



University Hospitals Bristol
NHS Foundation Trust

Patient information service
Bristol Royal Hospital for Children

Bristol home monitoring programme

Information for parents in the South West



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Respecting everyone
Embracing change
Recognising success
Working together
Our hospitals.



Bristol Royal Hospital
For Children

Important contact names and numbers

Bristol Royal Hospital for Children (BRHC)

Switchboard	0117 923 0000
Ward 32	0117 342 8332 / 8679
Paediatric cardiac nurse specialists	0117 342 8286 or bleep 3983 via switchboard (8am to 4pm, Monday to Friday)
On-call paediatric cardiology registrar	Bleep 2424 via switchboard
Paediatric dietitian	0117 342 8802 or bleep 2780/3651

Your team

Consultant cardiologist:

Phone no. 0117 342

Consultant surgeon:

Phone no. 0117 342

Cardiac nurse specialist:

Phone no. 0117 342

Local paediatric consultant:

Phone no:

Some helpful information

Acceptable vital sign ranges for _____ at rest are:

- oxygen saturations between _____ and _____ %
- heart rate between _____ and _____ bpm
- respiratory rate between _____ and _____ /min.

These are only a guide, and if you or your doctor have concerns, then your child should be discussed with the cardiology team.

Information for parents of babies on the home monitoring programme going home after surgery

As you are aware, your child has _____. This is a serious condition which means that your baby does not have a normal heart and blood circulation. Your child will need further operations, as well as several investigations and continuous follow up by the cardiologist and local paediatrician.

Your baby has had their first stage operation, and the cardiology team now feels that they are well enough to go home. We fully appreciate that this is a very worrying and anxious time for parents, and we have put together this leaflet in order to provide you with some useful information to help you care for your baby at home.

Please call your GP, hospital doctor or paediatric registrar if:

- there are any significant changes in your child's feeding pattern or if they develop a poor appetite
- your child is sleeping more than normal
- your child has increased sweating or cool clammy skin
- your child has puffy eyelids
- your child is working harder to breathe or develops a cough
- there is a change in your child's skin colour – especially around the mouth and nose, lasting more than a few minutes
- your child doesn't have as many wet nappies as usual
- your child develops diarrhoea or vomiting
- your child develops a temperature above 38°C
- your child is irritable or constantly crying
- there are changes in your child's scar such as redness, oozing, swelling or an opening.

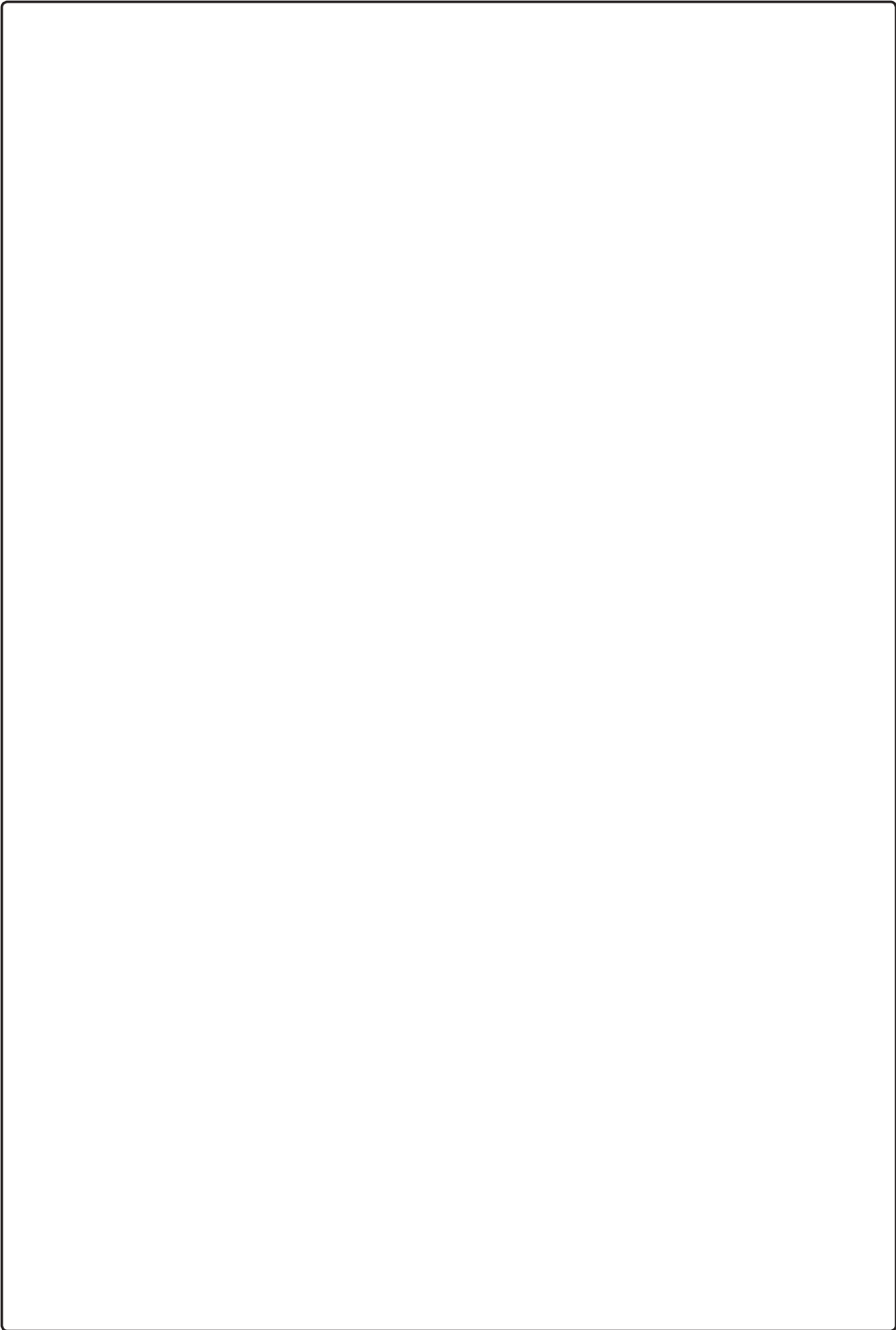
If you see any of these symptoms in your child you should call the on-call paediatric cardiology registrar (see number on page 4).

Remember to take this document and your discharge letter from Bristol Royal Hospital for Children with you whenever you see your GP or go to the emergency department. If you are unsure whether your baby has any of these symptoms, you can call the cardiac nurse specialists or the on-call paediatric cardiology registrar.

Call 999 if:

- **you hear persistent grunting in your child and noisy breathing or if your child is struggling to breathe**
- **your child is floppy and unresponsive or you are unable to wake them up**
- **there are prolonged changes in your child's skin colour. This could involve the skin turning more blue or grey than usual, being cool to touch or becoming waxy looking**
- **your child is choking and you've already intervened to provide basic life support.**

Notes/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
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/

Hospital switchboard: 0117 923 0000



Minicom: 0117 934 9869



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.

