



CLINICAL GUIDELINE

CT Scanning of Children in the Adult ED in NHSGGC

A guideline is intended to assist healthcare professionals in the choice of disease-specific treatments.

Clinical judgement should be exercised on the applicability of any guideline, influenced by individual patient characteristics. Clinicians should be mindful of the potential for harmful polypharmacy and increased susceptibility to adverse drug reactions in patients with multiple morbidities or frailty.

If, after discussion with the patient or carer, there are good reasons for not following a guideline, it is good practice to record these and communicate them to others involved in the care of the patient.

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Does this version include changes to clinical advice:	N/A
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Approval Group:	Diagnostics Directorate Clinical Governance Group

Important Note:

The Intranet version of this document is the only version that is maintained. Any printed copies should therefore be viewed as 'Uncontrolled' and as such, may not necessarily contain the latest updates and amendments.

Guidance for CT scanning of Children in the Adult ED in NHSGGC

Summary

This protocol defines how to deal with CT scan requests for children who present to the adult NHSGGC ED units (GRI\RAH\Inverclyde).

Background

The NICE & SIGN guidelines have been revised and adopted in NHSGGC as part of the Paediatric head injury pathway here:

[Head injury guideline \(Emergency Department\) \(scot.nhs.uk\)](https://www.scot.nhs.uk/headinjuryguideline)

If the child meets the guideline risk factors (algorithm 2 over), a local CT scan should be performed within the hour.

Imaging Pathway:

1. Scan requested by local A&E team.
2. Scan is vetted according to the risk factor algorithm attached. In hours the local CT team vets the request and contacts the RHC Hot CT\MR Radiologist to notify them that a scan is being arranged. OOH the Hub Reg vets the request. The risk factors present should be noted as part of the vetting.
3. The scan is performed locally.
4. In hours the local CT Reg\Consultant contacts the RHC Hot CT\MR Radiologist who reports the scan on CRIS.
5. OOH scans not requiring immediate review are sent to the RHC Hot CT\MR Radiologist weekdays or the RHC On Call Radiologist weekends for next day sign off. If an immediate review is required the RHC on call radiologist is contacted at the time of acquisition.

Contact numbers:

RHC Hot CT\MR Radiologist (9-5 weekdays):	84267 (0141 452 4267)
RHC Duty Radiologist (9-5 any day):	84254 (0141 452 4254)
RHC Paediatric CT Radiographer 9-5:	84269 (0141 452 4269)
RHC On call CT Radiographer:	via switchboard
RHC On Call Radiologist:	via switchboard

Algorithm 2: Selection of children for CT head scan

