
Children's Arthritis Treatment Information

Children's Rheumatology Service

Your GP has referred you to be seen by the Paediatric Rheumatology Team who specialise in treating arthritis and other rheumatic diseases in young people.

Members of the team are:

Rheumatologist

Dr. Paul Thompson, Consultant Specialist and Team Leader, who will work closely with you, your GP and other specialists to find out what is wrong with your child and how to provide the right treatment.

Paediatrician

A Paediatric Registrar, Registrar Physician, with special skills in treating all childhood illnesses.

Associate Specialist

Dr. Fouz Rahmeh, Associate Specialist, who has a special interest in paediatric rheumatology.

Rheumatology Practitioner

Anne Trehane, Specialist Therapist, with a central role in your child's treatment, monitoring your child's progress, checking your child's routine blood test results and co-ordinating the team's response to changing circumstances. She can provide literature on Juvenile Arthritis, drug information and contacts with self-help groups and other organizations.

Physiotherapist

We may refer your child to paediatric physiotherapists at the hospital and in the community who are specially trained in the physical treatment of rheumatic disorders and use a combination of exercise, special treatment techniques and advice to treat the condition.

Occupational Therapists

In certain circumstances they can give advice on how to cope with day-to-day activities that some children with arthritis may find difficult.

Other Health Professionals

The team can call on the resources of other departments in the hospital such as dieticians, podiatrists (foot care specialists) and social workers who can provide both treatment and advice. We will also maintain links with other hospitals where your child may also be receiving treatment.

Rheumatology department Patient Information

Telephone Helpline

We do offer a telephone helpline service Monday to Thursday. The helpline is to provide contact and advice for patients between hospital appointments. The helpline is **not** an emergency service and at times messages will need to be left on an answerphone. If the problem is urgent, please see your GP or go to the Accident and Emergency Department.

Contact Details

If you have any further questions or need advice about your treatment phone the Rheumatology Advice line on

01202 442849.

www.poole.nhs.uk/our_services/rheumatology.asp

For further health-related information, please contact:

The Health Information & Resource Centre

Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Longfleet Road

Poole

BH15 2JB

Telephone: (01202) 448003

Rheumatology Practitioners

December 2007. Date of Review December 2009

Rheumatology Department, Poole Hospital NHS Trust

Dr. P. Thompson, Dr. S. Richards

We can supply this information in larger print, on audiotape, or have it translated for you. A member of staff will be happy to discuss this with you. Please call PALS on 01202 448499 or the Health Information Centre on 01202 448003 for further advice