

1. The Initial Referral Protocol (09-7A-113)

REFERRAL PATHWAY: ONCOLOGY AND MALIGNANT HAEMATOLOGY SERVICE SHEFFIELD CHILDRENS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

This document contains information on how to access the above service and can be used by all healthcare staff in local hospitals and the community.

1. BACKGROUND

2. TELEPHONE ADVICE

3. PRIMARY CARE REFERRALS

4. SECONDARY CARE REFERRALS

Extracranial solid tumours or leukaemia

Brain tumour

Bone tumours and retinoblastoma

Late effects patients

5. ADVICE ON ASPECTS OF CARE FOR EXISTING PATIENTS

1. BACKGROUND

The NICE Guidance *Improving outcomes in Children and Young Adults with Cancer* (August 2005) recognized that-

'Cancer in children and young people is relatively rare. A general practitioner (GP) will see, on average, a child under 15 years old with cancer every 20 years. There is a wide spectrum of malignancies in this group and a multiplicity of symptoms, many of which are common and nonspecific. Therefore, the prompt diagnosis and referral of patients with suspected cancer from primary care may be very difficult, and delay in appropriate referral is a key issue of concern for many patients and families.' In order to facilitate appropriate referral NICE have produced a clinical guide for GPs on *Referral Guidelines for Suspected Cancer* which includes sections on children's cancer. NICE have also recommended that clear referral pathways are documented for such patients. The purpose of this document is to formally document the well established referral process into the Oncology and Malignant Haematology Service at Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust.

The Haematology and Oncology Department offers a service for the management of childhood cancer and blood diseases, accruing patients aged 0 to 15 years from the South Yorkshire conurbation extending to the East Coast at Grimsby and covering a population of roughly 2.5 million. We provide a service for the diagnosis, treatment and long term follow up of children with cancer. We are a JACIE accredited transplant centre for under 16 year olds. As members of the Children's Cancer and Leukaemia Group (CCLG previously the UKCCSG) we are involved in national studies to improve treatments and outcomes for these patients.

2. TELEPHONE ADVICE

There is always a named Consultant on call for the Oncology and Malignant Haematology service available to give advice. The consultant staff are happy to discuss any cases and advise on how urgently the child needs to be seen and by whom. Early warning of a child's referral in this way is helpful for all concerned in planning their prompt appropriate referral, diagnosis and treatment. Please telephone the consultant you deem most appropriate to the presumed diagnosis of the case or the on call consultant if you are unsure who is most appropriate. (See information on sub specialisation below.)

In normal working hours the Consultant on call may direct you to a colleague who may be the most appropriate consultant for a direct referral. Out of working hours acute referrals are taken by the on call consultant.

The consultant staff on the on-call rota are-

Consultant Paediatric Haematologists

Prof Ajay Vora

Leukaemia and Transplant

Dr Jenny Welch

Leukaemia and Haemoglobinopathies / red cell disorders

Dr Jeanette Payne

Leukaemia and Haemophilia / bleeding disorders and thrombosis

Consultant Paediatric Oncologists

Dr Vicki Lee

Brain tumours, Bone tumours, Retinoblastomas

Dr Anna Jenkins

Solid tumours (including lymphomas)
Late effects,

Dr Dan Yeomanson

Solid tumours (including lymphomas)

You can access the consultant medical staff by telephoning **Sheffield Children's Hospital on 0114 271 7000** and requesting switch board to bleep either the doctor you wish to speak to or the consultant on call for the day.

3. PRIMARY CARE REFERRALS

Following the decision to refer with reference to the NICE document *Referral Guidelines for Suspected Cancer* and if appropriate seeking telephone advice there are two options for referral for General practitioners.

i) Direct referral to the consultant

We accept referrals by fax or letter and are happy to discuss a case if you need guidance. We all have weekly clinics and can see more urgent cases out of clinic time on the ward as necessary. Please telephone if you are unsure of the best way forward.

ii) Cancer two week wait referral system.

