



Referral pathway for children and young people suspected to have type 1 diabetes

Statistics

- There are approximately 31,500 children with type 1 diabetes in the UK
- 16-25% of children are not diagnosed until they are in Diabetes Ketoacidosis (DKA)
- 500 children every year become seriously ill with DKA because early signs of type 1 diabetes are missed
- DKA is a life threatening illness requiring intensive medical intervention and is extremely traumatic for the child and family
- Children under 2 years can present with less specific symptoms
- Less common symptoms may include oral/vulval thrush

Referral Pathway

Symptoms

Polyuria, Polydipsia
Excessive tiredness
Weight loss
Heavier nappies
New onset bedwetting
Abdominal pain/vomiting
Rapid breathing (acidotic)



Random Capillary blood glucose (CBG) and/or urine dipstick



CBG > 11 mmol/L
and / or Urine dip +ve
for glucose



Urgent referral to Paediatric unit following local guidance