



## **CURRICULUM VITAE**

**DR. RAJAI Ali Shahin AHMAD**

M.B, Ch.B., MD (Sheffield), FRCP (London)

**Consultant Interventional Cardiologist**

**January 2016**

## PERSONAL DETAILS

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Name	Dr. Rajai Ali Shahin Ahmad	
Date of Birth	2 <sup>nd</sup> July 1956	
Languages	Fluent in English and Arabic	
Marital status:	Married with 2 sons	
Home Address	7 Euan Close Gillhurst Road Birmingham B17 8PL	
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## CURREMNT AND PRIOR APPOINTMENTS

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### **Consultant (Interventional) Cardiologist (since June 1994)**

#### **Clinical Director (Cardiology) May 2009 to May 2013**

Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust  
Sandwell General Hospital  
Lyndon,  
West Bromwich  
West Midlands  
B71 4HJ

#### **Lead Clinician, Birmingham, Sandwell and Solihull CHD Collaborative Programme 2002-2004**

#### **Clinical Director, Birmingham, Sandwell and Solihull Cardiac and stroke Network 2003-2008**

**Member,** National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) Guideline Development Group (CVD preventions and Lipid Modification, CG181), September 2012-April 2014

**Specialist Member,** National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) Quality Standards Advisory Committee (QSAC), September 2014-April 2015

## EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

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Certificate of Secondary Education Amman, Jordan.	1974
Advanced Level GCE, s (3 @ grade A+) Shrewsbury, England	1974-1976
Sheffield University Medical School M.B, Ch.B.	1976-1981
Member of the Royal College of Physicians MRCP (UK)	1984
Sheffield University Doctor of Medicine (MD)	1994
Fellow of the Royal college of Physicians FRCP	1996

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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British Cardiovascular Intervention Society (BCIS)	1990
West Midlands Physicians Association	1994
British Cardiovascular Society (BCS)	1995
Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians (FRCP)	1997
British Heart Valve Society (BHVS)	2012

## PREVIOUS POSTS

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### **Locum Consultant Cardiologist**

*Department of Cardiovascular Medicine  
Selly Oak and Queen Elizabeth Hospitals  
Birmingham [Teaching]*

**December 1993-May 1994**

### **Locum Senior Registrar (Cardiology)**

*Department of Cardiovascular Medicine  
Selly Oak and Queen Elizabeth Hospitals  
Birmingham [Teaching]*

**April 1993-November 1993**

*Dr. R Nagle*

### **Locum Consultant Physician and Cardiologist**

*Department of Cardiology  
Corbett Hospital  
Stourbridge*

**September 1992-January 1993**

### **Senior Registrar in Cardiology**

*Regional Cardiac Unit  
City hospital  
Belfast*

**April 1992-August 1992**

*Dr. P Morton, Dr. G Murtagh  
Dr. M Scott, Dr. B O'Keefe  
& Dr. G Richardson*

### **Cardiology Research Fellow**

*(Honorary Clinical Registrar)*

*Cardiothoracic Unit  
Walsgrave Hospital  
Coventry [Teaching]*

**September 1989-April 1992**

*Dr. MF Shiu*

### **Locum Consultant Cardiologist**

*Cardiothoracic Unit  
Walsgrave Hospital  
Coventry*

**July 1989-August 1989**

### **Cardiology Research Fellow**

*University department of Cardiovascular Medicine  
Queen Elizabeth Hospital  
Birmingham [Teaching]*

**April 1989-June 1989**

*Dr. MF Shiu*

### **Cardiology Research Fellow**

*(Honorary Clinical Registrar)*

*Department of Cardiology  
Dudley Road (City) Hospital,  
Birmingham [Teaching]*

**February 1988-March 1989**

*Dr. RDS Watson*

**Registrar in Cardiology**

*Department of Cardiology  
Dudley Road (City) Hospital,  
Birmingham [Teaching]*

