

Trust Guideline for the Management of Children who are not brought to outpatients or Children's Assessment Unit or Radiology or leave the Emergency Department before being seen

A Clinical Guideline

For Use in:	Children's outpatients, all other outpatient clinics where children are seen, children's assessment unit, emergency department
By:	Clinical and admin staff
For:	Children who are not brought to appointments
Division responsible for document:	Paediatrics
Key words:	Children, DNAs, non- attenders, not brought, did not wait
Name and job title of document author:	Dr Richard Reading, Named doctor for Safeguarding Children. Kim Goodby Named Nurse Safeguarding Children
Name and job title of document author's Line Manager:	David Booth, Clinical Director
Supported by:	The Safeguarding Children Assurance Committee Kim Goodby, Named Nurse for Safeguarding Children Paul Burton, Paediatric Safeguarding Nurse, Emergency Department Christina Gladwell, Consultant Radiologist
Assessed and approved by the:	Safeguarding Assurance Committee Chair
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Version No:	4
Compliance links: (is there any NICE related to guidance)	CQC
If Yes - does the strategy/policy deviate from the recommendations of NICE? If so why?	No

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Version and Document Control:

Version Number	Date of Update	Change Description	Author
4	June 2022	Addition of radiology flowchart	Dr Richard Reading

This is a Controlled Document

Printed copies of this document may not be up to date. Please check the hospital intranet for the latest version and destroy all previous versions.

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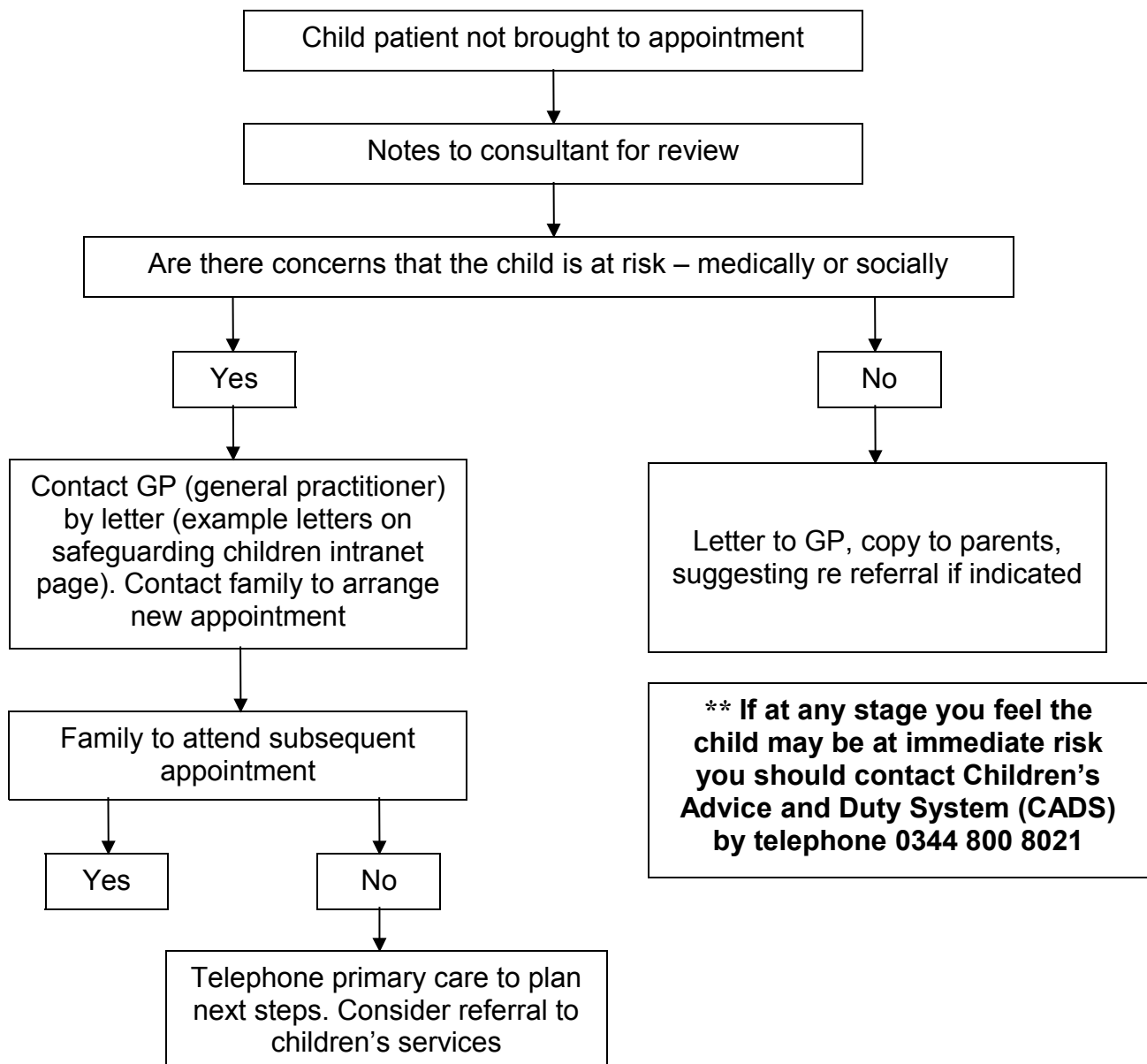
1. Quick reference guideline/s

