

Bronchiolitis

Paediatric A&E Department



Bronchiolitis

Bronchiolitis is a viral infection of the lower respiratory tract in infants in the first year; nearly 20% of these infants need hospital admission usually between November and March.

Symptoms

- Initially mild fever, runny nose and dry cough
- Progressively rapid and distressed breathing
- Wheeze
- Feeding difficulty
- Apnoea (an episode when breathing stops)

High Risk Infants

- Premature infants
- Cystic Fibrosis and Chronic Lung Disease
- Congenital heart disease
- Infants < 6 weeks
- Immunodeficiency
- Severe neuromuscular disorders

There is no specific treatment for bronchiolitis as it is a viral illness. X-rays are not usually indicated unless there is any doubt about the diagnosis. Antibiotics are not helpful in viral illnesses. Your child may be given a nebuliser if they attend A&E, or saline nose drops to help with feeding.

If your child is discharged from hospital, you may be advised to use nose drops and give small frequent feeds. If your child is older, or there is a family history of asthma, they may be given an inhaler to use.

The illness usually reaches its peak at day 3, but the cough and wheeze may go on for several weeks.

If your child falls into the high risk category, or is unable to take at least half of their normal feeds, or requires oxygen, they will need to be admitted to hospital.

If your child is discharged, but deteriorates at home, please bring them back to Paediatric A&E to be reassessed.

Dr Erin Dawson
Associate Specialist Emergency Paediatrics

Further Information

We endeavour to provide an excellent service at all times, but should you have any concerns please, in the first instance, raise these with the Matron, Senior Nurse or Manager on duty. If they cannot resolve your concern, please contact our Patient Experience Team on 01932 723553 or email asp-tr.patient.advice@nhs.net. If you remain concerned, the team can also advise upon how to make a formal complaint.

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We can provide interpreters for a variety of languages, information in larger print or other formats (e.g. audio) - please call us on 01932 723553.

To use the Text Relay service, prefix all numbers with 18001.

اگر نیاز به ترجمہ دارید، لطفاً با شماره 01932 723553 تماس بگیرید۔

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਤਰਜਮੇ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਇਸ ਨੰਬਰ ਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ: 01932 723553

اگر آپ اس کا اردو زبان میں ترجمہ چاہتے ہیں، تو براؤ کرم اس فون نمبر 01932 723553 پر رابطہ کریں

Se precisa de uma tradução por favor contacte: 01932 723553

আপনার অনুবাদের দরকার হলে এখানে যোগাযোগ করুন : 01932 723553

यदि आपको अनुवाद की ज़रूरत है तो कृपया इस नंबर पर फोन करें: 01932 723553

Jeżeli chcemy, aby te informacje w innym języku, proszę zadzwonić 01932 723553

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