

# Gastroenteritis in children < 5 yrs

## Assessment by telephone

	Home and Support	See GP	Go to hospital A&E/PAU
Is your child breathing?	Yes	Yes	No
Have they got signs of respiratory distress?	No	No	Yes
Do they look blue or extremely pale/grey?	No	No	Yes
Are they irritable on handling?	No	No	Yes
Are they unusually quiet or floppy on handling?	No	No	Yes
Have they got a rash that looks like bleeding/bruising which remains when pressure is applied?	No	No	Yes
Are there signs of meningitis? Neck stiffness/ photophobia/bulging fontanelle?	No	No	Yes
What colour is the vomit?			Green or coffee ground/Red
What colour is the stool?			Redcurrant
Could this be carbon monoxide poisoning?	No	No	Yes
Could the diarrhoea and vomiting be due to an ingestion of a substance that they shouldn't have?	No	No	Yes
Could the vomiting be due to a recent head injury?	No	No	Yes
Can you take the child's temperature?	<38 <39	>38 under 3 months >39 over 3 months	
Do you think your child is in severe pain?	No	Yes	Yes
Are you worried your child is getting worse or does the child look sicker than they have before with this illness?	No	Yes	
How long since the last wet nappy?		> 8 hours (under 1) > 12 hours (over 1)	
Are the eyes sunken?	No	Yes	
Is the skin turgor normal? (describe)	Yes	No	
Can you measure the capillary refill time?	<2	2-3	>3

Children who will be managed at home or do not need to be referred



See overleaf for advice for parents and carers

Refer for face-to-face assessment



Follow the community face-to-face consultation pathway

Children with symptoms suggesting shock