All referrals made in this way are brought to an appropriate consultant on the day of arrival. The consultant will advise which clinic they should be seen in. In many cases these referrals are seen in a general paediatric medical or surgical clinic at SCH first within the time required of this system. Though needing rapid and thorough assessment our experience is that most children referred through the two week wait referral system do not have malignant disease. Attending a dedicated Oncology clinic can lead to unnecessary anxiety in such patients and their families. However children who clearly have symptoms or test results suggestive of malignant disease are seen in the next oncology clinic or on the ward as required.

4. SECONDARY CARE REFERRALS

Suspected Extracranial Solid Tumours or Leukaemia

Following the suspicion of a malignant cause for symptoms or test results suspicious of malignant disease the case should be discussed with the local consultant responsible for their care. The consultant will then make a telephone referral to the Oncology or Haematology consultant to facilitate rapid referral followed by a written referral faxed or posted to the department. In normal working hours the consultant may take details and pass them on to the appropriate colleague according to the presumed diagnosis.

Suspected Brain Tumour

When a child has been shown to have an intracranial space occupying lesion on local CT scan they should be referred directly to the paediatric neurosurgeons who can be contacted via the Royal Hallamshire Hospital switch board. During week days, between 9 and 5 pm, there is a Consultant Paediatric Neurosurgeon and Specialist Registrar available at the SCH

but they carry pagers contacted via RHH switchboard. Between 5pm and 9am the neurosurgeon on call at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital should be the first point of contact for referral.

Tertiary services for Bone Tumours and Retinoblastoma

The diagnosis and surgical treatment of suspected bone and eye tumours is done at a supra regional level because of the specialist surgical skills involved. For most children this involves direct referral to Birmingham Royal Orthopaedics Hospital for suspected bone tumours and to Birmingham Children's Hospital for suspected eye tumours. In view of the difficulty of ophthalmic assessment in young children the ophthalmology department at SCH are happy to discuss and see children with suspected Retinoblastoma in the first instance then refer to Birmingham as appropriate.

Once diagnosis and appropriate initial surgical interventions are performed in Birmingham they will directly refer patients requiring chemotherapy to SCH. Any clinician who has such a patient is welcome to ring SCH to discuss them and for information about who to contact at these centres for advice.

Referral of Late Effects Patients

Patients who have previously been treated for a paediatric malignancy are usually followed up long term for possible late effects of treatment including the increased risk of a second malignancy. In the majority of cases when these patients move to live in this area the referral will be made by the treating Paediatric Oncology Centre to SCH, however occasionally this does not happen. Clinicians are welcome to refer patients new to the area in this situation direct to SCH. We hold a weekly Late Effects clinics and also make appropriate transition arrangements to the adult Late Effects clinic at STH.

5. CONTACTING US FOR ADVICE ON EXISTING PATIENTS

Please phone the most appropriate person depending on the patient and the query. Out of hours this is likely to be the consultant on call who will be able to access the information you require. The team is here to support all aspects of the patients care and we are happy to hear from you.

CONTACT DETAILS FOR THE HAEMATOLOGY/ONCOLOGY DEPARTMENT

The aim of this document is to enable staff from designated shared care centres and community staff to access easily the professional they require

1. **ONCOLOGY**
2. **HAEMATOLOGY**
3. **HAEMATOLOGY and ONCOLOGY OUTPATIENTS**
4. **LATE EFFECTS**
5. **NEUROSURGERY**
6. **PAEDIATRIC SURGERY**
7. **PAEDIATRIC OPHTHALMOLOGY**
8. **PAEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY OUTREACH NURSES**
9. **HAEMATOLOGY NURSE SPECIALIST (NON MALIGNANT HAEMATOLOGY)**
10. **DIETICIAN**
11. **CLIC SARGENT SOCIAL WORKERS**
12. **CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS**
13. **PAEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY PHARMACISTS**
14. **MDT COORDINATOR**
15. **ON CALL ARRANGEMENTS**

