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## **Cardiac Catheterisation Procedures**

### **1. Cardiac Catheterization Laboratories (Cath labs) and their utilization**

**What is the number of catheterization laboratories currently in operation within your organization and the sites at which they are located?**

The Belfast Health and Social Care Trust Cardiology Service have x7 commissioned catheterization laboratories.

Royal Victoria Hospital site - There are x6 catheterization laboratories

Belfast City Hospital site- There is x1 commissioned catheterization laboratories (and cardiology have access to another lab on Belfast City Hospital which is a lab which is more than 10years old).

**In how many of these catheterization laboratories do you perform catheter-based valve interventions?**

In Royal Victoria Hospital x2 of the laboratories have the equipment and air flows to facilitate consultants to perform valve interventions

**How many days per week are catheter-based valve interventions performed in each of these catheterization laboratories?**

5 days per for one lab (lab 6) and varying days for lab (lab 4) depending on demand

**Any available data on utilization of these facilities (e.g. number of sessions scheduled per week, or average percentage utilization).**

The average number of sessions per week is 56- 60 which works out at 80-90% utilization.

### **2. Cardiac Theatres (used for cardiac surgery)**

**- What is the number and location of cardiac theatres in operation?**

There is 3 theaters used for cardiac surgery in Royal Victoria Hospital Level 3 main theatres

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**What is the total number of heart valve repair or replacement procedures (e.g. TAVI, TEER, sAVR or Bentall procedures) performed in both cath labs and cardiac theatres during the most recent full year for which you hold data.**

Last year 09/12/25 – 09/12/25 444 (Main Theatre AVR, MVR etc.) 359 (Cath lab Tavi/TEER)

### **3. Planning**

**How is the provision or planning of the following procedures managed within your jurisdiction for:**

**- Trans catheter Aortic Valve Implantation (TAVI)**

Age threshold for TAVI has been reduced from 75 to 70 with the potential to be reduced even further over the next . The Belfast Health and Social Care Trust continue to make the SPPG (commissioners) aware of the increasing demand for TAVI.

**- Trans catheter Edge-to-Edge Repair (TEER)**

The Belfast Health and Social Care Trust continue to monitor and record the total number of these procedures year on year and the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust escalate any changes to Strategic Planning and Performance Group (commissioners) making them aware of the increasing demand for TEER.

**Are there any current or planned investments in cardiac catheterization or cardiac surgical capacity (including infrastructure or workforce)?**

There are x2 catheterization laboratories on Royal Victoria Hospital site and x1 catheterization laboratories on Belfast City Hospital site due to be refurbished in the next year.

There is currently discussion with City Hospital a deal in relation to the potential of a further catheterization laboratories for Research on Belfast City Hospital site.

The updated Elective Care Framework (ECF) in May 2025 outlined the strategic direction for the development and implementation of changes necessary for effective sustainable services within the Northern Ireland. Cardiac surgery has been indicated as an area for investment (£3m) – Given the current capacity and demand gap in this specialist service

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**What is the size of the population which is covered by your cardiac service provision?**

Cardiac surgery is regional service for all of Northern Ireland (1.93 million)