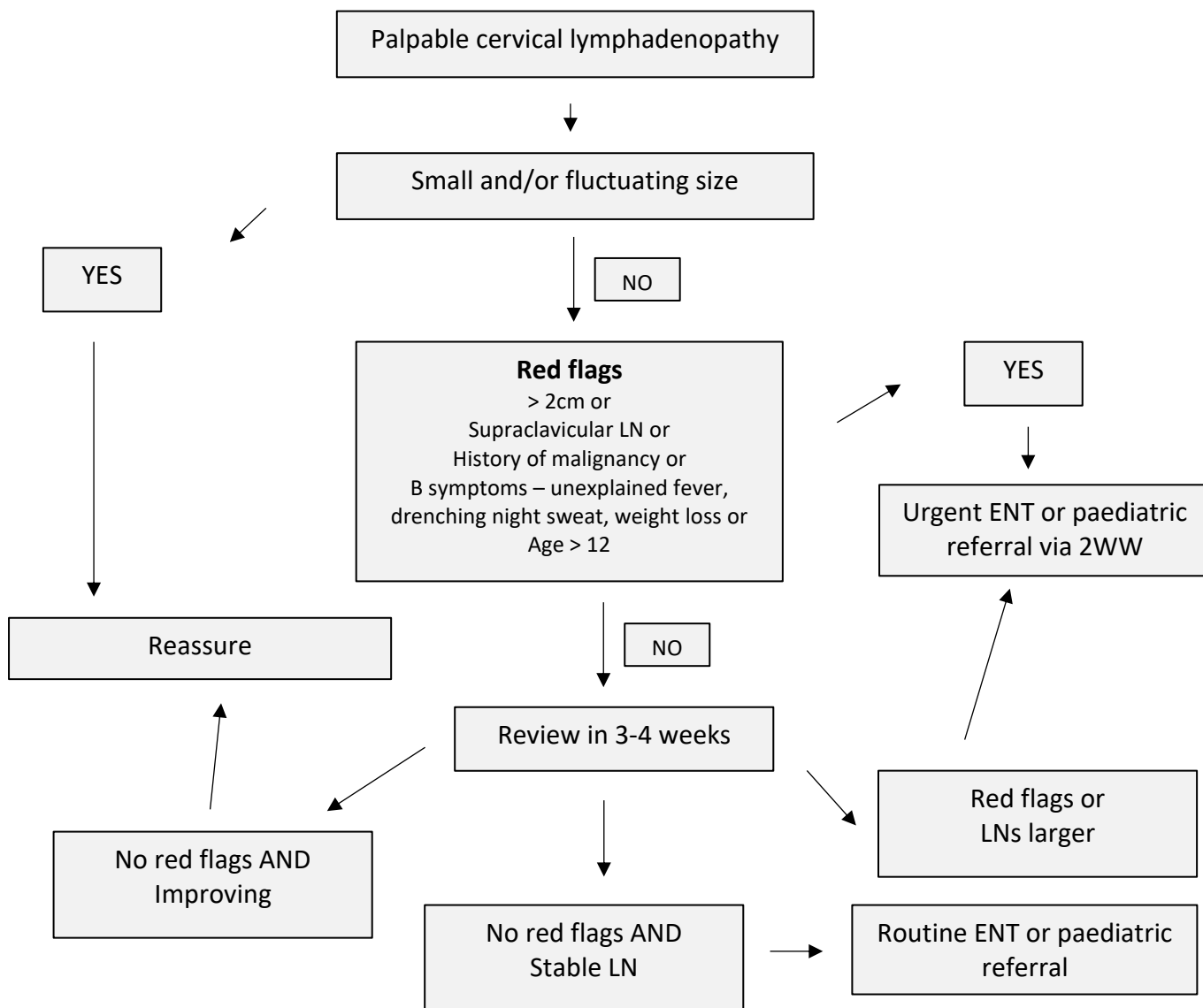


Paediatric cervical lymphadenopathy referral pathway - Summary Clinical Guideline

Reference No:CG-Paeds/4153/23



Please avoid requesting USS neck prior to assessment by ENT or paediatrics for red flag neck lumps
Stable or long-standing neck lumps can be referred to ENT routinely prior to USS neck.

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A consensus guideline has recently been published which recommends avoiding ultrasound in children with small and fluctuating cervical lymphadenopathy or those without red flag symptoms to avoid delay in assessment in secondary care or unnecessary investigations. Ultrasound alone cannot distinguish between benign and malignant lymph nodes.

Following this guideline, ENT, paediatrics and radiology have written a trust pathway on managing and referring children with lymphadenopathy in primary care. Part of this pathway involves radiology no longer offering ultrasounds for neck lumps in paediatric patients who lack any red flag symptoms or with small and fluctuating neck lumps. If you have any questions or feel a scan is still indicated for another reason, please discuss with the radiology department on dhft.ImagingEnquiries@nhs.net.

Document control:

Reference Number CG-Paeds/4153/23	Version: 1.0.1		Status Final	Thomas Layton
Version / Amendment History	Version	Date	Author	Reason
	1	May 23		New guideline/pathway
	1.0.1	June 23		Minor amendment to paragraph and contact details.
Intended Recipients: General practitioners				
Training and Dissemination: We have created vignette to inform GPs and direct to the guidelines on rejection of inappropriately requested scan. This will provide direct feedback to the clinician requesting the ultrasound				
Development of Guideline: Ms T Kamani, Paediatrics lead for ENT Job Title: Consultant ENT				
Consultation with: Professor Judd, Clinical Governance Lead ENT Dr Crookdake, consultant radiologist. Mr Crookdake, Consultant Radiologist ENT Department – Divisional day review and sign off				

Radiology Department – Divisional day and sign off	
Linked Documents: NA	
Keywords: Paediatrics, lymphadenopathy, ultrasounds, neck lumps	
Business Unit Sign Off	Group: ENT and Radiology Departments Date: 17.04.2023 Divisional day
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Contact for Review	Dr Jonathan Crookdake Consultant Radiologist Royal Derby Hospital, Derby