

Referral pathway of child or young person newly diagnosed with diabetes

Approval

Approval Group	Job Title, Chair of Committee	Date
Paediatric Diabetes team	Dr J Spinks, Consultant Paediatrician	March 2018

Change History

Version	Date	Author, job title	Reason
1.0	March 2018	Dr J Spinks, Consultant Paediatrician	New pathway

Author:	Dr J Spinks	Date:	March 2018
Job Title:	Consultant Paediatrician	Review Date:	March 2020
Policy Lead:		Version:	Version 1.0
Location:			

Referral pathway for child or young person newly diagnosed with diabetes

Any child or young person suspected of having any form of diabetes should be referred to the Paediatric service on the same day through the on call Paediatric registrar, including weekends and Bank Holidays. These children and young people should not be referred to outpatients or have routine blood tests because if they have diabetes they can quickly decompensate into diabetic ketoacidosis. Please call the RBH switchboard on 0118 322 5111 and ask for the Paediatric Registrar on call.

GPs or ED staff should refer children under the age of 16 years to the on-call registrar, Consultant Paediatrician of the Week (COW) or on-call Paediatric Consultant and the child/young person will be seen promptly on the same day in the Emergency Department at the Royal Berkshire Hospital. There is a separate referral pathway for young people aged 16-19 years which has been devised in conjunction with physicians from the adult diabetes service (see later)

There is a guideline for the management of newly diagnosed patients available to Trust staff on the Trust Intranet. After each patient is assessed, they are then discussed with a senior member of the diabetes team within 24 hours. Each weekend and bank holiday there is a member of the diabetes team on call and this rota together with contact details is available to ward staff on the intranet. A member of the paediatric diabetes team also contacts the wards daily to ensure that they are informed about every patient newly diagnosed with diabetes. There is also a diabetes link nurse on the wards. The Clinical Decision Unit is also contacted by a member of the paediatric diabetes team to ensure that we are aware of young people aged 16-19 years newly diagnosed with diabetes.

All new patients are reviewed by a PDSN within one working day (usually on the same day) and will be seen, if possible, by a Paediatric Dietitian within 48 hours. A structured education programme is commenced by the PDSN, and this is continued at home following discharge. All new patients are allocated a key worker (a named PDSN). An electronic discharge summary is sent on patient discharge to the GP detailing the admission and follow up arrangements as well as requesting a prescription for supplies.

