

# Clinical Decision Making Pathway

## CHICKEN POX

This document is designed to aid the clinical decision making for GPs seeing children diagnosed with **CHICKEN POX** in the primary care setting.

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		
	Resp rate at rest (b/min)	Heart rate (bpm)
< 1 year	25-40	120-160
1-2 years	25-35	100-150
2-5 years	25-30	95-140
5-12 years	20-25	80-125
>12 years	15-20	60-100

Child seen and assessed by GP / ANP

Child diagnosed with: **CHICKEN POX**

### High Risk

- ☐ Lethargic/difficult to rouse/drowsy
- ☐ Temp  $\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$  in 0-3 months
- ☐ Persistent temperature  $\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 5 days
- ☐ Neurology - Agitated
- ☐ SaO<sub>2</sub> <92%
- ☐ Chest pain and SOB – unable to talk or eat
- ☐ Resp rate >60 /min
- ☐ Tachycardia
- ☐ Very pale/cyanosed/mottled or abnormally cold to touch
- ☐ Rash spreading to the eyes
- ☐ Evidence of cellulitis or necrosis with significant pain in between lesions
- ☐ Feeding <50% of normal volume of feed
- ☐ No urine output for 24 hours
- ☐ Develops severe headache, neck stiffness, photophobia or ataxia
- ☐ Has a seizure
- ☐ Has a non-blanching rash
- ☐ child on immunosuppressant drugs or steroids

### Intermediate Risk

- ☐ Content/intermittently miserable
- ☐ SaO<sub>2</sub> >93%
- ☐ Mild Tachycardia
- ☐ Sunken eyes or no urine output for 8hrs (<1yr) 12hrs (>1yr)
- ☐ Extreme shivering or complaint of muscle pain
- ☐ Feeding >50% of normal volume of feed
- ☐ Heightened parental anxiety
- ☐ Temp  $\geq 39^{\circ}\text{C}$  in 4-6 months

### Low Risk

- ☐ Alert/content
- ☐ Feeding >75% of normal volume of feed
- ☐ Normal urine output
- ☐ No social concerns
- ☐ Maintaining SaO<sub>2</sub>>95%
- ☐ No respiratory distress

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

CHAT monitoring

Condition deteriorated

Refer CDU/Sophie's place

Condition improved

Discharge

Child can be managed at home with appropriate care and advice, including when to seek further help.

Consider Sepsis

[Healthier Together Community Sepsis Pathway](#)

Refer to Paediatric Consultant Basingstoke/ Winchester

Call 999, go to nearest hospital

**Avoid NSAID/ibuprofen whilst under a chicken pox diagnosis**

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