

Decision Summary

Meeting Date	Friday 8 May 2009		
Application #	09005N		
Title of TCP	Repair of Aortic Coarctation in children and infants		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New TCP	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute/replacement for existing	<input type="checkbox"/> Extended use of existing	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
Coarctation of the aorta is a common congenital abnormality. Repair of this defect in adolescents and adults has been performed at Monash Medical Centre for many years by the cardiac surgical team, but not in infants and children. This application seeks approval to perform coarctation repair in the paediatric age group, after diagnosis and work-up by the paediatric cardiologists. The proposed procedure is standard practice for management of this condition.			
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION			
Applicant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	No conflict of interest	
Committee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	No conflict of interest from any TCPC members or invitees present	
SAFETY			
<input type="checkbox"/> Safer than current practice	<input type="checkbox"/> Equivalent to current practice	<input type="checkbox"/> Less safe than current practice	
This procedure is considered standard practice.			
EFFECTIVENESS			
High quality evidence?	No evidence was presented for effectiveness of the procedure itself. There is some evidence that paediatric cardiac surgery has less favourable outcomes in low volume centres, and that this is more pronounced in neonates and infants. However this information is based on all paediatric cardiac surgery and no specific information is available for coarctation repair.		
Consistent, clinically important benefit?	Yes		
Applicable to Southern Health?	Current Southern Health policy limits cardiac surgery to adolescents and adults.		
This procedure is considered standard practice, but is not undertaken at Southern Health.			
COST			
Not discussed			
CLINICAL FEASIBILITY			
Resource implications	The proposal is based on only one surgeon undertaking the procedure. A potential problem with emergency post-op follow up was identified when the surgeon was in theatre at another hospital.		
Credentialing and competency assurance undertaken	The applicant was considered appropriately qualified to undertake the procedure; however concerns were raised regarding training and maintenance of skills for support staff in theatre, ICU and paediatric wards. The applicant anticipated that only 5 procedures would be done each year. The TCPC felt that this would be insufficient volume to maintain staff skills.		
Current Southern Health policy limits cardiac surgery to adolescents and adults. In order to implement coarctation repair in infants and children, Southern Health policy must be changed. This is not within the scope of the TCPC.			
ISSUES RELATED TO ACCESS & EQUITY AND LEGAL & ETHICAL IMPLICATIONS			
Not discussed			
PATIENT INFORMATION			
Minor amendments suggested by Committee Members. Details to follow.			
Final decision by the Southern Health Technology/Clinical Practice Committee			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Recommended: Approved with no further need for assessment.		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Restricted Recommendation – Audit: Approval subject to implementation under audit conditions. Conditions are specific to the technology.		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Restricted Recommendation – Clinical Trial: Endorsed, however approval subject to implementation in clinical trial with Southern Health Human Research and Ethics Committee approval.		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Restricted Approval – Operational Restrictions: Endorsed, however financial or operational restrictions apply.		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not Recommended		
The TCPC recommended on May 8 th 2009 that a meeting of all relevant stakeholders (eg senior staff from paediatrics, cardiac surgery, ICU, NICU, anaesthetics, theatre, management, etc) be convened to discuss possible changes to current Southern Health policy. At the TCPC meeting held on July 17 2009, Richard King reported that Wayne Ramsey did not endorse a change in the protocol concerning paediatric cardiology; therefore the previous decision of the TCPC stands that this technology is not recommended for introduction at Southern Health.			