



Referral Criteria to the Acute Children's Outreach Nursing Service

Service Aims:

- To reduce any unnecessary and costly Short Stay Unit (SSU) admissions from CED
- To provide safe, home-based nursing assessment to Children & Young People
- Increase resilience within families through empowerment, education and support
- To facilitate early discharge from SSU and provide additional assessment & support at home in Brighton & Hove area

Inclusion Criteria:

- 0-16yrs old and resident in Brighton & Hove, incl Travellers on the permanent/ transit St Michael's site, visiting families and foreign exchange students staying with B&H families, permanent B&H residents without registered GP (see GP list / map)
- Have a Defined Illness (see below)
- Reviewed & agreed as suitable by Dr ST4 or *above* /ANP/Consultant
- Safe & stable condition with discharge PEWS score = 0-1
- Have parents / carers who agree, and are confident and able to safely manage the child at home between nurse contact phone calls or visits
- Children who would otherwise been admitted to SSU for Nursing observation & management OR would probably re-attend
- Children who are currently SSU patients and are safe to discharge home early but would benefit from additional outreach nurse follow up and assessment (telephone +/- home visit)

Defined Illnesses (these will increase as the service develops)

- Viral induced wheeze, bronchiolitis, asthma, mild to moderate croup
- Viral Gastroenteritis / Mild Dehydration
- Viral Illness +/- exanthem
- Tonsillitis, Herpes/Stomatitis with poor oral intake
- Lymphadenitis
- Peri-orbital cellulitis
- Cellulitis
- Crying baby (non organic cause or feeding problem)
- Acute Non Surgical Abdominal Pain (not constipation)
- Current SSU patients with any of the above defined illnesses who can be discharged early and would benefit from ongoing home assessment and support. (eg Children who have been slow to stretch to 4hrly salbutamol inhalers and required SSU)
- Additional illnesses as agreed suitable by CED Consultant & ACORNS RN

Exclusion Criteria

- Holiday makers, tourists, temporary visitors unless staying with immediate family in B&H.
- Children requiring nurse monitoring overnight
- Professional concerns about ability of parental care, monitoring & management at home
- Parental lack of confidence or refusal to be discharged
- New Child Protection or Safeguarding concerns
- Gypsy Travellers in transit or on unofficial sites



Referral Criteria to the Acute Children's Outreach Nursing Service

Exclusion Criteria contd:

- Parent wishing to leave CED against best medical advice or not waiting to be seen & discharged.
- Any verbal or physical aggression witnessed in CED +/- known hx of family violence. If known/suspected parental mental health or Domestic Violence concerns DW ACORNS RN as would require further risk assessment prior to agreeing to visit. Nurses working alone must not be put at risk. Please do not refer this group overnight. Lone working nurses need to be safe.

How to refer to ACORNS:

- Complete 'CED Referral to ACORNS' Pathway and ACORNS sticky referral label (similar size to Do It sticker)
- Phone ACORNS office on ext 62430 or come to office in hours. If out on calls the ACORNS nurse can be called directly. See CED wipe board for ACORNS nurse on duty
- Outside ACORNS working hours leave fully completed 'CED Referral to ACORNS' pathway and completed CED documentation in 'ACORNS' tray in back office of CED. We will collect 8am next day.
- On Symphony screen, make 'Referral to Speciality' under ACORNS and use discharge outcome of 'Acute Children's Outreach Nursing team' (last item on discharge outcome list)

Prior to Discharge from CED:

- Check contact names, address and tel no. of parent or carer that child will be with.
- Complete all CED treatments, observations and documentation.
- Complete the HV / School Nurse Transfer of Care on back page of CED notes as usual
- Symphony discharge outcome: Record as ACORNS at bottom of outcome of drop down list
- Provide parents with
 - ACORNS info leaflet
 - Verbal advice and written Safety net information about their child's illness
 - Any necessary prescription / all prescribed medicines
- Provide ACORNS with
 - Completed 'CED Referral to ACORNS' pathway signed off by referring senior clinician
 - Original PEWS Chart and CED notes. (CED & ACORNS notes will be sorted in ACORNS office)

On Discharge:

1. Should a child be referred back to CED by the ACORNS, the PEWS chart, ACORNS handwritten documentation +/- SBAR form will accompany them during service hours.
2. Out of hours the Band 6 CED shift leader will have access to the ACORNS nursing notes in the locked filing cabinet in ACORNS office. Key is in the ACORN holder on top of filing cabinet.

ACORNS Contact Numbers & email: ACORNS Office (CED) ext 62430			
Rowena:	07584154891	rowena.jay@bsuh.nhs.uk	
Sarah	07584154887	sarah.miller@bsuh.nhs.uk	
Rebecca	0790 1103479	rebecca.akehurst@bsuh.nhs.uk	
ACORNS Hours			
Monday – Friday	8am to 8pm	Weekends	8am to 6pm
Bank Holidays excl Christmas Day	8am to 8pm	Christmas Day	8am to 1pm