

| Report key messages | |
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| Project title: <i>The National Congenital Heart Disease Audit (NCHDA)</i> | |
| Report ref. and name: <i>National Audit of Congenital Heart Disease 2022 Summary Report (2018/21 data)</i> | |
| Date of publication: 16th June 2022 | |
| Key message 1: | COVID-19: 17% fall in overall procedural activity when compared to 2019/20 with 11% drop in paediatric cardiac surgery and 44% in ACHD surgery. The reduction in procedural activity significantly affected children and adult groups more than neonates and infants groups demonstrating that less urgent or elective cases were more impacted during the pandemic. |
| Key message 2: | 9749 congenital procedures were undertaken in 2020/21 from 23 centres (11 paediatric/mixed and 12 adult only centres): 40% surgery, 30% catheter interventions, 10% diagnostic catheters, 14% electrophysiology and 6% hybrid. In spite of the pandemic, outcomes for under 16s undergoing cardiac surgery are among the best reported worldwide with a 30-day unadjusted post-surgical mortality rate at 1.6% for 2020/21. |
| Key message 3: | Antenatal diagnosis of congenital heart conditions for all infants requiring a procedure in the first year of life across the UK and Republic of Ireland improved to 52% overall. This is likely to reflect that routine antenatal obstetric screening was maintained during the pandemic. We continue to report on four specific lesions – hypoplastic left heart syndrome, transposition of the great arteries with intact ventricular septum, tetralogy of Fallot and complete atrioventricular septal defect. There remains important variation in performance between hospitals. |
| Key message 4: | Procedural complications following paediatric cardiac surgery are infrequent but there is a large variation between hospitals. The reported complications include 2.4% requiring life support, 1.5% requiring an unplanned pacemaker, 1.8% with prolonged pleural drainage and 4.1% for those needing renal replacement therapy (including peritoneal dialysis). |
| 100 word summary or abstract of the report: | |
| The National Congenital Heart Disease Audit 2022 Annual Report recorded 9749 procedures performed on children and adults born with a congenital heart malformation for the year 2020/21. The report highlights aspects of safety, clinical effectiveness and patient outcomes. The findings continue to demonstrate that the UK and ROI (excluding Scottish centres) have excellent 30-day outcomes that are amongst the best worldwide. The report has also shown diagnostic, interventional and surgical procedure variability between regions and this should drive efforts to bring all centres to the optimal level. | |