

# Clinical Decision Making Pathway

## CROUP

This document is designed to aid the clinical decision making for ED/ANP/GPs seeing children diagnosed with **CROUP** in the primary care setting. It is guided by Wessex Healthier Together (WHT) and NICE Guidelines. [Healthier Together Croup Primary Care Pathway](#)

The clinical examination of the child will deem them high/intermediate/low risk and as such will aid the decision as to the appropriate health care support.

This decision making pathway is not a substitute for the exercise of professional/clinical judgement.

| Normal Paediatric Values |                           |                  |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| PEWs range               | Resp rate at rest (b/min) | Heart rate (bpm) |
| < 1 year                 | 30-60                     | 90-160           |
| 1-4 years                | 20-50                     | 90-140           |
| 5-12 years               | 20-30                     | 70-120           |
| >12 years                | 10-20                     | 60-100           |

Child seen and assessed by ED/GP/ANP

Child diagnosed with: **CROUP**

Clinical Assessment

### High Risk

- ☐ Disorientated or drowsy
- ☐ < 94% sats, pale or cyanosed
- ☐ Biphasic stridor (may be quiet if life threatening)
- ☐ Severe recession
- ☐ Severely decreased air entry
- ☐ Tripod breathing
- ☐ **Temp 38≥ in 0-3 months.**
- ☐ Any Complex ENT PMH/anatomy

Treat as per Wessex guidance:  
[Croup | Physical Health - Safety Netting | Healthier Together](#)

Refer to Paediatric Consultant Basingstoke/ Winchester or call **999**  
**And stay with child**

### Intermediate Risk

- ☐ Alert
- ☐ > 94% sats, pink
- ☐ Stridor at rest
- ☐ Some recession
- ☐ Decreased air entry
- ☐ **Temp ≥39°c in 3-6 month old**

Follow treatment plan per Wessex guidance:  
[Croup | Physical Health - Safety Netting | Healthier Together](#)

Review child post treatment and assess improvement.

Not improved or not able to observe

Refer to Paediatric Consultant Basingstoke -07798588832  
Winchester – Bleep 3530 or call **999**  
**And stay with child**

Improved

Refer to **CHAT**. Use clinical judgement to determine the urgency of their review.  
**On call mob: 07785 283846**

### Low Risk

- ☐ Alert
- ☐ > 94%, pink
- ☐ Stridor only when upset
- ☐ No recession
- ☐ Normal air entry

Follow treatment plan per Wessex guidance:  
[Croup | Physical Health - Safety Netting | Healthier Together](#)

Provide written and verbal advice for care at home.  
Refer to:  
[Croup | Physical Health - Safety Netting | Healthier Together](#)  
SMS leaflet to parent/carer option available on website

# Clinical Decision Making Pathway

## CROUP