Management of children who are not brought to clinical appointments across the trust.

Children who are not brought to clinical appointments may be at risk of child abuse or neglect. When children do not attend for planned care the case notes must be reviewed by a consultant or senior trainee. The risk to the child will be assessed. Primary care will be informed. Decisions about next steps depend on the clinical situation and are described in the following flow charts 1, 2, 3 and 4.

1.1 Flow chart 1 - Outpatients – what to do when children are not brought?

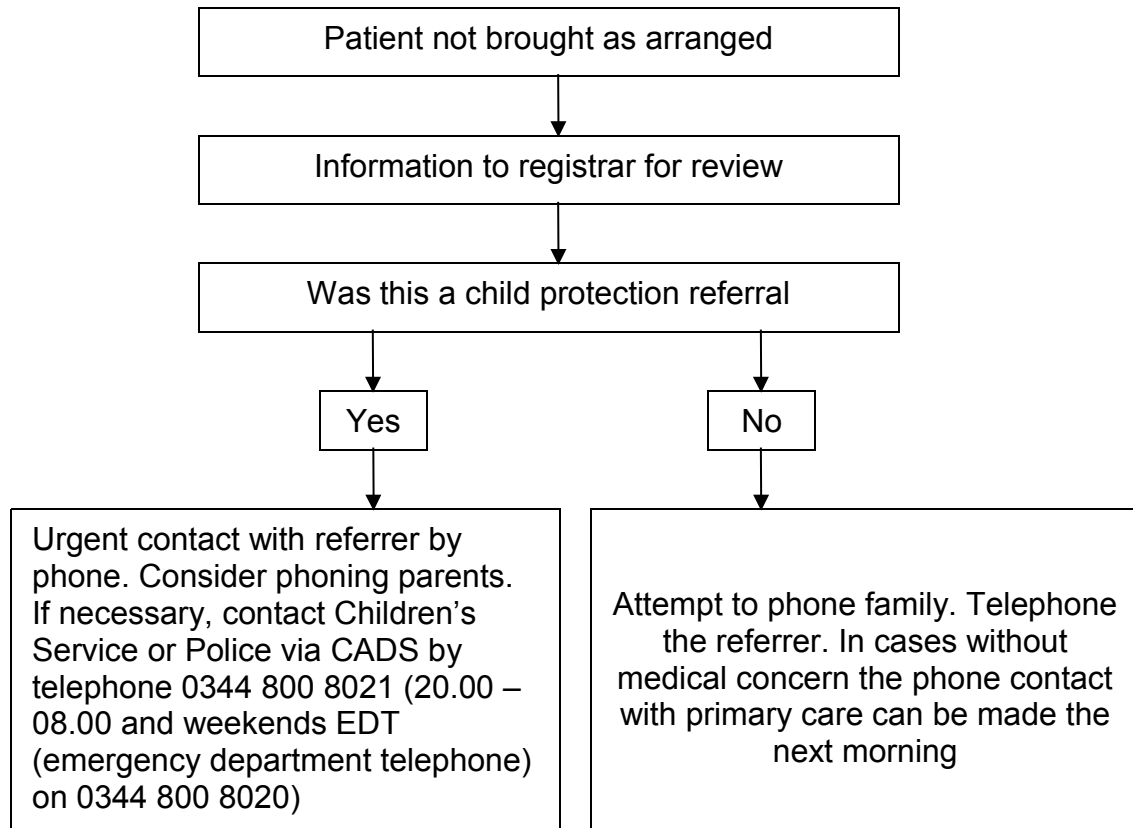
Guidance for medical, nursing and clinic staff.