**February 1986-January 1988**

*Dr. RDS Watson  
Dr. SP Singh*

**Medical Registrar Rotation**

*[Rheumatology, Neurology, Cardiology]  
Hull Royal Infirmary and other  
Hospitals in Hull Area Health Authority*

**February 1984-November 1985****Senior House Officer Rotation**

East Yorkshire & Hull Health Authorities

**February 1983-January 1984****Senior House Officer**

Royal Hallamshire Hospital, Sheffield [Teaching]

**August 1982-January 1983****Senior House Officer**

Royal Hallamshire Hospital, Sheffield [Teaching]

**August 1982-January 1983****Pre-Registration House Officer**

Royal Hallamshire Hospital, Sheffield [Teaching]

**August 1981-July 1982****CONSULTANT EXPERIENCE**

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I was appointed to my current Consultant post in June 1994. I am now one of 12 Consultant Cardiologists in Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust (Teaching) responsible for supervision of coronary care unit and providing the full range of inpatient and outpatient adult Cardiology services to a population with a very high prevalence of and mortality from heart disease.

In both Sandwell General Hospital and the nearby Birmingham City Hospital and Birmingham Treatment Centre, the combined department of Cardiology of Sandwell and West Birmingham NHS Trust offers the full range of invasive and non-invasive cardiac investigations and treatment to a total population of around 550,000, including cardiac catheterisation, coronary angiography, transoesophageal echocardiography, physiological and Biventricular cardiac pacing. ICD implantation, and percutaneous coronary and valve intervention including a 24/7 Primary PCI for ST-elevation myocardial infarction, intravascular ultrasound, optical coherence tomography and coronary pressure wire (FFR) measurement and mitral balloon valvuloplasty.

In May 2009, I was appointed as **Clinical Director of the combined department of Clinical Cardiology and the University Department of Cardiovascular Medicine**, which has 12 Clinical and Academic Consultants including 6 interventional and three academic Cardiologists and is one of the largest PCI, device therapy and cardiovascular research departments in the West Midlands. I completed a second 2-year term as Clinical Director in May 2013.

Invasive services including **on-site cardiac catheterisation** were first developed in Sandwell in 1997 (until then all diagnostic and interventional activity occurred on the City Hospital site) but again reconfigured to the City site from August 2015. Currently, over 90% of elective procedures are performed as day-cases, the majority via the radial artery route. I now carry out between 6-10 coronary angiograms weekly in two dedicated day-case sessions and up to 2 additional shared sessions for in-patients, mostly (70%) in those with acute coronary syndromes. I played a leading role in the expansion of **interventional cardiology** services in Sandwell allowing greatly improved access for local patients and having performed my first angioplasty in 1989, I have, since my appointment, performed between 100-200 interventional cardiac procedures (PCI and valvuloplasty) annually in 2-3 weekly sessions on two hospital sites (up to August 2015) including 1:6 cover for **24/7 Primary PCI for STEMI** (personally performing around 40 PPCI's annually).

I have an interest in and long-standing experience in **mitral balloon valvuloplasty** and receive referrals for this from colleagues in the trust and wider West Midlands region and perform on regular (6 visits since 2010) medical charity missions to Sudan. I participate in monthly interventional audit and 'Imaging' meetings of the department and also have excellent working relations with Cardiothoracic Surgeons at the University Hospital, Birmingham, University Hospital Coventry and the Wolverhampton Heart and Lung Centre with whom I collaborate closely on referrals for revascularisation and cover for PCI.

I have been a **member of the British Cardiovascular Intervention Society (BCIS) since 1990** and regularly attend its regional and national meetings. I also regularly attend national and international update courses and symposia on coronary intervention and meetings of the British Cardiac Society, European Society of Cardiology, Euro PCR, American College of Cardiology and American Heart Association and a quarterly West Midlands Interventional meeting. In 2012, I became a member of the newly formed British Heart Valve Society.

