Abdominal pain pathway





Clinical support tool for remote clinical assessment

Clinical findings	Green – low risk	Amber – intermediate risk	Red – high risk
Behaviour	Content/smilesStays awake/awakens quicklyStrong normal crying/not crying	No smile Decreased activity/lethargic Irritable	 No response Unable to rouse or if roused does not stay awake Clinical concerns about nature of cry (weak, high pitched or continuous) Severe pain
Skin	Normal skin colour Warm extremities		Pale / mottled / blue Cold extremities
Hydration	Moist tongue and conjunctivae Fontanelle normal	Dry tongue and conjunctivae Sunken fontanelle	
Urine output	Normal	Reduced / not passed urine in past 12 hours	No urine for 24 hours
Respiratory	Normal pattern and rate		Abnormal/fast breathing
Other		 Polyuria, dysuria or urgency Reduced appetite Additional parent/carer concerns Pain not settling with analgesia Waking with pain Pain increased on movement Fever for >5 days Significant abdominal distension Age 3-6 months with temp ≥39° (102.2°F) with no clear focus of infection 	 Non blanching rash Described oedema Described jaundice Dark green (bilious) vomiting Recent injury to the abdomen Testicular pain Blood in stool Age 0-3 months with temp ≥38° (100.4°F)

Green Action

Provide abdo pain safety netting advice

Confirm they are comfortable with the decisions/ advice given.

Always consider safeguarding issues

Amber Action

For face to face review (consider if video consultation is appropriate).

If timely clinical review cannot be facilitated in primary care, low threshold for referral to ED.

Red Action

Refer immediately to emergency care – consider whether 999 transfer or parent/taxi most appropriate based on clinical acuity etc.

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