Bronchiolitis Pathway

Clinical Assessment / Management Tool for Children Younger than 1 year old with suspected Bronchiolitis

May 2015 (2) Refreshed Version

Management - Primary Care and Community Settings

Patient Presents →

Suspected Bronchiolitis?

- Snuffly Nose
- Chesty Cough
- Poor feeding
- Vomiting
- Pyrexia
- Increased work of breathing
- Head bobbing
- Cyanosis
- Bronchiolitis Season
- Inspiratory crackles +/- wheeze

→ Do the symptoms and/or signs suggest an **immediately life threatening (high risk)** illness?

Yes →

- **Refer immediately** to emergency care by **999**
- Alert Paediatrician-On-Call*
- Stay with child whilst waiting and give **High-Flow Oxygen** support

Consider differential diagnosis if:
Temp > 38°C (sepsis) or sweaty (cardiac) or unusual features of illness

Table 1

Clinical Findings	Green - low risk	Amber - intermediate risk	Red - high risk
Behaviour	• Alert • Normal	• Irritable • Decreased activity • Reduced response to social cues • No smile	• Unable to rouse • No response to social cues • Appears ill to a healthcare professional • Wakes only with prolonged stimulation • Weak or continuous cry
Skin	• CRT < 2 secs • Normal colour skin, lips and tongue • Moist mucous membranes	• CRT 2-3 secs • Pallor colour reported by parent/carer • Pale/mottled • Cool peripheries	• CRT > 3 secs • Cyanotic lips and tongue • Pale/Mottled/Ashen blue
Respiratory Rate	• Under 12mths <50 breaths/minute • Mild respiratory distress • Over 12mths <40 breaths/minute	• Increased work of breathing • All ages > 60 breaths /minute	• All ages > 70 breaths/minute • Respiratory distress
O_2 Sats in air**	• 95% or above	• 92-94%	• <92%
Chest Recession	• None	• Moderate	• Severe
Nasal Flaring	• Absent	• May be present	• Present
Grunting	• Absent	• Absent	• Present
Feeding Hydration	• Normal - Tolerating 75% of fluid • Occasional cough induced vomiting	• 50-75% fluid intake over 3-4 feeds • Reduced urine output	• <50% fluid intake over 2-3 feeds / 12 hours or appears dehydrated • Significantly reduced urine output
Apnoeas	• Absent	• Absent	• Yes
Other	• Satisfactory Social Circumstance	• Pre-existing lung condition • Congenital Heart Disease • Re-attendance • Neuromuscular weakness • Immunocompromised • Age <6 weeks (corrected) • Prematurity	

Table 2 Normal Paediatric Values:

(APLS†)	Respiratory Rate at rest: [b/min]	Heart Rate [bpm]	Systolic Blood Pressure [mmHg]
< 1 year	30 - 40	110 - 160	70 - 90
1-2 years	25 - 35	100 - 150	80 - 95

† Advanced Paediatric Life Support The Practical Approach Fifth Edition Advanced Life Support Group Edited by Martin Samuels; Susan Wieteska Wiley-Blackwell / 2011 BMJ Books.

999

Also think about...

Bronchiolitic symptoms often deteriorate up to Day 3. This needs to be considered in those patients with other high risk factors.

Urgent Action

Consider commencing high flow oxygen support
Refer immediately to emergency care by 999
Alert Paediatrician-On-Call*
Commence relevant treatment to stabilise child for transfer
Send relevant documentation

Green Action

Provide appropriate and clear guidance to the parent / carer and refer them to the patient advice sheet.
Confirm they are comfortable with the decisions / advice given and then think "Safeguarding" before sending home.

Amber Action

Advice from Paediatrician-On-Call* should be sought and/or a clear management plan agreed with parents.

Refer →

Manage →

Management Plan

- Provide the parent/carer with a safety net: use the advice sheet and advise on signs and symptoms and changes and signpost as to where to go should things change
- Arrange any required follow up or review and send any relevant documentation

Hospital Emergency Department / Paediatric Unit

* Please see overleaf for telephone numbers

GMC Best Practice recommends: Record your findings (See "Good Medical Practice" http://bit.ly/1DPXI2b)

**NB: Oximetry is an important part of the assessment and should be measured with an oximeter appropriately designed for infants if available.

First Draft Version: May 2011 Date of this Refreshed Version: Jan 2015 (from Nov 2013) Review Date: Jan 2017.

This guidance is written in the following context:

This document was arrived at after careful consideration of the evidence available including but not exclusively NICE, SIGN, EBM data and NHS evidence, as applicable. Healthcare professionals are expected to take it fully into account when exercising their clinical judgement. The guidance does not, however, override the individual responsibility of healthcare professionals to make decisions appropriate to the circumstances of the individual patient in consultation with the patient and / or carer.

Supporting Information

Where can I learn more about paediatric assessment?