## AUDIT

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Soon after arriving in Sandwell, I initiated a prospective **audit of thrombolytic/reperfusion therapy for heart attacks**, which contributed to a significant reduction in 'door-needle' times for patients admitted with acute myocardial infarction. This audit included over 4000 consecutive CCU admissions. Now part of MINAP (Myocardial Ischaemia National Audit Project), it continues to provide important data on case-mix, delays to treatment, clinical outcome, and length of stay on patients now treated almost exclusively with Primary PCI as well and treatment of patient with non-ST-elevation acute coronary syndromes. The results were included in regional and national audits of delays to treatment, are regularly fed-back to all staff involved in the care of CCU patients and continue to highlight important issues that have been addressed to minimise delays, including monthly meetings of a local multidisciplinary **MINAP Working group. Sandwell achieved the shortest 'Call-Needle' time and one of the shortest 'Door-Needle' times for thrombolysis in the region.** I had responsibility for implementing the MINAP/CCAD audit and standard setting and monitoring for Rapid Access Chest pain Clinics.

I currently audit all my interventional procedures for participation in regional audit and the **British Cardiovascular Intervention Society (BCIS) national audit**. I have participated in a number of regional and national meetings on thrombolytic therapy audit, and participated in a national registry (PRAIS Registry) and a European survey (ENACT) of the management of acute coronary syndromes.

During 1998, I devised and initiated a district-wide **audit of the management of angina in primary care** in which 22 practices throughout Sandwell participated. This project was co-ordinated with the help of the local primary care audit group and provided useful data on the prevalence of angina in Sandwell and highlighted a number of areas where secondary prevention could be improved.

## COMMITTEE AND MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

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Member of the Sandwell Drugs and Therapeutics Committee	1995-2003
Clinical Effectiveness Lead in Medicine & member of 'Audit and Risk' team.	1997-1999
Chairman of the Clinical Governance Group for Medicine & Member of Trust Clinical Governance Board	1999-2002
Member of the Sandwell Local Research Ethics Committee (LREC)	1996-2000
Vice-chair of the Sandwell LREC	2000-2002
Advisor on Coronary Heart disease for Sandwell Health Authority	1997-2003
<b>Chairman of Sandwell and Heart of Birmingham Local NSF Implementation Team</b>	<b>2000-2010</b>
Lead Clinician to the Birmingham, Sandwell and Solihull (BSS) CHD Collaborative Programme	2002-2004
<b>Clinical Director (Cardiology)</b> <b>Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust</b>	<b>2009-2013</b>
<b>Clinical Director of the BSS Cardiac Network</b>	<b>2003-2008</b>
<b>Member of the Regional Cardiac Services Committee and Regional RCP speciality advisor</b>	<b>1994-date</b>
Elected Chair	March 2005
<b>Member of the Regional Cardiac Forum</b>	<b>2000-2003</b>
<b>Member of the Regional Training Committee (Cardiology)</b>	<b>2000-date</b>

As chair of the local (Sandwell) multidisciplinary national service framework (NSF) implementation team, leading **the implementation of guidelines** for the immediate management of patients with suspected heart attacks in the community, agreed with local general practitioners, which led to a major shift in the referral pattern of such patients with more direct admission via 999 calls and a reduction in pre-hospital and overall delays to treatment (by over 90 minutes), the development of an integrated acute-community heart failure diagnostic and treatment/follow-up service and rapid access chest pain clinic. I built on this tradition of team building and working across the primary-secondary care interface and working with commissioners and others, which I continued through my leadership of the CD collaborative programme, Cardiac Network and, as Clinical Lead in the speciality.

## TEACHING AND TRAINING

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I regularly participate in MRCP orientated lectures and bedside clinical teaching organised weekly for junior doctors and in the instruction and teaching of medical students from Birmingham University. I have had a number of visiting European and overseas senior students and junior doctors spend clinical attachments under my supervision. I am responsible for the training and supervision of 2 Specialist Registrars in Cardiology and 2 Staff-grade Cardiologists, including instruction in the practice of invasive and interventional procedures. I am an approved PCI trainer by the West Midlands Training Committee. I am currently serving a second term as member of West Midlands Training Committee. I contribute to SpR recruitment and achieving the training needs, regular assessment (RITA's) and workforce planning for local SpR's required to take forward the CHD agenda.

