

# Cough/breathlessness pathway for children ≥ 1 year of age



## Clinical support tool for remote clinical assessment

Clinical findings	Green – low risk	Amber – intermediate risk	Red – high risk
Colour Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Normal colour of skin, lips and tongue</li> <li>• Content/smiles</li> <li>• Stays awake/awakens quickly</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pale</li> <li>• No smile</li> <li>• Decreased activity/lethargic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blue or grey colour</li> <li>• No response</li> <li>• Unable to rouse or if roused does not stay awake</li> <li>• Confused</li> <li>• Clinical concerns about nature of cry (Weak, high pitched or continuous)</li> </ul>
Respiratory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None of amber or red symptoms</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RR &gt;40 breaths/min if age 12 months - 23 months</li> <li>• RR &gt;35 breaths/min if age 2-5 years</li> <li>• RR &gt;30 breaths/min if age 5 -12 years</li> <li>• RR &gt;25 breaths/min if age &gt;12 years</li> <li>• Mild / Moderate resp distress</li> <li>• Audible stridor on exertion/distress only</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grunting</li> <li>• Audible stridor at rest</li> <li>• Severe tachypnoea: RR &gt; 10 breaths per minute above amber levels</li> <li>• Severe respiratory distress</li> <li>• Unable to complete sentences</li> </ul>
Circulation / hydration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None of amber or red symptoms</li> <li>• Able to tolerate some fluids</li> <li>• Passing urine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cold hands and feet in absence of fever</li> <li>• Reduced urine output</li> <li>• Not tolerating fluids / repeated vomiting</li> <li>• Unable to swallow saliva</li> </ul>	
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None of amber or red symptoms</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fever for ≥ 5 days</li> <li>• Risk factors for severe disease – known asthma, chronic lung disease, bronchiectasis/CF, immunodeficiency etc.</li> <li>• Additional parental/carer support required</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sudden onset and parental concern about inhaled foreign body</li> </ul>

