

West Glamorgan: Almost all neonatal and infant emergencies are referred directly to London, the majority going to the Hammersmith Hospital and the remainder equally divided between the Brompton Hospital, the National Heart Hospital and Great Ormond Street Hospital. Of the 4 paediatricians in West Glamorgan, 2 refer all their older children to a visiting cardiologist from the Hammersmith Hospital at her Bridgend clinic and 2 refer some older children direct to London but most to Cardiff.

Mid Glamorgan: Most neonatal and infant emergencies are referred directly to London; a small number go to Cardiff. Three of the five paediatricians refer their older children to the Hammersmith cardiologist at Bridgend. The other 2 refer to Cardiff.

South Glamorgan: Almost all neonatal and infant emergencies and older children are referred to Cardiff.

Gwent and Southern Powys: Most neonatal and infant emergencies are referred to Cardiff except when the paediatric cardiologist is unavailable, in which case they are referred to Bristol (very small numbers). Most older children also go to Cardiff apart from those living in the Chepstow area who are referred to Bristol.

(b) Paediatric Cardiac Surgery

All children requiring cardiac surgery seen by cardiologists in England or visiting from England are referred for surgery to their surgical colleagues in England.

Of children requiring surgery referred to Cardiff, two thirds are referred to cardiac surgeons in Cardiff, the remaining third being shared between surgeons at the Brompton Hospital, Harefield Hospital, Great Ormond Street Hospital and the National Heart Hospital.

2.4 The size of the problem

Figures are available from paediatricians and cardiologists indicating the numbers of Welsh children who underwent cardiac catheterisation and cardiac surgery in 1978.

Cardiac Catheterisation, 1978

Liverpool	110	
Hammersmith	45	
Other London hospitals	15	
Cardiff	52	(23%)
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	222	or 80/million population