

Head and Neck Pathway Board

REFERRAL GUIDELINES FOR PRIMARY CARE PRACTITIONERS FOR HEAD & NECK CANCER

See separate guidelines for Thyroid

Review Date: April 2018

Introduction

Patients should be referred according to the schemas illustrated in Figures 1-2 (see subsequent pages). The local services and their contact points are listed in the table below.

Trust	Designated Hospital	Designated Head & Neck Clinicians	Designated Thyroid Clinicians	Neck Lump Clinic	Specialist Thyroid Clinic	Contact Point
Pennine Acute Hospitals NHS Trust	North Manchester General Hospital, Royal Oldham Hospital, Fairfield General Hospital, Rochdale Infirmary	Mr Andrew Baldwin Mr P Kyzas Mr C Katre Mr. W. Aleid Mr Prad Murthy Mr Sharma	Mr Prad Murthy Mr Ian Sheppard	Yes*	No - integrated with neck lump clinic*	Manchester Integrated Care Gateway Tel: 0161 443 0631 Fax: 0161 443 0632 Bury RBMS Tel: 0161 762 3155 Fax: 0161 762 3078 Oldham Referral Information Centre Tel: 0161 627 7490 Fax: 0161 785 0421 Heywood and Middleton RBMS Tel: 0161 655 1544 Fax: 0161 655 1592
Central Manchester and Manchester Children's NHS Trust	Manchester Royal Infirmary	Prof Jarrod Homer Mr Sean Loughran Miss S Penney Mr Tim Blackburn Mr M Maranzaro	Mr Jarrod Homer Mr Sean Loughran Mr Neil Parrott	Yes	No - integrated with neck lump clinic	RBMS Fax: 0161 276 8756 Email: cmm-tr.cancer-referrals-cmft@nhs.net
Tameside Acute NHS Trust	Tameside General	Ms Tracey Ellis Miss S Penney Mr. W. Aleid	Mr Simon Ellenbogen Ms S Penney (locum)	Yes	Yes	Central Referrals Office Tel: 0161 331 6334 Fax: 0161 331 6339
Stockport NHS Foundation Trust	Stepping Hill	Miss Sadie Khwaja Miss L Ramamurthy Mr Vivek Kaushik Mr M Iqbal Mr M Patel	Miss Laxmi Ramamurthy	Yes	No - integrated with neck lump clinic	Call Centre Tel: 0161 419 5901 Fax: 0161 419 5599
South Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	Wythenshawe	Mr Andrew Birzgalis Mr Vijay Pothula Mr Manu Patel Mr M Iqbal	Mr Ashu Gandhi	Yes	No - integrated with neck lump clinic	Call Centre Tel: 0161 291 5121 Fax: 0161 291 5127

