

Reference Number: FOI2021/350
From: Commercial
Date: 13 October 2021
Subject: Aortic Surveillance clinic and related policy documents

Q1 We are setting up an aortic surveillance clinic and I am wondering if you have already established said clinic.

My main query is if you have a patient with aortic stenosis and a aortopathy (coarctation/dilation) are these patients included or excluded from being managed in said clinic? Or do they remain under consultant review?

A1 We run a virtual aortic surveillance clinic – we follow up patients under surveillance with aneurysms and patients who have had aortic surgery. We do not run a specific clinic for patients with aortic stenosis.

When patients reach the criteria for surgery whether that be aortic stenosis, aortic regurgitation and or aneurysm diameter/expansion they are referred to / seen in the Consultant led Aortic Clinic.

Patients with aortic stenosis would be excluded from the Advanced Nurse Practitioner (ANP) led surveillance clinic at the present time. At the moment, we still have a hybrid model where some patients will be seen in the aortic clinic led by our Aortic surgeons, and some in the aortopathy cardiology clinic led by our Consultant imaging cardiologist. This is based on clinical assessment and need.

The ANP led clinic is for small aneurysms only and for straight forward post op patients.

Q2 If you have departmental policies or guidelines for this clinic I would greatly appreciate if you could share.

A2 We do not have departmental policies or procedures. However, we do follow the 2014 European Society of Cardiology Guidelines on the diagnosis and treatment of aortic diseases. This can be found at the following website:
<https://doi.org/10.1093/eurheartj/ehv178>; European Heart Journal (2014) 35, 2873–2926