

Pan-London Suspected Childrens (under 16) Cancer Referral Guide



Referral Criteria (The GP must always contact the local Paediatrician on-call within 24 hours and refer to the local paediatric department for an appointment within 48 hours)



Retinoblastoma

Children with an absent red reflex should be sent for urgent ophthalmological assessment.

Leukaemia

Children and young people with unexplained petechiae or hepatosplenomegaly *or* FBC suggestive of leukaemia.



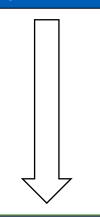
Offer urgent full blood count (within 48 hours) to assess for leukaemia in children and young people with any of the following Unexplained symptoms: Pallor, Persistent fatigue, Fever, Persistent infection, Generalised lymphadenopathy or Persistent bone pain.



Lymphoma

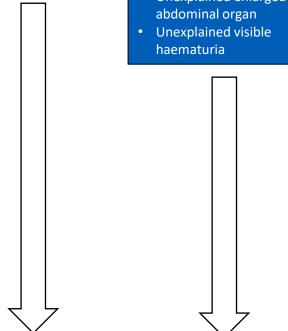
Children and young people with unexplained lymphadenopathy or splenomegaly. Take into account any associated symptoms, particularly:

- Fever
- Night sweats
- Shortness of breath
- Pruritus
- Weight loss



Neuroblastoma

Children with a palpable abdominal mass or unexplained enlarged abdominal organ.



Wilm's Tumour

Children with any of the following:

- A palpable abdominal mass
- Unexplained enlarged

Safety netting: The GP has clinical responsibility for ensuring appropriate follow up and onward referral is arranged for patients referred on direct access investigations. In many cases positive results may be forwarded directly to the cancer team but the GP must ensure a referral has been made and that appropriate safety-netting arrangements are in place.

Note: Take into account the

and carers when considering making a referral for suspected cancer in a child or young person.

Consider referral for children if

persistent concern or anxiety

about the child's symptoms, even

if the symptoms are most likely

their parent or carer has

to have a benign cause.

insight and knowledge of parents

For Brain/CNS OR **Hepatoblastoma OR Hepatocellular Carcinoma OR Soft Tissue Sarcoma** See Over

DISCUSS WITH PAEDIATRICIAN ON CALL AT LOCAL HOSPITAL URGENT ADMISSION OR SUSPECTED CHILDREN'S CANCER REFERRAL ON RECOMMENDATION OF PAEDIATRICIAN ON CALL



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Brain & CNS Cancer

Children with newly abnormal cerebellar or other central neurological function, for example children with the following:

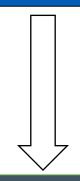
- Unexplained headache
- Fits
- Weakness
- Dysphagia
- Ataxia
- Facial nerve palsy
- Torticollis

Behavioural change/deterioration in developmental milestones or school performance
See <u>HeadSmart</u> for further information regarding clinical feature.

<u>Heptoblastoma or</u> Hepatocellular Carcinoma

Children and young people with the following:

- Right upper quadrant lump or swelling in the abdomen, which may be painful
- Weight loss, loss of appetite, nausea and vomiting
- Ultrasound scan or x-ray indicating a possible tumour in the liver



Soft Tissue Sarcoma

Diagnostics

 Discuss any children with unexplained soft tissue lumps with the local paediatric service and refer for an appointment within 48 hours where imaging and tissue diagnosis will be organised.



Referral criteria

Children with the following:

- Unexplained soft tissue lumps with the following features:
 - Abnormal imaging suggestive of soft tissue sarcoma
 - Normal or equivocal ultrasound but high suspicion of soft tissue sarcoma



Risk factors:

Prior radiotherapy
Li–Fraumeni syndrome
Hereditary retinoblastoma
Neurofibromatosis
Familial adenomatosis

Familial adenomatosis polyposis (Gardner's syndrome)

Bone Sarcoma and Skin Cancer should be referred urgently using the appropriate site specific Pan London Referral form.



RESOURCES:

- 1. Suspected cancer: recognition and referral NICE guidelines NG12 (Feb 2021) https://cks.nice.org.uk/topics/childhood-cancers-recognition-referral/management/referral-for-childhood-cancer/
- 2. RCGP Brain tumours in children http://elearning.rcgp.org.uk/course/view.php?id=99
- 3. HeadSmart http://www.headsmart.org.uk/
- 4. RCGP and Leukaemia Care Blood Cancer http://elearning.rcgp.org.uk/course/view.php?id=184
- 5. Leukaemia Care https://www.leukaemiacare.org.uk/support-and-information/for-healthcare-professionals/
- 6. Improving outcomes for people with sarcoma NICE guidelines [CSG9] https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/csg9
 7. RCGP and Bone Cancer Research Trust https://elearning.rcgp.org.uk/course/view.php?id=152