

Clinical Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) **ELECTIVE REFERRAL FOR COMPLEX ELECTROPHYSIOLOGY AND DEVICES PROCEDURES (ACHD PATIENTS)**

SETTING	Bristol Heart Institute
FOR STAFF	All staff looking after adults patients with congenital heart disease (ACHD)
FOR PATIENT	Adult patients with congenital heart disease

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

ACHD electrophysiology procedures must only be undertaken by expert electrophysiologists experienced in the management of arrhythmias with congenital heart disease¹. There are two named electrophysiologists at the Bristol Heart Institute who will undertake complex electrophysiology and pacing procedures in ACHD patients.

REFERRAL/ LISTING:

1. All patients needing complex electrophysiology and pacing procedures will be referred to the ACHD EP consultants.
2. Patients will be listed for these procedures using the Medway listing form by the ACHD or EP teams.
3. Complex patients will be discussed at the ACHD MDT.
4. The need for general anaesthesia will be identified at the time of listing.
5. The need for Best Interest Meetings (BIM) is identified at the point of listing and arrangements are made by the ACHD clinical nurse specialist (CNS) team to undertake capacity assessments and organise BIMs that include the patient, family members, Independent Mental Capacity Advocate (IMCA) and the medical team as appropriate.

SCHEDULING:

1. The admissions office team will access the Medway referral and add the patient to the waiting list.
2. The patient will be sent a letter informing them that they are listed for the procedure.
3. The EP ACHD consultants will liaise with the admissions office and the ACHD team to consider clinical priority and changing symptoms.
4. Patients will be informed of their procedure date and booked for a pre-operative assessment clinic (POAC) review.
5. Urgent cases and inpatients will be identified at the point of listing and discussed directly with the admissions office.

PRE-OPERATIVE ASSESSMENT CLINIC (POAC) VISIT:

1. The patient will meet with the ACHD CNS who will explain the procedure, arrange the necessary tests and complete the pre-assessment documentation. The ACHD CNSs will

- liaise with the EP CNSs if needed.
2. Verbal and written information will be provided to the patient, including admission time starvation times, and anti-coagulation plan.
 3. The results of the investigations will be reviewed and documented by the ACHD CNS team and appropriate actions taken. This will include looking up swab results and arranging for eradication therapy in line with trust guidance.
 4. Abnormal results or issues which may lead to postponing/ cancelling the procedure will be discussed with the responsible consultant, and/ or cardiac anaesthetist and the patient will be informed.
 5. Telephone POAC, if appropriate can be offered.

ADMISSION TO THE CARDIAC DAY UNIT:

1. The patient will be admitted to the cardiac day-case unit on the day of the procedure.
2. Any pending investigations will be completed by the day-case unit nursing staff.
3. The operating cardiologist will obtain written informed consent. If written consent was already obtained, this will be confirmed on the day of the procedure.
4. The patient will be reviewed by the cardiac anaesthetist, if appropriate.

POST-PROCEDURE & DISCHARGE:

1. The patient will return to recovery and cardiac day case unit and the plan in the procedure report will be followed.
2. A discharge summary will be completed and a copy sent to the GP.
3. Follow up plans as detailed in the procedure report will be confirmed on the discharge summary.
4. Outpatient follow up appointments will be actioned by the ward clerks at discharge.
5. If follow up is planned outside the BHI, the operating consultant will arrange this.

CANCELLATIONS

1. If a procedure is cancelled on the day, the cath lab nurse in charge will communicate this to the admissions office and inform the patient.
2. Patients cancelled for non-medical reasons will be offered a procedure date within 28 days.

RELATED DOCUMENTS 1: Congenital Heart Disease Standards and Specifications, NHS England.
<https://www.england.nhs.uk/commissioning/wp-content/uploads/sites/12/2016/03/chd-spec-standards-2016.pdf>

AUTHORISING BODY Cardiac Executive Group

QUERIES Contact any of the following via UHBristol switchboard – 0117 923 0000

Dr R Bedair, Consultant Cardiologist (ACHD)
Dr I Diab, Consultant Cardiologist and Electrophysiologist
Dr A Nisbet, Consultant Cardiologist and Electrophysiologist