

when in 1995 the UBHT provided tables of death or survival by type of operation, the figures were checked (for reasons given below) against the UBHT figures for repair of Ventricular Septal Defect (VSD), Tetralogy of Fallot and Atrio-Ventricular Septal Defect (AVSD).

4.3.5 There were 69 different descriptive titles for the operations carried out over the period. These needed to be classified as far as possible into the categories recognised and used by the UK Paediatric Cardiac Surgical Registry. Finding a suitably qualified independent person to do this took Dr Bolsin some time. The classification was not undertaken until 1993, and was carried out by Dr Alison Haynes, a consultant paediatric cardiologist who had relatively recently been appointed in the UBHT.

4.3.6 All but 39 of the 233 cases were classifiable reasonably confidently into 19 nationally recognised categories, the remainder being unclassifiable because of absent or incomplete information. I entered the classification codes into an added column in the spreadsheet using hand-written instructions about the correspondences. I compiled tables of death or survival by nationally recognised category of operation in the age groups above or below one year. (Copies of these tables were referenced in and included with my submission to the GMC). They allowed the mortality rates in the Bristol Royal Infirmary to be compared with the corresponding national rates for 1989 and 1991, as obtained from the UK Paediatric Cardiac Surgical Register. I also tabulated the times on cardiopulmonary bypass, the cross-clamp times, days to extubation, days in ITU and days in hospital for each category of operation in Bristol. No national comparator figures are available for the period in question. (A copy of this table was referenced in and included with my GMC statement).

4.3.7 Our records showed 42 deaths in 233 cases, giving an estimated overall mortality of about 18%. The overall mortality rate presumably reflected both the cross-section of types of operation and patient that were taken on