

**U B H T**  
TEACHING CARE

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PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

*Cardiac*

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Dr C R Monk  
 Clinical Director  
 Director of Anaesthesia  
B R I

Dear Chris

We wish to express our concern at the arterial switch programme currently being undertaken in this hospital. The mortality for this operation is apparently high, particularly for those operations undertaken in the neonatal period, but the recent death of a 14 month old child following the arterial switch procedure must now lead to an open and thorough review of the results so far. It is our belief that this review should be confidential and take place between all the cardiac anaesthetists, all the cardiac surgeons, all the paediatric cardiologists and the Director of Cardiac Services. This responsible approach to our clinical practice would defuse many of the criticisms of the programme in this institution expressed privately and publicly.

Yours sincerely

*Su Underwood*

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Consultant Anaesthetist

*Ian Davies*

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Consultant Anaesthetist

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