

## Pandemic Influenza Referral Toolkit

### Management of Critically Ill Children

#### Resuscitation and initiation of critical care support

Age	Expected duration of level 3	Organ system failures requiring support	Score
Less than 1 year	Long term > 2days	More than 2	3
1 to 10 years	Medium term 24 to 48 hours	Two organ or ↑pCO <sub>2</sub> ↓pO <sub>2</sub> unresponsive to conventional ventilation	2
10-14 years	Short term < 24 hours	Single organ	1

Calculate the patient's score in each of the three domains above.

Add the scores together and look up outcome below.

**Score**            **Outcome**  
Low score        PICU care in AICU

Moderate score    Initial PICU care in AICU with potential to move child as bed comes available

High score        Early discussion with Lead Centre, expectation of transfer to centralised PICU as soon as bed available

All children with congenital abnormalities should be discussed with the Consultant Paediatrician on call and implications for PICU care considered.

#### Notes

- This toolkit is expected to be used as part of the referral process during the surge of a pandemic influenza outbreak.
- Each child should be stabilised in their local unit as per "The Yorkshire and Humber operational policies and clinical guidelines for referral and care of children requiring critical care" (June 2009).
- An assessment of an individual child's requirements for PICU should be made using the tool above. Each red section scores 3 points, amber two points and green one point, giving a maximum score of 9 points.
- Scores will be used to ensure equity of access to central PICU facilities when PICU capacity is limited and the thresholds will be adjusted as bed availability changes during the pandemic.
- As soon as capacity becomes constrained then children with the lowest scores will be expected to remain in their local hospitals. Priority for admission to PICU will be given to those children with the highest scores (this does not mean all children will receive a PICU bed but will help work out priority for any transfers).
- Referral to the local PICU in either Sheffield or Leeds should be made for children scoring 7 or more points or having an underlying congenital abnormality such as a cardiac defect (this will be via a single contact number once the call conference facility is set up).
- This toolkit will act as a guide for the PICU clinicians to help set out the priority for transfer of critically ill children during any surge in capacity, but it will not replace the need for clinical judgement and comprehensive assessment of the child's clinical condition.
- There may be a requirement for two way transfers of older children to the AICU and younger children / more acutely unwell children being transferred into PICU.

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