# Fits, faints and Funny Turns Pathway

**Clinical Assessment/ Management tool for Children** 

## **Management - Primary Care and Community Settings**



### Paroxysmal event (episode of loss of consciousness, blank staring or other brief unusual behaviour)

#### History - key to making diagnosis

Detailed description of event -

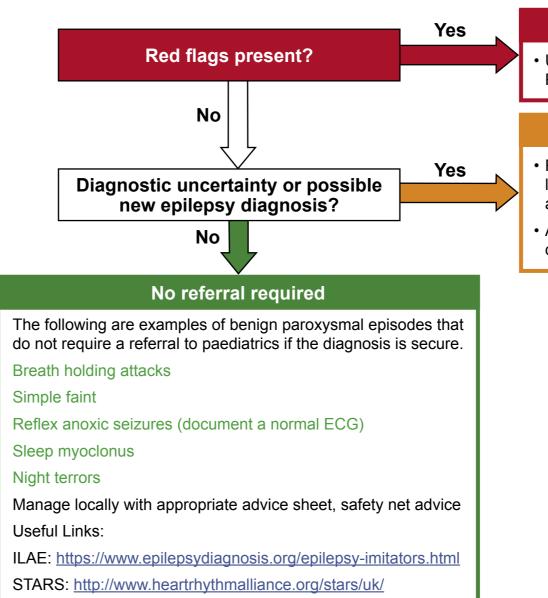
- · Before (trigger? concurrent illness?, behaviour change?, cessation in activity?)
- During (collapse? colour change?, altered consciousness?, body stiff or floppy?, limb movements?)
- After (sleepy?, unusual behaviour?, unsteady?, limb weakness?)
- Can child be distracted at any point?
- · Does the event occur during exercise?
- Developmental history
- · Family history of similar events
- Assess for red flags below

#### **Red Flags**

- Age <1 year
- Acute confusion
- Pervasive behaviour change/lethargy
- New onset, recurrent convulsive seizures (>1 per week)
- Abnormal cardiac examination or ECG findings
- Abnormal neurological examination findings
- Symptoms of raised intracranial pressure (blurred/ double vision, headache at night or on waking, persistent nausea/vomiting)
- Signs of sepsis/meningitis

#### Examination

- Neurological examination including gait (observe for any asymmetry, observe eye movements, look for a new squint)
- Investigations
- change or during exercise)



Patient presents

http://bit.ly/1DPXI2b

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This document was arrived at after careful consideration of the evidence available including but not exclusively NICE, SIGN, EBM data and NHS evidence, as applicable. Healthcare professionals are expected to take it fully into account when exercising their clinical judgement. The guidance does not, however, override the individual responsibility of healthcare professionals to make decisions appropriate to the circumstances of the individual patient in consultation with the patient and / or carer.

(especially if event associated with exercise/colour change)

Cardiac examination including blood pressure





 Ask parents to video events and keep detailed, descriptive diary (day, time, event -before, during & after)

· ECG (especially if the episode caused collapse, colour

#### **Urgent referral**

• Urgent, same day referral by phone to local Paediatric team.

#### Non urgent referral

• Refer on for routine paediatric opinion via local paediatric referral pathway ensuring appropriate safety net/first aid advice given

 Ask parents to video event and keep detailed diary as above