

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL

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C2/107

16th January 1995

Dr J Roylance
 Chief Executive
 UBHT HQ
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Dear John


Following our conversation last Friday the 13th January, I would like to summarise my view of our discussions.

It is sad that we have failed to resolve the issues of the paediatric cardiac surgery work internally. In view of this, I share your opinion that an enquiry should be held on the paediatric work carried out in the Department of Cardiac Surgery from 1988 to the present day. I think this is the minimum requirement, given the recent circumstances and the bad feeling present in the unit. I think we should certainly be involved in the data collection, however any interpretation of the results should be left to two experienced external cardiac surgeons. I would like to suggest Mr W Brawn from the Birmingham Childrens Hospital and Mr M de Leval from Great Ormond Street Hospital. The first gentleman is certainly one of the best known paediatric cardiac surgeons in the UK as well as internationally, whereas Mr de Leval besides being an excellent surgeon has recently proposed ways to assess performance in 'switch' operations which have received international approval. If you would like to check the suitability of these two proposed names I would advise you to contact the Postgraduate Dean of the Cardiothoracic Society for Great Britain and Ireland, Mr Colin Hilton from Newcastle.

I also agree with you that 'switch' operations should not be performed in our unit until the results of such an enquiry have been made available.

I remain at your disposal for any further information or help you may require.

Yours sincerely


 G.D. ANGELINI
 Professor of Cardiac Surgery

cc: Mr R McKinley, Chairman, UBHT
 Mr J Wisheart, Medical Director, UBHT
 Mr J Dhasmana, Clinical Director, Department of Cardiac Surgery
 Dr C Mehl, Clinical Director, Department of Anaesthesia
 Professor J R Farndon, Department of Surgery
 Professor J Vann Jones, Director of Cardiac Services
 Dr H Joffe, Director of Paediatric Cardiology

PS: Please find enclosed copies of letters from myself and Professor Farndon
 Mr J Dhasmana, Medical Director