

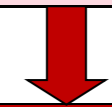
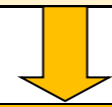
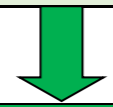
Diarrhoea and vomiting pathway



Clinical support tool for remote clinical assessment

This pathway is largely written for an eventual diagnosis of infectious gastroenteritis - 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 – low risk | Amber – intermediate risk | Red – high risk |
|-------------------|--|--|--|
| Age | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under 3 months | |
| Behaviour | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Content/smiles Stays awake/awakens quickly Strong normal crying/not crying | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No smile Decreased activity/lethargic Irritable | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No response Unable to rouse or if roused does not stay awake Clinical concerns about nature or cry (weak, high pitched or continuous) |
| Skin | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Normal skin colour Warm extremities | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pale/mottled/blue Cold extremities |
| Hydration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moist tongue and conjunctivae Fontanelle normal | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dry tongue and conjunctivae Sunken fontanelle | |
| Urine output | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Normal | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced/not passed urine in past 12 hours | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No urine for 24 hours |
| Respiratory | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Normal pattern and rate | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abnormal/fast breathing |
| Eyes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not sunken | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sunken eyes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sunken eyes |
| Other | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional parent/carer concerns Age 3-6 months with temp $\geq 39^{\circ}$ (102)^o F with no clear focus of infection | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bloody diarrhoea Blood in vomit Dark green (bilious) vomiting Age 0-3 months with temp $\geq 38^{\circ}$ (100.4)^o F |



Please follow the highest risk pathway e.g. if any red criteria met follow the red pathway.

| Green Action | Amber Action | Red 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 in those with increased risk of dehydration* | Consider video consultation and /or refer to primary care service for review. Urgent Care pathways: Consider referral to children's community nursing team HERE | Refer immediately to emergency care – consider whether 999 transfer or parent/taxi most appropriate based on clinical acuity etc. Have vomited three times or more in the last 24 hours Has had six or more episodes of diarrhoea in the past 24 hours Not tolerating fluids History of faltering growth |