



Queensland
Government

Children’s Health Services

Royal Children’s Hospital

General Paediatrics

Consultant Clinics

Chronic abdominal pain – periumbilical pain without vomiting

School age to adolescent

Initial work-up	Pre-referral treatment	Refer when
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Characterise the pain including its nature and timing particularly in relation to psychosocial factors including school • Examination including abdominal examination, height and weight (also consider constipation as a cause for recurrent abdominal pain) • The following investigation may assist in evaluating the pain: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Urinalysis ▪ FBE with diff. erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR) or c-reactive protein (CRP), Urea & electrolytes (U&E), Liver function tests (LFTs) ▪ Coeliac screen (anti-tissue transglutaminase (aTTG)) ▪ Urine M/C/S, Stool M/C/S & ova, cysts and parasites (OCP) ▪ Iron studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If additional reflux symptoms, trial of proton pump inhibitor (Omeprazole) 1mg/kg once daily (maximum dose 2mg/kmg/day) • OR trial of H2 Receptor Antagonist (Ranitidine) in dose 3mg/kg/day • OR trial of stool softeners to achieve daily soft stool for 2-4/52 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If symptoms persist in spite of pre-referral treatment suggested in this guideline, refer to General Paediatrician

Clinical Advice: Tel (07) 3636 3777 and ask for Paediatric Registrar or A/H (07) 3636 9005 Emergency Department

Referral Form Download: http://www.health.qld.gov.au/rch/professionals/gp_referrals.asp

**Send Referrals to: Medical Objects Address – QHEALTH, ROYAL CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL Fax: (07) 3636 7811 Mail: Outpatients Department
HealthLink Address - qldrchld**

**Royal Children’s Hospital
Herston Rd, HERSTON 4029**

Provision of named referrals for all patients referred to the RCH will expedite patient access

Paediatrics Pre-referral Guidelines – General Paediatrics



Contact us

RCH Switchboard	(07) 3636 3777
Emergency Department	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GPs only (clinical advice) (07) 3636 9005 • General enquiries (07) 3636 8085 • Triage nurse (07) 3636 7900 • ED Admission enquiries (07) 3636 7700 	
Admission Enquiries	(07) 3636 8307
Admission Enquiries After Hours (via the RCH Main Switch)	(07) 3636 3777
Poisons Information Centre	131126
Seriously Unwell Child: RCH Emergency Department	(07) 3636 9005

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These guidelines were reviewed and developed by specialists at the Royal Children's Hospital and reviewed by a working group of metropolitan general practitioners in Queensland.

Feedback or suggestions welcomed. Contact the **Centre for Healthcare Excellence**: CHS_CHE@health.qld.gov.au

Last reviewed: August 2011

References

Paediatric Handbook (2003) *Gastrointestinal Conditions, Chapter 24* (pp369-389). Mark Oliver and Lionel Lubitz. Seventh Edition, Blackwell Publishing. By the staff of the Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne, Australia

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