

Paediatrics Pre-referral Guidelines – Neonatology (Sick Infant)



Queensland
Government

Children's Health Services

Royal Children's Hospital

General Paediatrics

Consultant Clinics

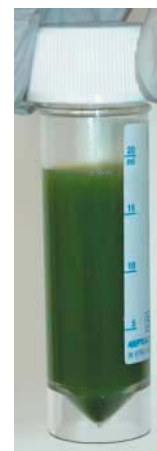
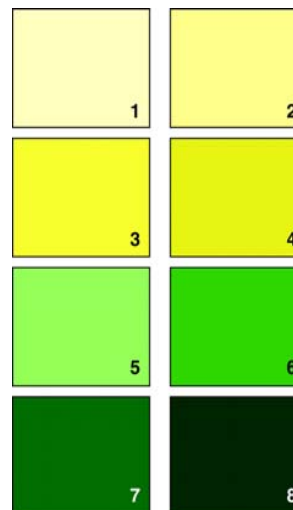
Provision of
named referrals for
all patients
referred to the RCH
will expedite
patient access

Bile-stained vomiting

NOTE: Bile-stained vomiting indicates intestinal obstruction and should result in **immediate referral** to a Paediatric Emergency Department

Initial work-up

- History and physical examination:
- Nutrition
- Abdominal distension
- Nature of stools, frequency and colour
- Refer to bile-stain chart and figure of gastric aspirate from a newborn with upper intestinal obstruction¹



Refer when

- All cases of infants with bile-stained vomiting must be referred for tertiary investigation **urgently**

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

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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 RCH (Queensland) and Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital. They were 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

Walker, G. M, Neilson, A, Young, D, Raine, P.A.M. Colour of bile vomiting in intestinal obstruction in the newborn: questionnaire study. *BMJ* 2006;332 (7554):1363

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