

Community Paediatric ADHD Service

Aim

This leaflet is aimed at patients and families attending the Community Paediatric ADHD service in Lincolnshire. It provides details about the service provision.

Our Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) service is based at a number of hospital sites and community clinics across Lincolnshire. We run ADHD clinics at Lincoln, Grantham and Boston. We also provide some peripheral ADHD clinics in Gainsborough and Horncastle.

We accept new referrals into this service up to the age of 16 years. Once on treatment, we continue to review these children and young people up until the age of 18 years. Patients attending special school settings remain under review up until the age of 19 years.

Patients can be referred to the service by their GP or school, via their Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo).

Assessments

Primary diagnostic assessments for ADHD are carried out in Community Paediatric clinics.

Once the child or young person's referral has been accepted at triage they are placed on the ADHD pathway. Detailed information about the child or young person's difficulties is requested from both parents and school. Various forms used for this purpose include Goodman's SDQ's and ADHD specific questionnaires eg: Connors rating scales. Schools are also asked to provide reports regarding any behavioural intervention that has been provided. They are also asked to forward reports from other agencies that may be involved ie Learning Specialist team, Educational psychologists, behaviour support agencies etc.

Once this process is complete the child and family are offered a clinic appointment with a doctor from our team. At this appointment a detailed developmental history and examination will be completed to rule out any other conditions. If indicated, blood tests may be requested for developmental delay and/or learning difficulties. The detailed information collected from the ADHD pathway along with clinical information will be discussed with the child and family and a conclusion will be reached about ADHD diagnosis.

Management

Once a diagnosis of ADHD has been confirmed, children and families will be offered information about ADHD using available resources such as websites, leaflets and booklets.

They will be directed to ADHD support groups such as **Lincolnshire ADHD Support Services (LASS)**.
www.lincsadhd.org. Telephone 01522 539939.

Parents are encouraged to take advantage of general parent and behavioural training programmes that may be available at the local children's centres.

Medication management options for ADHD will also be discussed, where appropriate, with the child, young person and families, particularly when ADHD symptoms are having a significant impact on home life and school progress despite all of the behavioural interventions and support.

ADHD Medication Review Clinics

Children and young people with ADHD requiring a trial of medication will be transferred to a specialist ADHD clinic. These clinics are provided in Lincoln, Grantham and Boston. We also offer some satellite ADHD clinics in Gainsborough and Horncastle. Information about clinic locations will be provided in our standard appointment letters.

At this appointment patients and families are given detailed information about the medication. Medical history is confirmed, specifically ruling out any medical conditions where it may not be safe to start a trial of treatment. Measurements of height, weight, blood pressure and pulse are taken. An initial prescription, with instructions on administration and possible side effect profile, along with leaflets on the drug of choice are given.

NICE Guidelines for ADHD management are followed. Appointments at ADHD clinics for monitoring medication are offered as frequently as required. At each clinic appointment measurements of height, weight, blood pressure and pulse are taken. Clinicians will check for any treatment-related side effects. Ongoing response and suitability of the medication prescribed will be reviewed. Telephone consultation clinics may also be offered intermittently when appropriate.

Once a patient has been stabilised on a suitable dose of medication, a shared care arrangement will be requested with their GP. The patient's GP will then be able to provide repeat prescriptions at their surgery. In the event of GPs declining shared care, repeat prescriptions will need to be requested from the Community Paediatric Department on telephone numbers provided to parents in clinic reports. Prescriptions will need to be collected from one of our hospital pharmacies based at Lincoln, Grantham, Boston and Louth on a monthly basis.

To provide feedback on this leaflet please contact 01522 512512 and ask for the Community Paediatric secretaries.

The Trust endeavours to ensure that the information given here is accurate and impartial.

Community Paediatrics
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If you require this information in another language, large print, audio (CD or tape) or braille, please email the Patient Information team at patient.information@ulh.nhs.uk