

Clinical support tool for community pharmacists

This pathway is largely written for an eventual diagnosis of infectious gastroentritis - however please be alert to the following symptoms that may raise the possibility of a more concerning diagnosis: • Fever: Temperature of > 38°C • Shortness of breath • Altered state of consciousness • Signs of meningism • Blood in stool • Bilious (green) vomit • Vomiting alone • Recent head Injury • Recent burn • Severe localised abdominal pain • Abdominal distension.

Clinical findings	Green – Iow risk	Amber – intermediate risk	
Age		Under 3 months	
Behaviour	 Content/smiles Stays awake/awakens quickly Strong normal crying/not crying 	 No smile Decreased activity/lethargic Irritable 	 No response Unable to rou Clinical concerning pitched or concerning
Skin	Normal skin colourWarm extremities		Pale/mottled/ Cold extremit
Hydration	Moist tongue and conjunctivaeFontanelle normal	Dry tongue and conjunctivaeSunken fontanelle	
Urine output	Normal	Reduced / not passed urine in past 12 hours	No urine for a
Respiratory	Normal pattern and rate		Abnormal/fas
Eyes	Not sunken	Sunken eyes	
Other		 Additional parent/carer concerns Age 3-6 months with temp ≥39° (102.2°F) with no clear focus of infection 	 Bloody diarrh Blood in vom Dark green (Age 0-3 mon

Green Action	Amber Action	
Provide diarrhoea and vomiting safety netting advice Confirm they are comfortable with the decisions/ advice given Always consider safeguarding issues Lower threshold for referral to primary care if	Refer to primary care for review	Refer immedia consider wheth most appropria
have long term condition ie diabetes Lower threshold for referral in those with increased risk of dehydration*		*Children with >3 vomits wihit >6 episodes of Not tolerating f

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.



Red – high risk

ouse or if roused does not stay awake cerns about nature of cry (weak, high ontinuous)

d/blue

nities

r 24 hours

ast breathing

rhoea

mit

(bilious) vomiting

onths with temp $\geq 38^{\circ}$ (100.4°F)

Red Action

diately to emergency care – ether 999 transfer or parent/taxi priate based on clinical acuity etc.

*Children with increased risk of dehydration >3 vomits wihin 24 hours >6 episodes of diarrhoea within 24 hours Not tolerating fluids History of faltering growth

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