

Referral Criteria for ACHD Clinical Nurse Specialists

The Adult Congenital Heart Disease (ACHD) Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNS) have responsibilities to in-patients, out-patients and giving advice via the telephone advice line.

Outpatients

Clinical Nurse Specialists are available for all out-patient clinics to give advice and support in all of the following situations:

- New diagnosis;
- Patients being referred for or preparing for cardiac surgery;
- Patients being referred for or preparing for cardiology intervention;
- Patients, age 16 years and over who are transferring to adult services;
- Patients who have learning disabilities and need additional information and reasonable adjustments during their visit to hospital;
- Women for whom pregnancy would be moderate to high risk;
- Patients with a poor prognosis or palliative care at the end of life;
- Patients and families requiring emotional support.

If the Clinical Nurse Specialists are unable to have a full discussion with the family due to lack of room availability, they should meet the family, provide contact details of the Clinical Nurse Specialist team and arrange a follow-up discussion.

In-patients

The Clinical Nurse Specialists will support complex in-patients and families on the wards.

Contact details

The ACHD Clinical Nurse Specialists can be contacted via:

Telephone: 0117 342 6599 Bleep 3393

Team email: ubh-tr.achdclinicalnursespecialist@nhs.net