



**Service Priorities and Programmes**  
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**Submitting author:** Dr Herman Hoi Ming CHAN

**Post title:** Resident, Prince of Wales Hospital, NTEC

**Discharge Desination after Coronary Surgery and 'International Benchmarking' of Length of Stay**

*Chan H, R Lau, M Kwok, Wong R, Yeung E, Ng C, Wan I, Wan S, Underwood MJ  
Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Department of Surgery, Prince of Wales Hospital, Shatin*

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**Introduction**

Length of hospital stay following surgery is purported as a 'quality' measure but can be impacted by local facilities for rehabilitation and other amenities. Benchmarking is an important component of quality assurance programmes and The European Society for Cardiothoracic Surgery (ESCTS) Database includes data from over 29 countries in Europe, 50 hospitals from mainland China and outcomes for over 1 million cardiac procedures.

**Objectives**

To look at discharge destinations following coronary surgery (CABG) in a single institution and benchmark hospital stay with the ESCTS Database, including data from mainland China.

**Methodology**

Prospective data collection for all cardiac surgical activity within our Division was instituted and stored in a dedicated cardiac database. For discharge destination, data was collected for all surgical activity from 2006-2012 inclusive (2507 cases, 1218 CABG). For benchmarking, data was independently and remotely extracted from our server by representatives of the ESCTS for the period 2006-8 inclusive for CABG patients only. Benchmarking was performed independently by ESCTS and is presented as mean length of stay and inter-quartile ranges.

**Result**

Data from 1218 CUHK/PWH patients showed 1200 patients survived to discharge (98.5%). Of these, 985 patients (81%) were discharged directly to home. 1.2% (15 patients) were admitted to convalescence facility and 195(16%) were discharged to another hospital (referring center). 7 patients discharged home from PWH had been transferred to another specialty within PWH prior. ESCTS benchmarking showed CUHK/PWH post-operative stay following CABG (n=502) was mean 6.7 days (IQ range 3-8), whole database, n=208,156: 10.0 days (IQ range 2-21) and Asian Zone, n=8768, 12.6 days (IQ range 3-24). The majority of patients following coronary

surgery at CTHK/PWH are discharged directly home as local rehabilitation facilities are limited. Despite this, international benchmarking has shown the post-operative stay following CABG is comparable if not shorter than Western and other Asian Countries.