

Report key messages	
Project title: <i>The National Congenital Heart Disease Audit (NCHDA)</i>	
Report ref. and name: <i>National Audit of Congenital Heart Disease 2023 Summary Report (2019/22 data)</i>	
Date of publication: 8 June 2023	
Key message 1:	Recovery through COVID-19 pandemic: Overall activity increased by 12% when compared to 2020/21 indicating good recovery in procedural activity. However, paediatric surgical activity showed a further drop (by 3%). Less urgent, elective procedures and non-procedural activity remain impacted with increasing waiting times.
Key message 2:	10,889 congenital procedures were undertaken in 2020/21 from 22 centres (11 paediatric/mixed and 11 adult only centres). 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%. Approximately 9% fewer deaths than predicted across 2,120 adult CHD operations.
Key message 3:	The percentage diagnosed antenatally seems to have stabilised just over 50% in the last five years with detection rate of 50.4% for all infants requiring a procedure in the first year of life in 2021/22. Fetal anomaly screening continued nationally despite 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.
Key message 4:	Procedural complications following paediatric cardiac surgery are infrequent but there is a large variation between hospitals. The reported complications include 2.29% requiring life support, 1.2% requiring an unplanned pacemaker, 3.02% with prolonged pleural drainage and 3.38% for those needing renal replacement therapy (including peritoneal dialysis). New definitions of post-procedure complications will be released in 2023 allowing more robust data collection with the aim to reduce inter-centre variance.
Key message 5:	Data Quality indicator scores remain very good. However, inadequate centre level Database staff (Standard recommended for number of database managers per total procedures), along with the right skill set, may be causing the noticeable variance in scoring between centres.
100 word summary or abstract of the report:	
The National Congenital Heart Disease Audit 2022 Annual Report recorded 10,889 procedures performed on children and adults born with a congenital heart malformation for the year 2021/22. The report highlights aspects of safety, clinical effectiveness and patient outcomes. The findings continue to demonstrate that the UK and ROI (not including Scottish centres) have excellent 30-day outcomes that are amongst the best worldwide. This report reflects the exemplary response of all congenital centres working together with excellent collaboration to provide the best possible CHD service throughout the pandemic.	