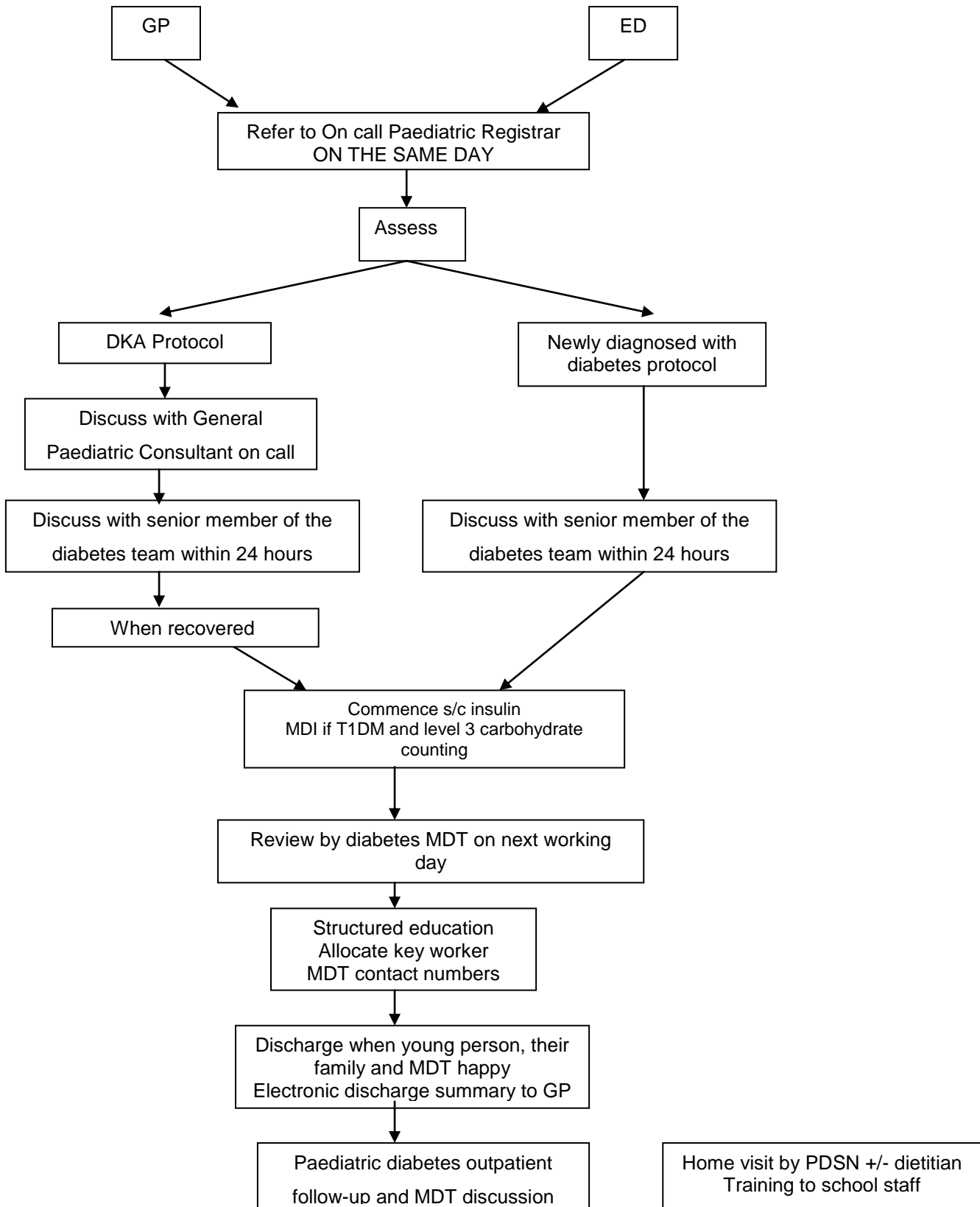
Children and young people aged under 16 years requiring an inpatient stay will be cared for on the Childrens' ward at the Royal Berkshire Hospital where they are looked after by trained paediatric nurses and doctors. Privacy and dignity of the child or young person is respected at all times. Severely ill patients presenting with diabetic ketoacidosis may be nursed on HDU or ICU if their clinical situation requires this. All medical wards have full paediatric resuscitation equipment available, which is checked on a daily basis. The wards have 24 hour medical cover at ST4 level or above. A Consultant Paediatrician is either on duty or on-call at all times.

New patients are seen in the Childrens' diabetes outpatient clinic within 2 weeks of discharge and seen and contacted regularly by PDSN staff in the meantime. All patients remain under regular follow up with the team which provides comprehensive health support, usually until the age of 19 years.

Paediatric Diabetes Nursing Team: 0118 322 8922.
Out of hours there is an answerphone message informing callers how to contact the Paediatric Diabetes Nurse on call.

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Referral pathway for new paediatric patients with suspicion of diabetes (under age of 16.0 years)

