

FROM THE PRESIDENT
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Dr Kate Chamberlain
Chief Executive
Healthcare Inspectorate Wales
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Dear Dr Chamberlain

Thank you for our recent constructive meetings; we are keen to do everything we can to work with you to improve the safety and quality of healthcare services.

Last summer you will recall that we exchanged correspondence about our concerns regarding elective cardiac surgery in South Wales. Further to your letter of 1 August 2013 I would be grateful for a further update.

As you will know we are still awaiting the publication of the Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee's report on the mortality of patients waiting for elective surgery in South Wales along with a separate report from the "Cardiac Surgery Working Group of the Cardiac Services Review for Wales".

These reports are taking longer to be published than we anticipated. In the interim we would like to know what assurances HIW has received that the concerns we have raised, about the higher than expected mortality rates due to clinically inappropriate waiting times for cardiac surgery, have been addressed.

Once these reports have been published, which we hope will be soon, and you have had the chance to consider any further work that may be necessary, the College would be pleased to work with you and others to improve the way we care for patients undergoing cardiac surgery in South Wales.

Yours sincerely



Norman S Williams
President