

HUNTINGDON HEALTH AUTHORITY
PAPWORTH HOSPITAL

Your Ref.
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When replying please ask for

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 CAMBRIDGE CB3 8RE

Our Ref.

TEL HUNTINGDON (0480) 830541
 EXT..... 424

CARDIOTHORACIC SURGICAL UNIT

17th September 1992

Sir Michael Carlisle,
 Chairman,
 Supraregional Services Advisory Group,
 Department of Health,
 Richmond House,
 79 Whitehall,
 London SW1A 2NS

c.c. Mr. Steve Owen,
 Secretary,
 Supraregional Services Advisory
 Group.

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 2810

Dear Sir Michael.

I was concerned to learn from Mr. Owen that the Advisory Group concluded at its last Meeting on the 29th July, which, unfortunately, I was unable to attend, that neonatal and infant cardiac surgery should be de-designated as a supraregional service.

As you know, successive R.C.S. working parties have consistently held the view that, by controlling the number of centres in which neonatal and infant cardiac surgery was practised, supraregional funding played an important part in maintaining high standards of practice in this demanding specialty of surgery.

This was also the view of the latest R.C.S. report dated June 1992 and it disturbs me that the Advisory Group should disregard the professional advice it had sought and received. I would like to speak to this subject when the Advisory Group next meets on September 29th and simply wanted to let you know this ahead of time.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Terence English

Sir Terence English, R.B.E., F.R.C.S.
 Consultant Cardiac Surgeon