

**Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital: confirmed outlier status for the ASD Repair procedure beyond the 98% confidence limit**

*A statement from Mr Mark Pullan, Consultant Cardiac Surgeon at Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital confirms that the case was discussed at the local Mortality Review Committee and the finding of the independent group was that the death was unavoidable and the standard of care was good. The cases were carried out before the closure of the Consultation of Draft Standards and Services for Congenital Heart Disease Services on 8/12/2014. NHS England standards aim to eliminate occasional practice and in the North West region plans are in place to change the provision of adult ACHD services. Once the future pathway for adult congenital heart disease patients has been established, LHCH will follow the NHSE published recommendations. In the interim all cardiac surgeons have been advised to ensure that these cases go through current ACHD MDT. There has been no cause for concern with previous ASD cases, they had been appropriately worked up and treated to the standard that existed at that time. The surgeons have recognized the changing landscape and the recent published standards and will be complying with them.*

*The NCHDA Steering Committee and the president/president-elect of both SCTS and BCCA have reviewed the Mortality Review documentation and clinical indications for surgery and agree that the patients were managed appropriately. They note that the low numbers highlight the service as 'occasional practice' and activity will be monitored as the NHSE standards to eliminate occasional practice are implemented.*