**Primary Care Phlebotomy requesting**

The following pathway has been set up due to the increased demand on the community nursing team for phlebotomy for primary care. The return to face to face clinics have meant that there is no longer the resources to meet this increased demand. As well as this the number of referrals to secondary care due to “abnormal bloods” have been gradually increasing. Often these bloods results are not significant and the child has had these repeated due to the fact that the results fall outside the normal values. This results in children having often painful procedures without getting any clinical gain from the results. As a result we have come up with a pathway to help guide those patients with conditions that need bloods and also reduce the number of non-clinically relevant tests that are being carried out. This will ultimately result in a shorter wait for the children that do need phlebotomy and it will ensure that they only have tests that are relevant to their condition. If there are any blood requests that you feel are necessary and helpful which are outside the pathway then the Consultant Connect outpatient service should be used to discuss the case prior to requesting.

**GP wanting to arrange phlebotomy via community nursing team**

Is child over 2 or under 10

Yes No

Bloods to be carried out in primary care setting and responsibility for results to remain with the referrer.

Under 2 :please discuss clinical problem via consultant connect

Does the blood request meet pre agreed criteria for automatic requesting (see Appendix A)

Yes

**REFFERER: General Practitioner**

* Completed blood form to be given to parents

(No blood will be taken without the correct form)

* Advise family they will be contacted by the CCN venepuncture team who will contact them directly to give a date, time and venue for their appointment. Parents are NOT to contact the CCN department directly

* Referrer to contact CCN Coordinator on 01443802283 (Mon-Fri 9-5) to :

1. Request bloods
2. For child to be added to CCN venepuncture list

* GP to follow up results and action as needed

If DNA GP to be informed by telephone or letter and advised to arrange follow up and review

If **NOT** meeting pre agreed criteria then

* GP to message consultant connect via app to discuss case and request for bloods
* If agreed, GP to refer to Community team and include evidence of agreed request by consultant

**Appendix A**

List of conditions and bloods not requiring discussion with Consultant Connect.

1. Lethargy and pallor- Full blood count and iron studies only
2. Signs/symptoms of thyroid disorder - TSH and T4 only
3. Chronic abdominal pain and constipation- Full blood count, coeliac screen only
4. Suspected Coeliac disease, Fbc, IgA and TTG
5. For children with suspected diabetes i.e polyuria, polydipsia and weight loss **do not** request HbA1c or fasting bloods. Please do urgent finger prick for BM and if abnormal refer to CEAU for **same day** admission.
6. Monitoring bloods can be done if suggested by consultant and letter already on CWS
7. Long Covid/Post Covid/chronic fatigue/ME/fibromyalgia and chronic pain syndrome: Fbc,U+E,CRP,TFTs and coeliac screen and IgA

For all other conditions these need to be discussed with consultant via Consultant Connect.