

Clinical Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)

24/7 SPECIALIST ADVICE FOR ACHD PATIENTS INCLUDING PRE-OPERATIVE ASSESSMENT FOR NON-CARDIAC SURGERY

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

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

ACHD patients and clinicians involved in their care should have access to 24/7 specialist advice from the ACHD team, including specialist advice regarding pre-operative risk assessment for anaesthesia and non-cardiac surgical procedures.

REFERRAL:

1. A referral or request for advice will be made to the ACHD team.
2. For elective, non-cardiac, surgical procedures, this will be in writing via letter or email correspondence from the referring physician/ team.
3. For inpatients and patient requiring urgent non-cardiac surgical procedures, the referral may be through the on call cardiology registrar, on call ACHD cardiologist or the ACHD team.
4. All referrals should be brought to the attention of the ACHD cardiologist for the week or the ACHD cardiologist responsible for the patient.

ADVICE:

1. For emergency procedures (needing to take place within hours of presentation), the on call cardiology registrar will liaise with the ACHD cardiologist on call, the cardiac anaesthetist on call and the referring clinicians
2. For non-emergency procedures, the ACHD cardiologist will liaise with one of the ACHD anaesthetist and consider the clinical background of the patient, the proposed procedure and the urgency.
3. Risk stratification will be in line with published guidelines².
4. A decision will be made by the ACHD cardiologist and cardiac anaesthetist regarding the following:
 - Agreed location for the proposed procedure
 - The need for and level of cardiac anaesthetist support
 - The need for HDU or ITU bed post-procedure
 - This plan will be communicated to the referring team
5. The ACHD cardiologist and cardiac anaesthetist will help facilitate this pathway through liaison with hospital bed managers and theatres and wider ACHD team, to ensure that the

surgery/ procedure takes place in a timely manner in the safest location.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

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

² 2018 AHA/ACC Guideline for the Management of Adults With Congenital Heart Disease. DOI: 10.1016/j.jacc.2018.08.1029

AUTHORISING BODY

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QUERIES

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