

***North of Scotland Child  
and Adolescent  
Neurology Network  
(NeSCANN)***

***Information for  
patients and families***

# ***NeSCANN – North of Scotland Child and Adolescent Neurology Network***

Neurology services for children and young people in the North and East of Scotland.

## ***Information for young people, parents and carers***

Your GP, school doctor, or another healthcare worker has referred you or your child to the Neurology Team based at Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital, Tayside Children's Hospital, Dundee or Raigmore Hospital, Inverness. We hope that the information in this leaflet will help put you or your child at ease before coming to meet us at the clinic.

### ***What does the Neurology Team do?***

The Neurology Team are trained to diagnose and manage conditions that affect the nervous system. The nervous system includes the brain, spinal cord, nerves, and muscles.

In the course of our work we often see and treat children with epilepsy, complex headache, spinal cord problems, muscle disorders, acquired brain injuries and a range of other conditions that can affect the nervous system.

### ***The Neurology Team***

The Neurology Team is made up of a team of doctors, nurses and other healthcare professionals. We help look after children and young people with neurological problems of the type mentioned on page 4.

### ***Why has my child been referred?***

There are concerns that your child might have a neurological condition, which may benefit from treatment.

### ***What happens at our first meeting?***

A member of our team will spend time hearing your/your child's story. We like to know everything including details about the pregnancy, your/your child's birth and subsequent development.

Therefore, the person that knows you/the child best should come to this meeting. It may also be helpful to bring your child's red book.

After learning about your concerns, you/your child is likely to be examined. An opinion will be given as to what we think the problems are. The brain and nervous system is very complex, so sometimes it may take a bit longer to find answers. This doesn't mean however that we are unable to help your child.

The doctor will outline the next steps in the care of you/your child. A treatment or management plan will be discussed (if required). This may include prescribing medicine. Sometimes, specialist tests are recommended in order to help inform diagnosis and treatment decisions. These are not usually done on the first occasion you see us and may sometimes require admission to hospital for a short period.

The first meeting usually lasts between 45 to 60 minutes.

## ***Where are the Neurology Team's clinics?***

Neurology Clinics are held in the out-patient department of your main hospital.

## ***The North of Scotland Child and Adolescent Neurology Network***

The Neurology Team is part of the North of Scotland Child and Adolescent Neurology Network. Your child may be seen by another specialist from out with your main hospital and usually together with the member of the local team who knows you/your child best. Sometimes, these meetings can be arranged by video-link in order to bring care as close to home as possible.

You can find more information about our Network at:

<https://www.nhsscotlandnorth.scot/networks/nescann>

## ***What if I have more questions?***

We cannot answer all questions or concerns in this leaflet, so please note down any questions that you have and bring this to the clinic where we will be more than happy to answer them.

## ***Information for children***

Having to see a doctor or go to hospital can sometimes make us feel worried. Learning more about what will happen can help. Hopefully, the information in this leaflet will help you feel comfortable about coming to the hospital.

## ***Why am I coming to see you?***

We have been asked to see you because of a concern about your health. Sometimes, seeing a doctor can help you feel better.

## ***What will happen when I come to see you?***

The doctor will ask the person that brought you to hospital a lot of questions. Questions will be all about you – from before your birth to the present day. The doctor will also ask about your health and any current medical problems that you have. If you are happy to answer questions the doctor will also ask you about this.

The doctor may then examine you which doesn't hurt. The doctor will then tell you what he or she thinks might be causing your problem.

Sometimes further tests are needed in order to be sure. If needed, these are usually done at another time.

Any treatments, such as medicines, that might help make things better may also be spoken about.

***Please use this space to write down any questions that you have.***



## ***Patient feedback***

Your views and ideas on improving our services matter to us! Please share these with us by e-mailing our network manager at

[tay.nospgcyp@nhs.scot](mailto:tay.nospgcyp@nhs.scot)