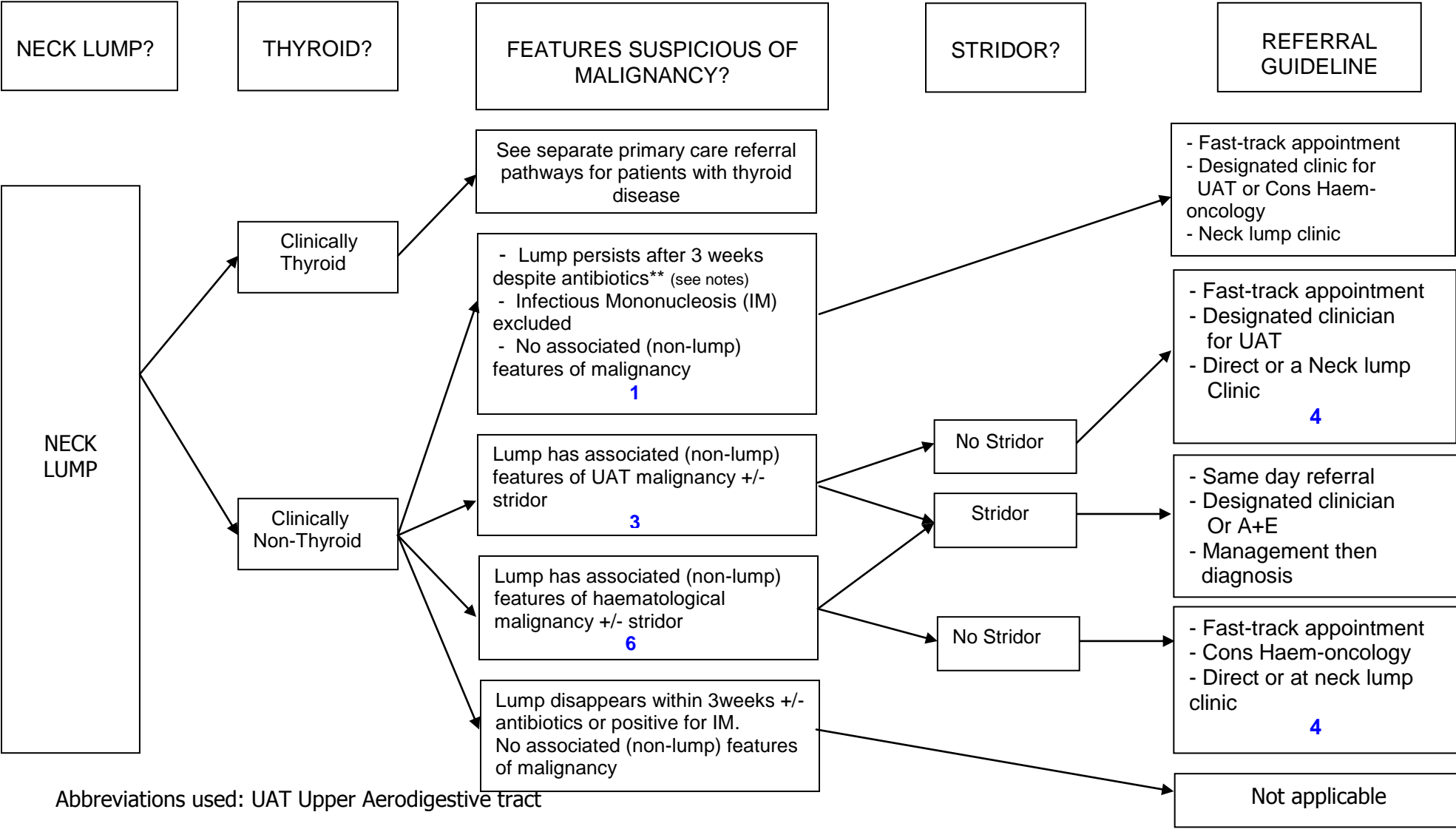
Abbreviations used: UAT Upper Aerodigestive tract

Trust	Designated Hospital	Designated Head & Neck Clinicians	Designated Thyroid Clinicians	Neck Lump Clinic	Thyroid Clinic	Contact Point
Trafford Healthcare NHS Trust	Trafford General	Mr Atef El-Kholy Mrs Astrid Bieger-Farhan Mr A Kalantzis	Mr Al-Dabbagh	Yes	No - integrated with neck lump clinic	Central Booking Office Tel: 0161 934 8601 Fax: 0161 746 2040
East Cheshire NHS Trust	Macclesfield	Mr Manu Patel Mr A Birzgalis Mr Camilleri	Mr M Khan	Yes	No - integrated with neck lump clinic	Via Choose and Book or Fax: 01625 661 027
Mid Cheshire Hospitals NHS Trust	Leighton Hospital	Miss Ann Dingle Miss F Bekiroglu	Miss Ann Dingle	Yes	No - integrated with neck lump clinic	Via Choose and Book or via electronic referral to urgent.cancer@mcht.nhs.uk or fax: 01270 612 545
Salford NHS Foundation Trust	Salford Royal	Mr Sean Loughran Mrs R Aggarwal Mr A Kalantzis	Mr Iain Anderson Miss Helen Doran	Yes	Yes	RBMS Tel: 0161 212 4292 Fax: 0161 206 1048
Bolton Hospitals NHS Trust	Royal Bolton	Mr Simon Hargreaves Mr Christopher Lobo Mr Neel Umapathy	Mr Simon Hargreaves Mr Neel Umapathy	Yes	No - integrated with neck lump clinic	TAC Tel: 01204 390400 Fax: 01204 390463
Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Trust	Royal Albert Edward	Mr Vijay Pothula Mr Steve Izzat Mr S Clarke Mr Tim Blackburn	Mr Vijay Pothula Mr Steve Izzat Mr S Clarke Mr M Maranzaro	Yes	Yes	RBMS Tel: 01942 773017 Email: wwl-tr.2wwwreferrals@nhs.net