We also recommend signing up to the online and interactive learning tool **Spotting the Sick Child**. It is free of charge. It was commissioned by the Department of Health to support health professionals in the assessment of the acutely sick child. It is also CPD certified.

www.spottingthesickchild.com

*GP / Clinician Priority Phonelines / Contact Numbers at Local Hospitals

Surrey and Sussex Area Hospitals

Ashford and St Peter's Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Chertsey **01932 872000**

Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust Royal Alexandra Hospital, Brighton **01273 523230**

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust
Conquest Hospital, Hastings **01424 755255**
Eastbourne District General Hospital
01323 417400

Frimley Park Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Camberley **01276 604604 Bleep 100**

Royal Surrey County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Guildford **01483 571122**

Surrey and Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust
East Surrey Hospital, Redhill **01737 231807**

Western Sussex Hospitals NHS Trust St Richards Hospital, Chichester **01243 536180/1**
Worthing Hospital **01903 285060**

Kent and Medway Area Hospitals

Dartford and Gravesham NHS Trust
Darent Valley Hospital / Queen Marys Hospital Sidcup / Erith and District Hospital
01322 428100 Bleep 316 (same number applies to both hospital sites)

East Kent Hospitals NHS Trust
Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother Hospital, Margate / William Harvey Hospital, Ashford
01227 783190 (same number applies to both hospital sites)

Maidstone and Tonbridge Wells NHS Trust
01622 723011

Medway Maritime Hospital, Gillingham
01634 825000

With many thanks to all those who have supported the development of our pathways including:

Aaron Gain
Amanda Wood
Carole Perry
Carolyn Phillips
Catherine Holroyd
Chris Morris
Christine McDermott
Claire O'Callaghan
Clare Lyons Amos
Denise Matthams
Dr Amit Bhargava
Dr Ann Corkery
Dr Anna Mathew
Dr Catherine Bevan
Dr Debbie Pullen
Dr Farhana Damda
Dr Fiona Weir
Dr Helen Milne
Dr Neemisha Jain
Dr Kamal Khoobarry
Dr Kate Andrews
Dr Maggie Wearmouth
Dr Mike Linney
Dr Mwape Kabole
Dr Nelly Ninis
Dr Oli Rahman
Dr Palla Prabhakara
Dr Stuart Nicholls
Dr Tim Fooks
Dr Tim Taylor
Dr Venkat Reddy
Dr Vijay Iyer
Fiona Mackison
Fiona Wookey
Gill Cunningham
Jane Mulcahy
Jason Gray
Jeannie Baumann
Joanna Hodginkson
Joanne Farrell
Karen Hearnden
Kate Eades
Kath Evans
Kathy Walker
Katie Shedden
Kim Morgan
Laura Robertson
Lois Pendlebury
Lois Peters
Lorraine Mulroney
Lucie Gamman
Matthew White
Melissa Hancorn
Moira Gardiner
Nicola Mundy
Patricia Breach
Rebecca C 'Aileta
Rosie Courtney
Rosie Rowlands
Susan Nicholls
Sue Pumphrey
Wang Cheung

Based on Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines (SIGN) 2006 Guideline No. 91 Bronchiolitis in children - www.sign.ac.uk/guidelines/fulltext/91/index.html and with consideration to NICE Consultation on new draft guideline "Bronchiolitis: diagnosis and management of bronchiolitis in children" (as at 5th January 2015 and in progress)

NHS
South East Coast Strategic Clinical Networks
Children and Young People

Dear Colleague,

I would like to introduce you to the **Bronchiolitis Pathway Clinical Assessment / Management Tool for Children Younger than 1 year old - Primary Care and Community Settings.** This is one of a series of urgent care pathways developed by the Children and Young People's Network for the most common conditions requiring primary and / or acute care.

The local clinical groups who played such an important role in creating these tools, starting from 2010, have included representatives from acute, community and primary care as well as parents, education and social care. In particular we would also like to thank Paediatrics and Emergency Medicine colleagues for their support in finalising these versions for circulation.

The professionals were all working towards four main objectives:

- To promote **evidence-based** assessment and management of unwell children and young people. The pathway tools aim to ensure that accurate and prompt advice is available to assist health professionals to make safe decisions that can be taken quickly.
- To build **consistency** across the Network area, so all healthcare professionals understand the pathway and can assess, manage and support children, young people and their families during the episode, to the same high standards, regardless of where they present.
- To support local healthcare professionals to share **learning** and expertise across organisations in order to drive **continuous development** of high quality care
- To build the **confidence/resilience** of parents to manage their child's illness which should be increased with the consistent advice offered for unwell children and young people accessing all local NHS services in an emergency or urgent scenario.

This pathway is comprised of three elements: parental advice, a pathway for use in primary care and community settings and a pathway for use in acute (hospital) settings. Each part has been designed to be compatible with existing pathways in the acute sector and should be particularly valuable for use in Hospital Emergency Departments and primary care settings.

It is an expectation that these pathways will not only provide a guide for clinicians faced with an unwell child, but will also be used in training and disseminated across all relevant departments and team-members.

We hope you will find this a quality tool to be used within your practice. We look forward to hearing back on how the consistency of assessment and management of these children and the overall quality of practice and patient experience has been improved with this relatively simple but whole system initiative.

To feedback or for further information including how to obtain more copies of this document we have one mailbox for these queries on behalf of the South East Coast Strategic Clinical Networks area (Kent, Surrey and Sussex). Please email: CWSCCG.cypSECpathways@nhs.net

May we commend it to your use.

Yours sincerely

The Network

Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations

CPD	Continuous Professional Development	**HR**	Heart Rate
CRT	Capillary Refill Time	**O_2 SATS**	Oxygen Saturation in Air
ED	Hospital Emergency Department	**RR**	Respiratory Rate