



Your child's day case assessment at the Dubowitz Neuromuscular Centre: information for families

This information sheet from Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH) tells you about your child's day case assessment at the Dubowitz Neuromuscular Centre at GOSH. For more information about the Centre, please visit our website at www.gosh.nhs.uk/medical-information/clinical-specialties/dubowitz-neuromuscular-centre-dnc-information-parents-and-visitors. If you have any questions, please call the Neuromuscular Clinical Nurse Specialists on 020 7405 9200 ext 1195 or email neuromuscular.cns@gosh.nhs.uk.

About the Dubowitz Neuromuscular Centre

The Dubowitz Neuromuscular Centre (DNC) is a leading clinical and research centre specialising in neuromuscular disorders affecting children. The DNC provides clinical assessment, diagnostic services and advice on treatment and ongoing supportive therapies.

What should we bring?

You should allow the whole morning for your child's appointment. You will need to bring a packed lunch and drinks for yourself and anyone else accompanying your child. Alternatively, you might want to buy refreshments on the day from the Lagoon at GOSH or a café in the local area.

Please also bring the following:

- Your child's favourite toy or comforter
- Their bottle or feeding cup plus some food and drink
- Spare nappies or pads and a change of clothes
- Any medicines that your child uses regularly (including inhalers)

- A pair of shorts for the physiotherapy and physical examinations

What will happen on the day?

During the morning, your child will be seen by one of the neuromuscular doctors, who will review your child's current condition. Your child may also have some of the following during the morning:

- Physiotherapy assessment
- Speech and language therapy assessment
- Dietetic assessment
- X-ray
- Echocardiogram (ECHO)
- Electrocardiogram (ECG)
- Blood tests
- Lung function tests
- Nerve function test (EMG)
- Clinical photography

Information about these tests is available on our website at www.gosh.nhs.uk.

We will give you a timetable for the assessment giving details of where you need to be at what time. We try to keep delays to a minimum and

appreciate your patience. However, some children we see have very complex medical conditions and it can take a long time for the neuromuscular team to assess them. If there are any delays, we will always do our best to keep you informed.

Questions

Please ask any questions at any point of the day. Detailed medical queries are probably best saved until you see the senior neuromuscular doctor (consultant). We realise that it can be difficult to remember everything during the busy day so it may help to write down a list of questions before the appointment. If there is anything you wish to discuss without your child being present, please let us know so we can try to arrange it.

After the appointment

We will give you a summary of what we discussed during the assessment, in the form of a clinic letter. If you have any questions about it, please call or email the Neuromuscular Clinical Nurse Specialists. Alternatively you can communicate with your Clinical Nurse Specialists, access results and manage appointments via My Gosh.

If this is of interest to you, please email MyGOSH.Helpdesk@gosh.nhs.uk to sign up.

Tell us about your visit – you can give us feedback using Friends and Family Test cards or using our online feedback form at www.gosh.nhs.uk/your-opinion-matters. This helps us improve what we do.

You can also visit our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (Pals) office in the main reception area of the hospital. They are open from Monday to Friday from 10am to 5pm or you can call 020 7829 7862 or email pals@gosh.nhs.uk