

**Aetna Institutes of Excellence®**  
**Pediatric Congenital Heart Surgery Facilities**  
**Summary of Criteria**  
**Requirements for Consideration**

**Request For Information (RFI):** Facility must submit a completed, current year, standardized response to the RFI.

**Access:** Aetna must determine that it has a need for facility's specific pediatric congenital heart surgery services in its Institutes of Excellence network.

**Contractual Status:** There must be an executed, participating Health Services Agreement covering pediatric congenital heart surgery services. All physicians providing these services must be participating with Aetna.

**Designation Process:**

Aetna's Institutes of Excellence Oversight Committee (IOEOC) has sole discretion in making final determinations on eligibility.

**Program Criteria:**

Data Management

- Programs must have the ability to collect, analyze, and report data, and must submit updated information to Aetna annually as requested.

Program Processes

- Facility must agree to provide written notice to Aetna of any changes in its ability to deliver services to its members.
- Facility must be willing to allow site visits with appropriate National Medical Excellence Program® (NME) staff.
- Facility must disclose and explain any history of closure or suspension to the satisfaction of the IOEOC.
- Program must have a quality improvement process in place.

Program-Specific Criteria:

- Volume of at least 150 pediatric congenital heart surgery operations per year
- Data reported to the Society of Thoracic Surgeon's Congenital Heart Surgery Database and outcomes reported and available to the public. The program's Overall Mortality Observed to Expected (O/E) Ratio cannot be higher than expected using the most recent reported four calendar years.
- Dedicated pediatric cardiac anesthesia
- ECMO capability
- Neonatal interventional cardiac-catheter capability
- Two or more dedicated Aetna-participating pediatric cardiac surgeons
- Dedicated ICU for pediatric cardiac care

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