Children and young people with complex and/or additional needs

Other formats
If you need this information in another format such as audio tape or computer disk, Braille, large print, high contrast, British Sign Language or translated into another language, please telephone the PALS desk on 01271 314090.

The team
The Paediatric Bladder and Bowel Care Team comprises of a small team of nurses who cover the whole of Devon, but are centrally based in Exeter.

The team is skilled in the assessment and management of children and young people with complex bladder and bowel care issues.

Following a referral into the Service you will be offered:

• An appointment with a paediatric bladder & bowel care nurse specialist. This may be provided in a clinic setting or at your child’s school.

• A detailed assessment of your child’s bladder and bowel care needs. This may include an assessment of eligibility for continence products on prescription.

• Individualised advice and a programme to suit the specific needs of your child to help them develop a healthy bladder and bowel.

• Follow-up includes continual assessment of your child’s needs, to ensure the programme is consistent and remains appropriate to the needs of your child.

What we expect from you

• For bladder and bowel diaries to be completed when requested prior to appointments. This information will aid the specialist nurse in the assessment of your child.

• For appointments to be attended on time.

• For you to keep us updated of any changes to your contact details. For example, change of address, telephone number or change of GP.

• We ask that you treat our staff with respect, not verbally or physically aggressive towards them.
Paediatric policy on continence product provision

In line with most other NHS health providers, Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust may provide continence products on prescription from the age of 5 years old, for those children with a physical or learning disability that impacts directly on their ability to achieve continence over a 24 hour period, and whose continence needs differ from children of a similar age within the general population. (Paediatric Assessment of Toilet Training Readiness and Issuing of Products, RCN 2006)

All children should have a documented assessment and a trial of toilet training undertaken, if appropriate, prior to the issue of any product. If full continence is not achievable, then healthy bladders and bowels should be promoted at all times. The child will be kept under review by the assessing nurse, with the provision of suitable containment products as provided by the contracted provider of continence products for Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust.

Products are not supplied as containment for a treatable condition. For example, soiling in relation to constipation or night time wetting.

Once daytime continence has been achieved, products for night time wetting will be provided for a short period. Your child will be reassessed at this time and products on prescription will be stopped. However, continued support, advice and treatment will be provided for as long as is required. (Policy for the provision of continence products to children and young people 2016.)

Useful links

- **ERIC**
  Education & Resources for Improving Childhood Continence
  Tel: 0845 370 8008
  Website: www.eric.org.uk

- **TENA**
  Tel: 0845 30 80 803
  Website: www.tena.co.uk

- **Promocon**
  Promoting Continence and Product Awareness
  Tel: 0161 607 8201
  Website: www.promocon.co.uk

- **Fledglings**
  A national charity that finds and sells products that improve the lives of disabled children and their families.
  Tel: 01799 541807
  Website: www.fledglings.org.uk

- **Incy Wincy**
  Incontinence swimwear
  Tel: 0844 875 4645
  Website: www.incywincy.net
Further information

Paediatric Bladder & Bowel Care Service
Franklyn House
Franklyn Drive
Exeter
EX2 9HS

Tel: 01392 208044

Email: ndht.pbcc@nhs.net

PALS

The Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) ensures that the NHS listens to patients, relatives, carers and friends, answers questions and resolves concerns as quickly as possible. If you have a query or concern call 01271 314090 or e-mail ndht.pals@nhs.net. You can also visit the PALS and Information Centre in person at North Devon District Hospital, Barnstaple. Alternatively, it may be possible for us to arrange an appointment in your area.

Have your say

Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust aims to provide high quality services. However, please tell us when something could be improved. If you have a comment or compliment about a service or treatment, please raise your comments with a member of the ward staff or the PALS team in the first instance.

‘Care Opinion’ comments forms are on all wards or online at www.careopinion.org.uk.

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