1. ONCOLOGY

Consultant Paediatric Oncologists

Dr. Vicki Lee (Bleep via SCH switch board)
Dr. Anna Jenkins (Bleep via SCH switch board)
Dr. Dan Yeomanson (Bleep via SCH switch board)

Secretaries Phone: 0114 2717366 Fax: 0114 2762289

2. PAEDIATRIC HAEMATOLOGY

Consultant Haematologists

Prof. Ajay Vora (Bleep via SCH switch board)
Dr. Jenny Welch (Bleep via SCH switch board)
Dr. Jeanette Payne (Bleep via SCH switch board)

Sister Tracy Twyman via clinic 0114 2767875

Secretaries Phone: 0114 2717477 Fax: 0114 2762289

3. HAEMATOLOGY and ONCOLOGY OUTPATIENTS

Clinic Clerk 0114 2717268
Clinic Nurses 0114 2767875

4. LATE EFFECTS

Macmillan Clinical Nurse Specialist in Late Effects

Sister Tanya Urquhart

Phone: 0114 2267815

bleep 209 via switchboard

5. PAEDIATRIC NEUROSURGERY

Consultant Neurosurgeons

Mr. John McMullan (Pager via RHH switch board)
Mr. Hesham Zaki (Pager via RHH switch board)
Mr. Saurabh Sinha (Pager via RHH switch board)
Mr. Shungu Ushewokunze (Pager via RHH switch board)

Secretaries Phone: 0114 2717545 Fax: 0114 2260543

6. PAEDIATRIC SURGERY

Consultant Paediatric Surgeons

Mr. Sean Marven (Bleep via SCH switch board)
Mr Ross Fisher (Bleep via SCH switch board)

Secretaries Phone: 0114 2717565 Fax: 0114 2260543

7. PAEDIATRIC OPHTHALMOLOGY

Consultant Ophthalmologist

Miss Jane Marr (Pager via SCH switch board)

Secretaries Phone: 0114 2717520 Fax: 0114 2717281

8. PAEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY OUTREACH NURSES

Lyndsay Charlish 07775684862
Rachel Ducker 07831771544
Paul Coyle 07775410169
Caroline Stancer 07748920491

Secretary Phone 0114 2717588

9. HAEMATOLOGY NURSE SPECIALISTS (NON MALIGNANT HAEMATOLOGY)

Haematology Nurse Consultant Vicky Vidler 0114 2717329
Secretary 0114 2260865

10. DIETICIAN

Paediatric oncology dietician Jeanne Meiring
Phone 0114 2717212
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11. CLIC SARGENT SOCIAL WORKERS

Liz East
Patrick Percival
Judith Mansell
Annie Collins
Phone 0114 2717101 0114 2717406

12. CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS

Tracy Dyson
Liz Fitzpatrick
Paul Manning
Rebecca Mulholland
Phone 0114 2717296

13. PAEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY PHARMACISTS

Karen Whitehouse
Kerry Lawton
Phone 0114 2717488

14. MDT COORDINATOR

Louisa Hendy
Phone 0114 2267958

15. ON CALL ARRANGEMENTS

The Oncologist or Haematologist on call for malignant disease can be contacted via SCH switch board.

Sheffield Children's Hospital Foundation Trust switch board
0114 2717000

Neurosurgical on call consultants can be contacted via The Royal Hallamshire Hospital switch board

Royal Hallamshire Hospital (Sheffield Teaching Hospitals foundation trust)
0114 2711900

Sheffield Children's Hospital Haematology and Oncology Ward (M3) 24 hours
0114 2717322 or 2717309

Sheffield Children's Hospital Haematology/Oncology Clinic (0900hrs -1700hrs)
0114 2717268
Haematology Laboratory (0900hrs -1730hrs)
0114 2717221