs.uk).

