

Remember that a child is more likely to be unwell with other illnesses than coronavirus

## Community-based management of illness in children during COVID-19 pandemic

## **Telephone triage**

Parent/caregiver contacts 111/GP Practice regarding child with fever/illness

National Institute of Health and Care Excellence. 2019. Fever in under 5s: assessment and initial management. (Online). (NICE guideline NG143). Green Red Mild symptoms/low risk Severe symptoms/high risk Colour - normal Colour – pallor Colour - pale/mottled/ashen/blue Activity – responds normally to social cues, content/smiles, Activity – not responding normally to social cues, no smile, Activity – no response to social cues, does not wake/stay stays awake or awakens quickly, strong normal crying or not wakes only with prolonged stimulation, decreased activity awake if roused, weak, high-pitched or continuous cry. Respiratory – signs of respiratory distress, 6-12m RR >50, Respiratory – grunting, RR >60, moderate or severe chest crying Respiratory – no breathing difficulty >12m RR >40 indrawing Hydration – normal skin & eyes, moist mucous membranes Hydration – <12m HR >160, 12-24m HR >150, 2-5yrs HR Hydration – reduced skin turgor Other - no amber/red signs >140, CRT >3s, dry mucous membranes, poor Other –temp >38 °C in <3m, non-blanching rash, bulging fontanelle, neck stiffness, status epilepticus, focal neurology, feeding/drinking, reduced urine output Other – temp >39°C in 3-6m, fever > 5d, rigors, swelling of a focal seizures limb or joint, non-weight bearing Needs further clinical assessment **Urgent referral to hospital** Stay at home, supportive care Face-to-face or video Give parenteral antibiotics if suspected meningococcal disease Safety-netting (benzylpenicillin or a third-generation cephalosporin) Face-to-face recommended for all children <5y Treat high temperature with paracetamol Assess for secondary bacterial pneumonia, antibiotics as per local Systems review to consider other causes of illness antimicrobial guidelines e.g. Kawasaki disease, appendicitis, meningitis, UTI, NAI Review in 24 hours O2 saturations >93%, CRT <2s O2 saturations <93%, CRT >2s Advanced Life Support Group. 2016. Advanced Paediatric Life Support: A Practical Approach to Emergencies. (Sixth edition). Chichester. John Wiley & Sons, Ltd. <12m: RR <50, HR <160, 12-23m: RR <40, HR <150 <12m: RR >50, HR >160, 12-23m: RR >40, HR >150 2-4y: RR <35, HR <140; 5-11y: RR <30, HR <130, **2-4y:** RR >35, HR >140 ; **5-11y:** RR >30, HR >130 >12y: RR <24, HR < 115 >12y: RR >24, HR >115 \*\*Please note: this guidance is subject to change with emerging evidence\*\*