I regularly lecture to local general practitioners on Cardiological topics including management of angina, myocardial infarction, secondary prevention, cardiac failure, developments in Cardiology, and local guidelines and their implementation. Through my leadership of the Local NSF implementation team I champion initiatives to promote healthy living throughout Sandwell including food policy, community exercise, and smoking cessation and their dissemination within the trust and to the wider public.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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My research interests have included the pathophysiology and treatment of Unstable Angina, particularly in relation to intracoronary thrombosis, restenosis after coronary angioplasty, and the role of angioplasty in unstable angina and in total coronary occlusion. I have also had an interest in mitral valvuloplasty and fiberoptic angioscopy in peripheral vascular and coronary artery disease.

I carried out a prospective study to investigate aspects of the coagulation and fibrinolytic systems in Unstable Angina, which formed the basis of my MD thesis. I was responsible for all aspects of the design, clinical and laboratory work relating to the study.



## PUBLICATIONS

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An Aspirin a day for Unstable Angina? - Guest Editorial.

RAS Ahmad and RDS Watson.

***Journal of Clinical Pharmacy and Therapeutics***, (1988); 13:239-42.

Unruptured sinus of Valsalva aneurysm presenting with isolated  
Heart block: echocardiographic diagnosis and successful surgical repair.

RAS Ahmad, S Sturman, RDS Watson. ***British Heart Journal*** (1989); 61:375-77

Treatment of Postural Hypotension - A Review.

RAS Ahmad and R D S Watson. ***Drugs***, (1990); 39(1): 74-85.

Delay in admission of patients with suspected myocardial infarction to a coronary care unit: relation to  
mode of referral and implications for thrombolytic therapy.

RAS Ahmad, S Bond, J Burke, SP Singh, RDS Watson.

***British Journal of General Practice***, (1992); 42: 145-148.

Call to needle times after acute myocardial infarction (letter)

R Ahmad, M Pritchard, M Fairfield, J Middleton

***British Medical Journal*** (1999); 318:597

Unstable angina in Hypertensive patients.

RAS Ahmad, IF Islim, PJ Lowry, SP Singh, RDS Watson.

***Journal of Hypertension***, (1991)

Annual meeting of the British Hypertension Society.

(Shortlisted for Young Investigator Award

Audit of primary care angina management in Sandwell, England.

A Stewart, J Rao, G Osho-Willimas, M Fairfield, R Ahmad.

***JRSH***, (2002); 122:112-117

Managing Acute Coronary Syndromes in a District General Hospital with interventional facilities— A  
future model of care?

JL Martins, LD Tapp, DL Connolly, RC Davis, PJ Cadigan, RA Ahmad.

***Heart (Suppl)*** May 2006, BCS Annual Conference

The Sandwell Project: A controlled evaluation of a programme of targeted screening for prevention of  
cardiovascular disease in primary care. Tom Marshall, Paul Westerby, Jenny Chen, Mary Fairfield,  
Jenny Harding, Ruth Westerby, Rajai Ahmad, and John Middleton. ***BMC Public Health***. 2008; 8: 73.  
Published online 2008 February 25 (nominated for HSJ awards)

Door-Balloon times in patients with ST-elevation myocardial infarction: the effect of extension to a 24-  
7 service. PK Kong, DL Connolly and Rajai Ahmad,

***Heart (Suppl)*** July 2008, BCS annual conference, June 2008

Redefining acute myocardial infarction.

Dr Rajai Ahmad ***Expert Witness Journal***, June-July 2013

## REFEREES:

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Dr Chetan Varma, MD, FRCP  
Consultant Cardiologist and Speciality Lead (Cardiology)  
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Consultant Cardiologist  
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