Modified Blalock Taussig Shunt
- Information for parents and staff
Important Information for your GP/doctors at your local hospital:

_________________ has ________________________________ and has had a modified BT shunt procedure at the Bristol Royal Hospital for Children on _____________.

_________________ will need further operations, the next being around the age of four to six months.

Occasionally between the first and second stages of surgery the circulation can become unstable and for this reason we would like to be kept informed of any contact __________________ has with health care professionals.

We would encourage you to contact our unit if you are concerned or in any doubt with regards to __________________ wellbeing. This is particularly important within the first six months of life.

If you are calling to let us know that you have seen the child or have any general questions, please call the paediatric cardiac nurse specialists on 0117 342 8286 or 0117 342 8578 during normal working hours. If you are calling for medical/treatment advice or any urgent medical issues you should contact the on call paediatric cardiology registrar on 0117 923 0000 bleep no 2424.
Important contact names and numbers

Bristol Royal Hospital for Children (BRHC)

Switchboard  0117 923 0000

Ward 32     0117 342 8332 / 8679

Paediatric cardiac nurse specialists  0117 342 8286 or 8578 or radiopage via switchboard.

On-call paediatric cardiology registrar Bleep 2424 via switchboard.

Paediatric dietitian  0117 342 8802 or Bleep 2780/3651.

Your named team

Consultant cardiologist: ............................................................................................................................

Phone no. 0117 342 .......

Consultant surgeon: ......................................................................................................................................

Phone no. 0117 342 .......

Cardiac nurse specialist: .............................................................................................................................

Phone no. 0117 342 .......

Local paediatric consultant: ........................................................................................................................

Phone no: ............................................................................................................................................
Some helpful information

Acceptable vital sign ranges for __________________________at rest are:

Oxygen saturations between ________and ________%  
Heart rate between ________and ________bpm  
Respiratory rate between ________and ________/min  

These are only a guide and if you or your doctor have concerns then your child should be discussed with the cardiology team.

Current medications

Drug: .............................................................. Dose: .........................
Frequency: ..............................................................................

Drug: .............................................................. Dose: .........................
Frequency: ..............................................................................

Drug: .............................................................. Dose: .........................
Frequency: ..............................................................................

Drug: .............................................................. Dose: .........................
Frequency: ..............................................................................

Discharge height: ....................... Weight: .......................  

Discharging doctor’s signature:
Information for parents of babies with a modified BT shunt going home after surgery

As you are aware your child has _________________________. This is a serious condition which means that your baby does not have a “normal” heart and circulation and will need further operations as well as several investigations and continuous follow up by both your cardiologist and local paediatrician.

Your baby has had their first stage operation and the cardiology team now feel that they are well enough to go home. We appreciate that this is a very worrying and anxious time for parents and have put together this leaflet in order to provide you with some information to help you to care for your baby at home.

When to call your doctor:

• If there are any significant changes in your baby’s feeding pattern/poor appetite.

• Increased sleeping.

• Increased sweating and/or cool clammy skin.

• Puffy eyelids.

• Working harder to breathe/new cough.

• Change in skin colour, especially around the mouth and nose lasting more than a few minutes

• Not as many wet nappies as usual.

• If your child develops diarrhoea and/or vomiting.

• Temperature above 38 degrees C.

• Baby doesn’t handle as well (irritable/constant crying).

• Changes in scar: redness, oozing, swelling or opening.
If you see any of these symptoms in your child you should call the cardiology team.

Remember to take this document and your discharge letter from Bristol Royal Hospital for Children (BRHC) with you every time you see your GP or go to A&E. If you are unsure whether or not your baby has any of these symptoms you can call the cardiac nurse specialists for advice on 0117 342 8286 or the on call paediatric cardiology registrar on 0117 923 0000 bleep 2424.

When to call 999:

- Persistent grunting, noisy breathing and/or struggling to breathe.
- Floppy and unresponsive baby. Unable to wake him/her up.
- Prolonged changes in your baby’s skin colour – more blue/grey than usual, cool to touchy, waxy looking.
- If your baby is choking.
Pre-discharge guidelines for staff caring for babies with a modified BT shunt surgery

The pre-discharge checklist must be completed and signed off by the Registrar for the ward on the day of discharge.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Date and signature</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre discharge investigations:</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Chest X ray</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• ECG</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Echocardiogram</td>
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<td>Named cardiology consultant documented on cover page of patients notes and entered on Heartsuite</td>
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<tr>
<td>MRI and/or cardiac catheterisation to assess suitability for second stage must be arranged prior to discharge from hospital and parents informed of date whenever possible</td>
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<td>First clinic follow up must be with consultant cardiologist no longer than two weeks after discharge. All follow up visits must be at a paediatric cardiology consultant clinic or if booked into a registrar clinic the patient must be reviewed by a consultant.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patient must be discussed with local paediatric consultant/hospital prior to discharge from Bristol. Medical handover must be conducted by at least a registrar grade doctor or above and documented in the medical notes</td>
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<td>Action</td>
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<td>All children must have a dietitian referral before discharge</td>
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<td>Resuscitation training provided for parents before discharge home</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cardiac nurse specialists to arrange twice weekly weights and oxygen saturations to be performed in the community</td>
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This completed discharge protocol and a full discharge letter must be sent to:

(tick when completed)

Parents

General practitioner

Community nursing team

Local consultant paediatrician

Copy to the patient notes

Cardiac nurse specialists
As well as providing clinical care, our Trust has an important role in research. This allows us to discover new and improved ways of treating patients.

While under our care, you may be invited to take part in research. To find out more please visit: www.uhbristol.nhs.uk/research- innovation or call the research and innovation team on 0117 342 0233.

For access to other patient leaflets and information please go to the following address:
www.uhbristol.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/information-for-patients/

Please shred & recycle after use

Hospital Switchboard: 0117 923 0000
Minicom: 0117 934 9869
www.uhbristol.nhs.uk

For an Interpreter or Signer please contact the telephone number on your appointment letter.

For this leaflet in Large Print, Braille, Audio, or Email, please call the Patient Information Service: 0117 342 3728 / 3725

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