

## Gastroenteritis – 1 YEAR TO UNDER 6 YEARS.

Referral from primary care into the Children's ambulatory care experience (ACE) service

Child aged 1 year to under 6 years who has gastroenteritis, with mild to moderate clinical signs of dehydration. The child should have parameters within the range below and be able to manage 4 hours without clinical assessment.

**Call children's ACE service on 01274 27 3354**

Be prepared to convey information required on referral pro-forma including observations. (if > 39 reconsider diagnosis).

### Mild to Moderate

<b>Respiration rate</b>	12-13 months 23-48 2-3 years 19-38 4-6 years 15-28
<b>Heart rate</b>	12-23 months 96-145 2-3 years 81-140 4-6 years 71-120
<b>Central capillary refill</b>	Less than 2 seconds
<b>Conscious level</b>	Slightly lethargic but rousable to alert and responsive
<b>Urine Output</b>	Normal to slightly increased
<b>Blood glucose</b>	<4

Ensure child has been

- weighed
- prescribed oral rehydration therapy [at 1ml/kg every 10 minutes]
- has been given a 20ml syringe and parent/carer shown how to use it to give fluids
- if temperature >38C AND child under 3 years OR vomiting with no diarrhea provide bottle for clean catch urine collection and testing

**Ensure parent/guardian has been given:**

- Copy of children's ACE service information leaflet.
- Verbal safety-net advice and has also consented to share information with ACE.
- Patient leaflet for GE and asked to record fluid volumes.

### Additional input given at home visit by ACE team:

- Support and encouragement with fluid intake
- Parental confidence-building
- Monitoring effectiveness of treatment
- Recognition of dehydration and deterioration
- Test clean catch urine sample if temp > 38 AND child under 3 years OR vomiting with no diarrhea
- Education in managing future episodes

Allow the child home to await contact from children's ACE service. Contact will be made within 2 hours of initial referral.

### Exclusions

- **History/suspicion of metabolic, renal or electrolyte disorder**
- - History/suspicion of diabetes
- - **Complex congenital heart disease**
- - Inflammatory bowel disease
- **Stoma**
- Immunodeficiency
- **Suspected surgical abdomen.**
- (*bilious vomiting, blood in stools, tender/rigid abdomen*)
- Child is outside age range for pathway