



Royal Manchester Children's Hospital Paediatric Emergency Department

Information for Patients and Carers

Going home and staying safe

This advice leaflet will guide you on how to care safely for your child at home if you leave before being seen or discharged by the hospital clinician.

Before leaving the Children's Emergency Department please make sure that you have given the Receptionist an up-to-date telephone number and address in case we need to contact you.

Once home, please keep a close eye on your child and seek advice if you think they are getting worse. The back of this leaflet has some key points on when to get them checked by a health care professional.

Useful resources

Got a mobile? Great! There is lots of information available through your smartphone on the Healthier Together NHS app. You can even access your preferred language. **Scan the QR code below with a smart phone for more information.**



Healthier Together



Follow up

Children who leave before being seen or discharged by a clinician may need follow up to ensure they remain well at home. This could be by your Community Nurse, Health visitor, School nurse or a Doctor.

Red symptoms

You need urgent help. Please attend your local Emergency Department or call 999

Too breathless to talk, eat or drink

Working hard to breathe, drawing in the muscles between/below the ribs or noisy breathing

Breathing that pauses or stops

Pale, blue mottled and/or unusually cold to touch

Difficult to wake, very drowsy or confused

Weak, high pitched continuous cry, or cannot be settled

Seizure

Rash that does not disappear when pressed – think glass test

If your child is less than 3 months of age with a temperature above 38°C or below 36°C, unless the fever is within 48 hours of vaccinations and there are no other red or amber symptoms.

Amber symptoms

Please ring you GP or 111 for advice

Temperature above 38°C for more than 5 days or shivering with fevers

Temperature below 36°C

Breathing slightly faster than usual or working a bit harder to breathe

Dry skin, lips or tongue

Not passed urine in previous 8 hours

Poor feeding in babies – taking less than half their usual amount

Irritable or unable to settle

Swelling of a limb or joint.

Not using or putting weight on an arm, leg or foot

Severe pain not improving with painkillers

Has had chicken pox in the last few days and is now getting worse with high fever or spreading red rash

Getting worse or you are worried about them

If your child is 3 to 6 months old with a temperature above 39, unless the fever is within 48 hours of vaccinations and there are no other red or amber symptoms

Green symptoms

If your child has none of the above then watch closely at home and continue to monitor for amber and red symptoms.

If you have any concerns, contact 111, your GP or your local pharmacist