# 2WW Paediatrics

### Key Messages

This guidance covers the referral of children and young people who present with symptoms and signs of cancer to a paediatrician or a specialist children’s cancer service, if appropriate.

GPs can refer a patient they suspect of having cancer to be seen within 14 days by a specialist. GPs must send the referral within 24 hours of the decision to refer.

Please use the referral forms listed on this page to ensure appropriateness. They have been agreed by the Peninsula Cancer Network.

### Red Flags

* There are associations between Down’s syndrome and leukaemia, between neurofibromatosis and CNS tumours, and between other rare syndromes and some cancers. Be alert to the potential significance of unexplained symptoms in children with such syndromes.

### Investigations

* A full blood count and blood film

### Management

When making a referral, inform the parents and child or young person about the reason for referral and which service they are going to attend so that they know what to do and what will happen next. Establish good communication in order to develop the supportive relationship that will be needed if cancer is found.

### Referral

**Referral instructions**

The GP should: use Choose and Book to book the appointment where this service is available

Please ensure you include:

* The patient's NHS number
* Tell the patient that this is an urgent referral and they will be seen within 14 days

**Consider referral**

* when a child or young person presents with persistent back pain (an examination is needed and a full blood count and blood film).
* Persistent parental anxiety is sufficient reason for referral, even where a benign cause is considered most likely.
* Take into account parental insight and knowledge when considering urgent referral.
* a child or young person presents several times (for example, three or more times) with the same problem, but with no clear diagnosis (investigations should also be carried out).

#### Referral forms

**For Plymouth:**

• <http://www.plymouthhospitals.nhs.uk/ourservices/cancerservices/Documents/2WW-Paeds.doc>

• [Children's Cancers - 2WW - PAEDS - EMIS LV](http://www.sentinelhealthcare.co.uk/sites/default/files/2WW-Paeds-EMIS.rtf)

• [Children's Cancers - 2WW - PAEDS - ISOFT](http://www.sentinelhealthcare.co.uk/sites/default/files/2WW-Paeds-ISOFT.doc)

• [Children's Cancers - 2WW - PAEDS - Microtest](http://www.sentinelhealthcare.co.uk/sites/default/files/2WW-Paeds-Microtest.doc)

• [Children's Cancers - 2WW - PAEDS - TPP](http://www.sentinelhealthcare.co.uk/sites/default/files/2WW-Paeds-TPP.doc)

• [Children's Cancers - 2WW - PAEDS - VISION](http://www.sentinelhealthcare.co.uk/sites/default/files/2WW-PAEDS-VISION.doc)

### Supporting Information

#### Evidence

Link to full reference guide to NICE referral guidelines for suspected cancer:-

<http://www.nice.org.uk/proxy/?sourceUrl=http%3a%2f%2fwww.nice.org.uk%2fnicemedia%2flive%2f10968%2f29814%2f29814.pdf>