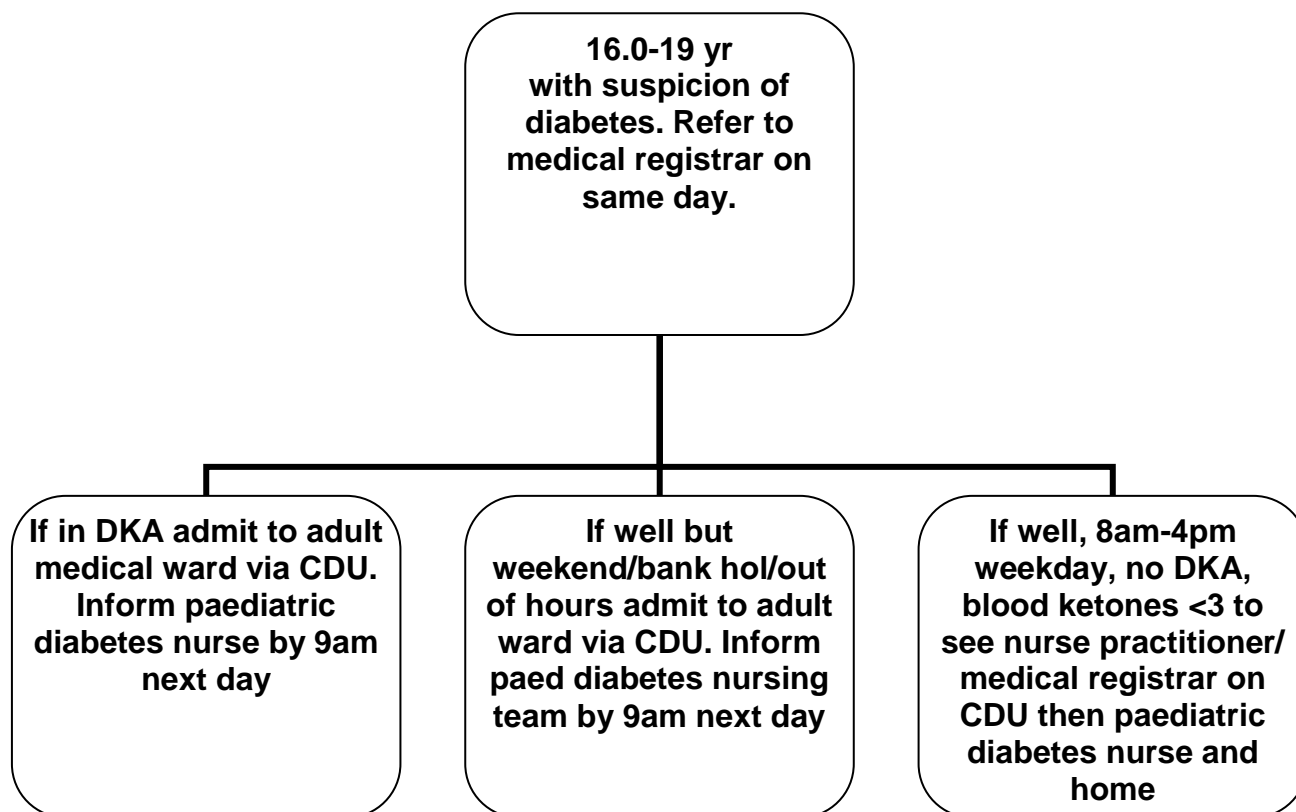


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Referral pathway for new patients aged between 16 years and up to their 19th birthday with a suspicion of diabetes.

Young adults in DKA are admitted as an emergency to adult medicine via the Emergency Department (ED) or the Clinical Decision Unit (CDU) at Royal Berkshire Hospital. The paediatric diabetes nursing team are informed by the adult DSN team between 8am to 9am the next day. They meet up with the patient and facilitate treatment prior to going home. The Paediatric DSN team are contacted at weekends in mornings if needed via their mobile.

Well young people referred by their GP during normal working hours have an assessment in CDU and insulin prescribed by nurse practitioner/medical registrar. They are then referred on to the paediatric diabetes nurse specialist team who will provide an on call rota. Those patients who have blood ketones >3, have features of early ketoacidosis or are unwell are admitted to an adult medical ward. Patients who have ketones <3 and are well are sent home. Those <17.6 yr are seen at the next paediatric diabetes clinic whereas those >17.6 yr receive follow up at the Young Adult Clinic (YAC). An education package is put in place in the first few weeks after diagnosis with home visits if necessary. At weekends and out of hours new acute referrals from GPs who are well are dealt with by the adult team and admitted via CDU. They are likely to be discharged home the next morning and information is forwarded to the paediatric diabetes nursing team by 9am. In the future the paediatric diabetes nursing team may provide out of hours cover for young people not requiring admission but there will need to be further discussions.



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