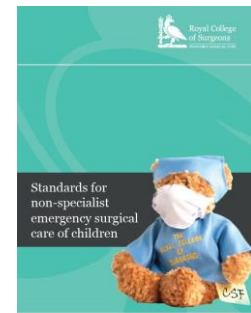


'Standards for the non-specialist emergency surgical care of children' are launched

The [service standards](#) cover the whole patient pathway and include all services caring for children with emergency surgical presentations that might be managed in a local hospital. The standards are a collation of guidance that has been published over the last 10 years and each section has key overarching statements, with sub-standards and criteria for their measurement.

Over the next year the CSF will be developing and piloting an audit tool, based on the standards that can be used to benchmark your service or network.



Mapping the networks

Help us map all the networks!

We are trying to map all the networks across the UK that relate to children and surgery, in order to develop a central resource to allow everyone to identify groups local to them. If you attend a network e.g. nursing forum, research network, surgical or anaesthetic network please let us know the details and the type of issues you cover. We will then populate a central resource on the CSF webpages.

Click here to fill in the short network survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/76PN6LH>

Building an online 'Hub' of resources

We are trying to source documentation from children's services which can be made available to others to kick-start service improvement. Developing documentation such as job descriptions, protocols etc. can be very time consuming and adapting one can really speed up implementing change.

We would like you to send us your job descriptions, protocols and pathways, patient information leaflets, audit tools and anything else you have developed to improve your service and that you are willing to share with others. This will then be listed on the website pages.

Please send any documents to csforum@rcseng.ac.uk

Access to specialist paediatric radiology services

Some concerns have been raised that in certain regions out of hours access to specialist radiology is not always available and this may be impacting on patient care. We would welcome your feedback on whether you routinely have difficulty in accessing specialist radiology advice, investigations and interventional radiology, especially out of hours and at weekends, in your region.

Click on this link to fill in a short feedback form: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FJKVKYN>

Changes to reporting responsibilities for clinicians with regards to Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

Changes to law in the Serious Crimes Act 2015 now mean that clinicians have a legal duty to report directly to police or social services, any child or woman (under the age of 18 years) who has had or is a risk of FGM. This must also be documented in the notes for the purposes of data collection.

Girls Under 18

- If a child discloses FGM or has physical signs of FGM then a referral to the police should be made.
- Required within 1 month of diagnosis (likely to be sooner).
- Report by calling 101.
- Failure to report will mean referral to regulatory body i.e. FTP panel at GMC
- If a child is at risk of FGM or FGM is suspected but not confirmed, the referral is to social services.

Women over 18

- Reporting to police or social services is not mandatory
- Must be reported when an associated child is at risk

To find out more details go to Department of Health, Female Genital Mutilation Risk and Safeguarding: Guidance for professionals: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-women-and-girls-at-risk-of-fgm>

NHS England publish an action plan on tackling sepsis

NHS England published '[Improving outcomes for patients with sepsis: a cross-system action plan](#)' in December outlining their action plan for improving recognition, management and outcomes from sepsis in all age groups.

Contact the CSF

We are happy to try and support services source information and contacts. Email us on csforum@rcseng.ac.uk or Tel: 0207 869 6230

To find out more about the CSF membership and our work please check our [website pages](#).

To sign up for quarterly newsletters please email us on csforum@rcseng.ac.uk