

**Conditions: Viral URTI; Viral Induced Wheeze; Bronchiolitis; Chest Infection;  
Gastroenteritis; Croup; Tonsillitis**

This document is designed to aid the clinical decision making for GPs seeing children diagnosed with any of the above conditions in the primary care setting.  
The clinical examination of the child will deem them high/intermediate/low risk and as such will aid the decision as to the appropriate health care support.  
**This decision making pathway is not a substitute for the exercise of professional/clinical judgement.**

Child assessed by GP

Child diagnosed with either: **Viral URTI; Viral Induced Wheeze; Bronchiolitis; Chest Infection; Gastroenteritis; Croup; Tonsillitis**

Clinical Assessment

**High Risk/Intermediate**

- Lethargic/difficult to rouse
- Temp > 38°C in 0-3 month
- Temp > 39°C for 3 days or more in > 3 months
- Respiratory Rate:  
>60 in 0-12 months  
>40 in > 12 months
- Oxygen Sats: SaO2 <92%
- Other Respiratory signs:  
Apnoeas, Marked recession,  
Grunting/significant nasal flaring, Stridor at rest
- No/Minimal oral intake
- Dry mucous membranes
- Capillary refill on chest > 2 seconds
- Non-blanching rash
- Bloody/mucous diarrhoea
- Drooling
- Looks toxic
- Difficulty swallowing.

If any red features

Send child for urgent assessment on Paediatric Assessment Unit using **999** if appropriate

**Intermediate/Low Risk**

- Alert
- Content/intermittently miserable
- Respiratory Rate:  
40-60 in 0 - 12 months  
30-40 in > 12 months
- SaO2 92%-95%
- Mild recession
- Intermittent Stridor with crying or excitement
- Concerns about child's fluid intake
- Vomiting all oral intake
- Profuse diarrhoea
- Poor urine output
- Concern about parent's ability to monitor child's condition
- Heightened parental anxiety
- Social concerns
- Temperature not settling with antipyretics.
- Barking cough

If any amber features and no red

Refer to COAST. Use clinical judgement to determine the urgency of their review.

COAST review

Condition deteriorated

Refer PAU  
Tel: **02380 794113**

Discuss with referring GP

Condition improved

Discharge

**Low/No Risk**

- Alert
- Content
- Respiratory Rate:  
<40 in 0-12 months  
<40 in > 12 months
- SaO2 ≥ 95%
- Sore Throat/earache
- Coryza
- Adequate fluid intake
- Good inhaler technique
- No stridor
- No concerns

If all green features and no amber or red

Child can be managed at home with appropriate care and advice, including when to seek further help.

**Lower threshold for referral to PAU in the following:**

< than 3 months old or Congenital heart disease or Chronic lung disease or Temp >39° C or Concern about alternative diagnosis or complication.