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I was appointed as consultant in ACHD in Leeds in 2006, and I still love my job! ACHD is a hugely varied sub-speciality. These patients have all sorts of different pathologies and physiologies and all require different management strategies. I work as part of a multi-disciplinary team of cardiologists, cardiac surgeons and other professionals, all aiming for the best possible outcomes for patients.

Most of our patients are relatively young, and are very positive about leading their lives to the full despite the sometimes very disabling conditions they live with. It is very rewarding to look after these patients and their families over a number of years, and often through some very difficult times. This continuity of care, so important for patients, has largely disappeared from many other branches of cardiology.

My working week is very varied. I spend time doing out patient clinics including my high risk pregnancy in heart disease clinic, diagnostic cardiac catheter sessions, multi-disciplinary meetings, ward rounds and peri-operative or peri-procedural trans-oesophageal echo alongside a tidal wave of paperwork and e-mails. Most weeks involve at least one local, regional, or national management meeting, and significant time commitment to teaching and training. There is rarely a dull moment; this afternoon I am involved in the filming of a cardiac case for the Channel 4 series 'One Born Every Minute'.

I juggle my busy job with looking after my 2 year old daughter, and although life is often rushed, I have the balance right for me and her by working 4 long days each week.