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1.2 Flowchart 2 - Children's Assessment Unit – what to do when children are not brought

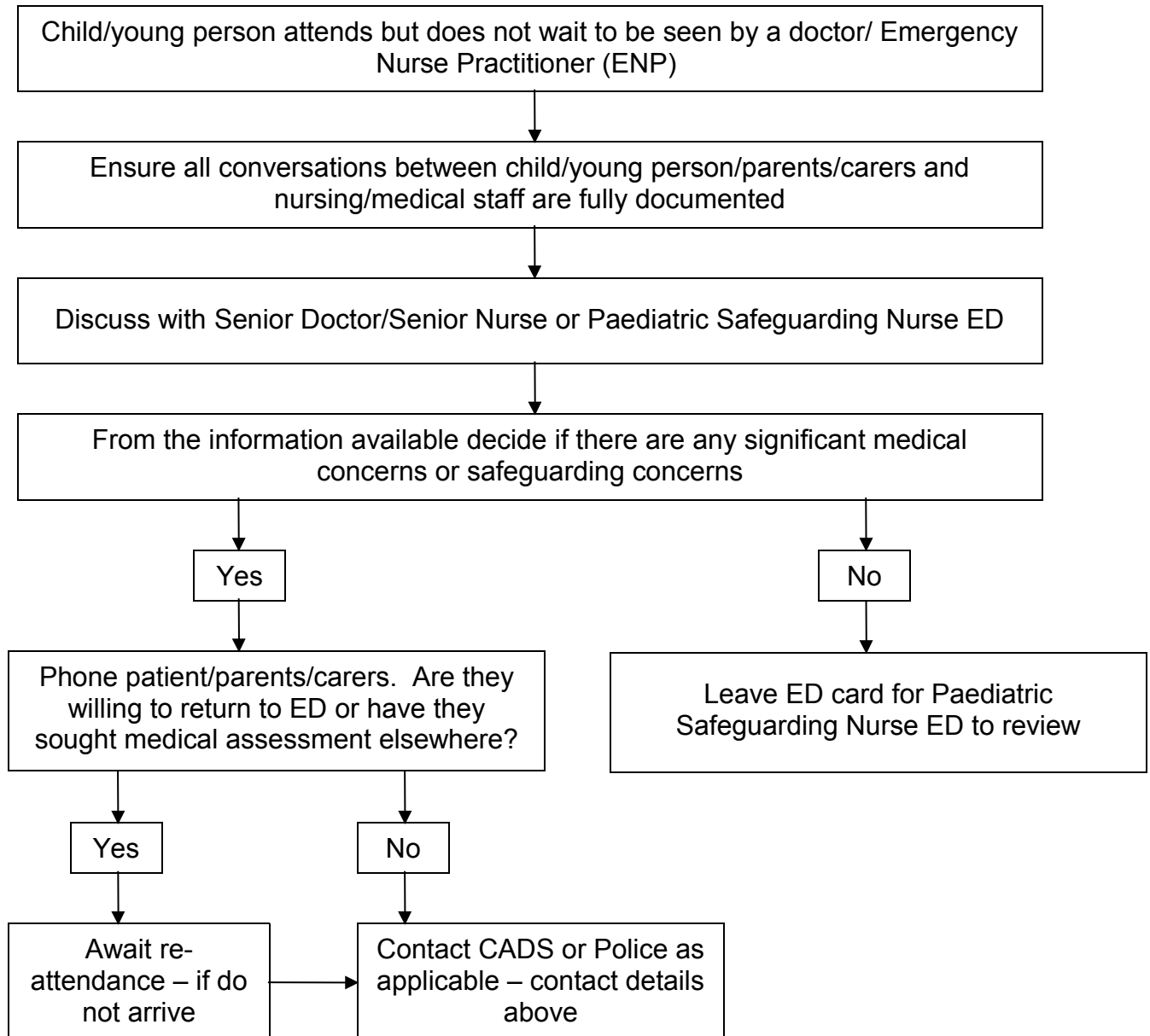
Guidance for nursing and medical staff



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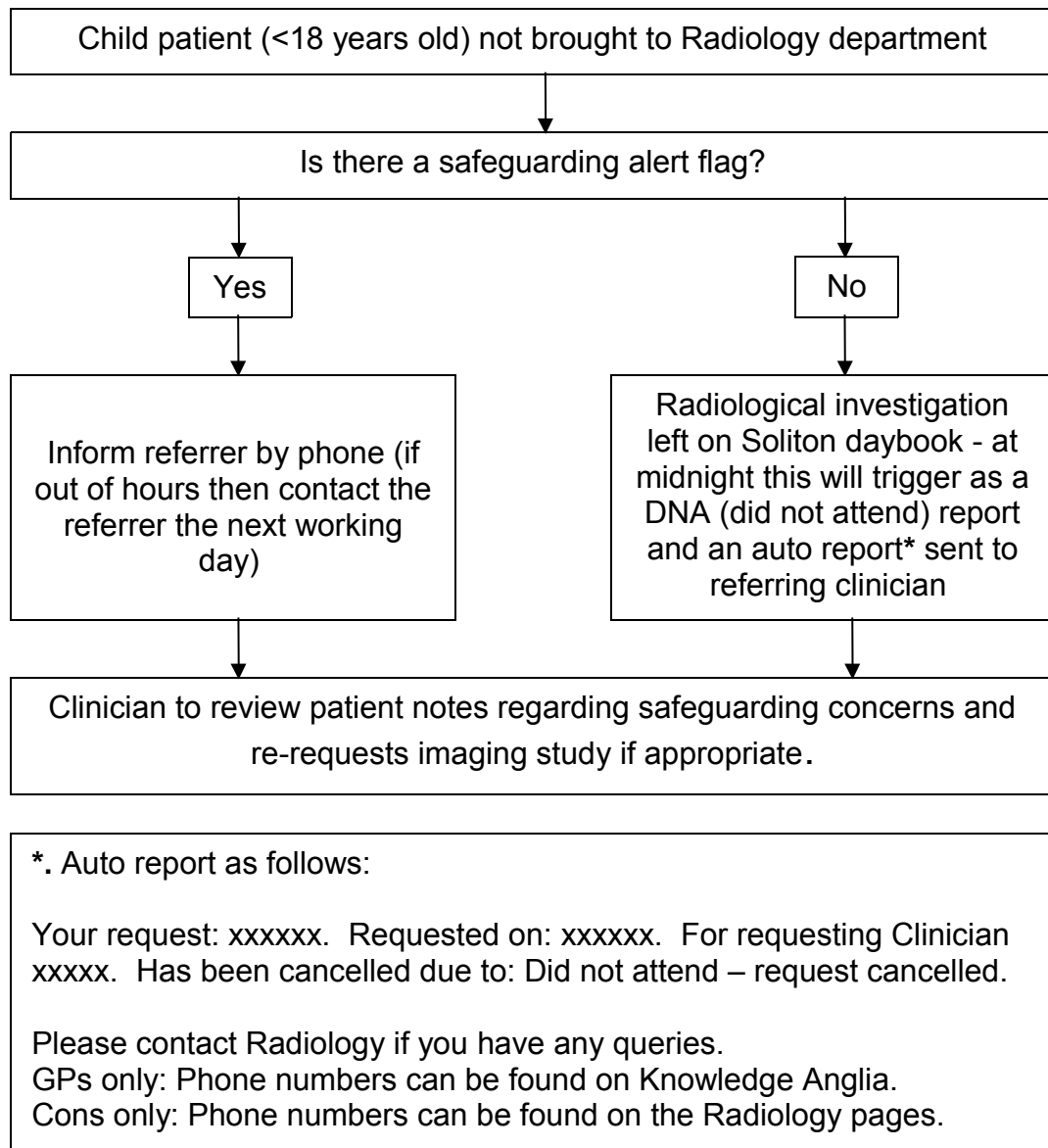
1.3 Flow chart 3 - Emergency department – what to do when children do not wait to be seen

Guidance for nursing and medical staff



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1.4 Flow chart 4 - Radiology department – what to do when children are not brought?



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2. Objective/s

This guideline aims to ensure that children who may be at medical or social risk are not lost to follow up or discharged from care if they are not brought to relevant clinical appointments

3. Rationale

The original guideline was written in direct response to the Care Quality Commissions review "Safeguarding Children". Trusts are required to have in place guidelines which ensure that children at risk are not lost to follow up.

4. Broad recommendations

If children are not brought to clinical appointments the case notes must be reviewed by a senior clinician who will make a decision as to whether the child is at medical or social risk. Primary care must be contacted. Examples of letters to primary care are available on the Safeguarding Children intranet page. Advice for different clinical scenarios is included in the quick reference guideline. Members of the trust safeguarding children team are available for discussion of difficult cases. Referrals to children's services are made through the Children's Advice and Duty System (CADS) – details on the safeguarding children intranet page, urgent referrals by telephone 0344 800 8021 (Emergency Duty team out of hours – 20.00 – 08.00 and weekends on 0344 800 8020)

5. Clinical audit standards

By reviewing the case notes of clinic non attenders and seeking evidence of clinician review and communication with primary care.

6. Summary of development and consultation process undertaken before registration and dissemination

The author listed above drafted this guideline on behalf of the Safeguarding Children Assurance Committee who have agreed the final content. During its development it has been circulated for comment to clinicians and managers in departments who see children.

This version has been endorsed by the Safeguarding assurance Committee

7. Distribution list/ dissemination method

To be distributed via divisions for action
Trust intranet

8. References/ source documents

Care Quality Commission review: Safeguarding Children
http://www.cqc.org.uk/_db/_documents/Safeguarding_Children_200907153039.pdf