



University Hospitals Bristol
NHS Foundation Trust

Patient information service
Bristol Royal Hospital for Children

The cardiac nurse specialist



Respecting everyone
Embracing change
Recognising success
Working together
Our hospitals.



Bristol Royal Hospital
For Children

The cardiac nurse specialist

Who are we?

The cardiac nurse specialists are a dedicated team of experienced nurses who work as part of a wider multidisciplinary team to provide ongoing support to children and their families with a heart condition.

When will you meet us?

- antenatally within fetal clinics at St Michael's Hospital
- during outpatient or clinic appointments at Bristol Royal Hospital for Children
- as an inpatient on Dolphin Ward and PICU or NICU

What does our service provide?

- support and advice throughout your cardiac journey-from diagnosis through to transfer into the adult cardiac services aged 16-18
- education for your child and your family about diagnosis, treatment, lifestyle and medication
- preparing your child and your family for procedures or operations within our surgical and pre-admission clinics
- help with referrals to wider health care professionals such as community nurses, psychologists, dieticians and play specialists
- warfarin and INR teaching and training
- help with discharge planning and liaising with your health visitor, school nurse and GP when you are ready to go home from hospital

Useful resources

South Wales and South West Congenital Heart Disease Network:

Website: <http://www.swswchd.co.uk>

Bristol Children's Hospital:

Website: www.uhbristol.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/your-hospitals/bristol-royal-hospital-for-children/childrens-website

Facebook: www.facebook.com/bristolroyalhospitalforchildren

Transition into adult services:

Website: www.uhbristol.nhs.uk/transition

British Heart Foundation:

Website: <https://www.bhf.org.uk/>

Support groups

Southwest Heart Families

Telephone: **07929 261 121**

Website: **www.heartfamilies.org.uk**

Facebook: **www.facebook.com/HeartFamiliesSouthWest**

Little Hearts Matter

Telephone: **0121 455 8982**

Website: **www.lhm.org.uk**

Facebook: **www.facebook.com/littleheartsmatter**

Each cardiology consultant has a cardiac nurse specialist (CNS) allocated to them.

You will have a named cardiac nurse specialist as your main point of contact. If this CNS is unavailable, please feel free to contact any of the other CNS on the same number.

CNS working hours

Monday to Friday, 8am to 4pm

Cardiac nurse specialist contact:

0117 342 8286 / 0117 342 8578

cardiacnurses@uhbristol.nhs.uk

Hospital switchboard:

0117 923 0000

Bleep 3983

For any clinical queries and emergencies (out of hours), please contact Dolphin Ward via switchboard (0117 342 0000).

The ward team can contact the cardiology registrar or consultant if required.

Your cardiology consultant:

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Your cardiac nurse specialist:

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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
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.

