

<b>Report key messages</b>	
<b>Project title:</b> <i>The National Congenital Heart Disease Audit (NCHDA)</i>	
<b>Report ref. and name:</b> <i>National Audit of Congenital Heart Disease 2021 Summary Report (2017/20 data)</i>	
<b>Date of publication:</b> xxx	
<b>Key message 1:</b>	12,393 congenital procedures were undertaken in 2019/20 from 26 centres (12 paediatric/mixed and 14 adult only centres): 42% surgery (slight fall), 31% catheter interventions (fewer paediatric, more in adults), 12% diagnostic catheters, 14% electrophysiology and 6% hybrid. Outcomes for under 16s undergoing cardiac surgery are among the best reported worldwide with a 30-day unadjusted post-surgical mortality rate at 2.0% for 2019/20.
<b>Key message 2:</b>	The 30-day post-surgical survival rate for adults (16 years and over) was as predicted by the STAT risk-adjustment methodology. All centres performed better than the alert and alarm limits, for both children and adults.
<b>Key message 3:</b>	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 remains unchanged to overall 51%. 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.
<b>Key message 4:</b>	Procedural complications following paediatric cardiac surgery are infrequent but there is a large variation between hospitals. This year the report has excluded data on acute neurological events while definitions for all variables and processes for consistent coding of various complications are reviewed by an NCHDA expert working group. Reported complications include 2.4% requiring life support, 1.2% requiring an unplanned pacemaker, 3.5% with prolonged pleural drainage and 3.5% for those needing renal replacement therapy (including peritoneal dialysis).
<b>Key message 5:</b>	Case Study: For the first time, the NCHDA has reviewed and compared total radiation doses for commonly performed procedures across 12 paediatric centres. The work will help in setting diagnostic reference levels (DRLs) to allow hospitals to review their practices and equipment to ensure that patients receive the lowest possible x-ray doses.
<b>100 word summary or abstract of the report:</b>	
The National Congenital Heart Disease Audit 2021 Annual Report recorded 12,393 procedures performed on children and adults born with a congenital heart malformation for the year 2019/20. The report highlights aspects of safety, clinical effectiveness and patient outcomes. The findings continue to demonstrate that the UK and ROI 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.	