

## Cardiac Surgery

### Introduction

The Covid pandemic has had a significant impact on the NHS ability to provide routine elective services. We recognise that patients are waiting longer than we would all like and it is not always possible to identify when treatment will take place. This document provides you with information on how you can support yourself while waiting to attend the hospital. The guidance has been written by clinicians who are responsible for your care.

### Guidance for Patients

Whilst you are waiting for your child's surgery date we continue to plan for your child's care behind the scenes. Once our patients are listed for Cardiac Surgery at our Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) meeting we prioritise our patients in order of urgency. Once your child is listed for Cardiac Surgery, we invite you to a pre-assessment appointment with the Cardiac Nurse Specialists (face to face or video consult) to discuss all aspects of your child's condition and surgery.

We have a surgical planning meeting each week to discuss the patients listed for Cardiac Surgery the following week and prioritise any inpatients that may require urgent surgery.

Once your child has a date for surgery, you will then be invited to a pre-admission clinic appointment (face to face) with the Cardiac Nurse Specialists to carry out all investigations required for the surgery the following week.

#### **You can help us to look after your child by continuing to do the following:**

- Keep attending your child's follow up appointments with your cardiologist at Alder Hey or your local hospital
- Visit your dentist to check they don't require any treatment
- Your child should carry on taking their medication as prescribed until directed otherwise
- If you are concerned about your child or their symptoms worsen, please call the Cardiac Nurse Specialist helpline at Alder Hey on 0151 252 5291 Monday – Friday, 08.30 – 16:30 or attend A&E out of these hours
- You can also seek advice and guidance on the new Alder Hey Symptom checker app via the website

#### **What should I do if my health is deteriorating?**

- You can contact the Cardiac Nurse Specialist for advice at Alder Hey on 0151 252 5291, Monday – Friday, 08:30 – 16:30 or the Cardiac Nurse Specialists at Royal Manchester Children's on 0161 701 0664, Monday – Friday, 08:30 – 16:30
- In an emergency or if symptoms worsen you can attend your local A&E
- You can also seek advice and guidance on the new Alder Hey Symptom checker app via the website

## Contact Us

### **Cardiac Nurse Specialists**

Phone line opening hours: Monday – Friday, 08:30 – 16:30

Alder Hey: 0151 252 5291

Royal Manchester Children's: 0161 701 0664

# My Planned Care Patient Information Platform

## **Paediatric Cardiac Surgical Secretaries**

Phone line opening hours: Monday – Friday, 09:00 – 17:00

Alder Hey: 0151 252 4515

## **Paediatric Cardiology Secretaries**

Phone line opening hours: Monday – Friday, 09:00 – 17:00

Alder Hey: 0151 252 5715 or 0151 252 5633

Royal Manchester Children's: 0161 701 0665