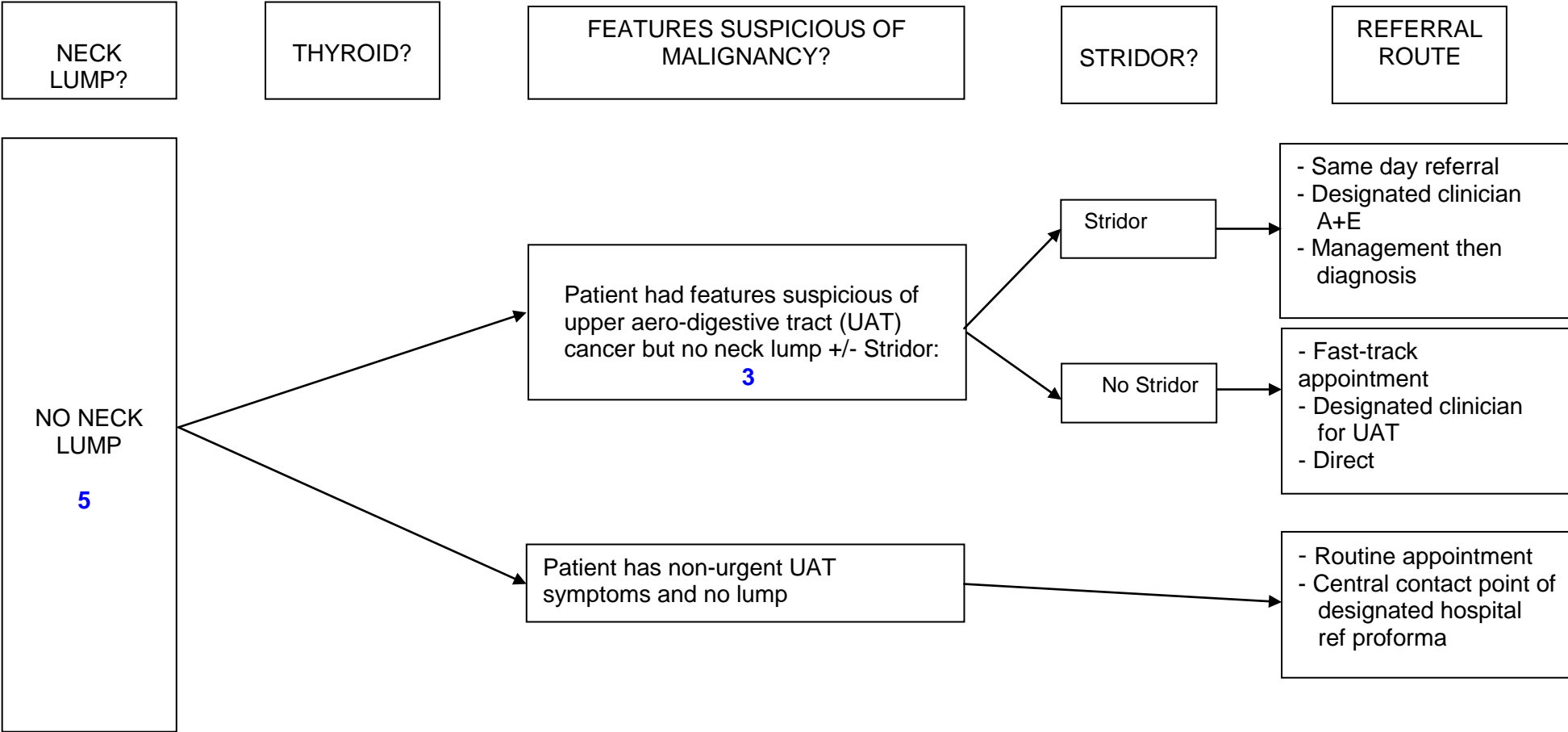
- Neck lump slots available on selected out patient clinics

Abbreviations used: UAT Upper Aerodigestive tract

**Primary Care Referral – Neck Lump/Non Thyroid – Figure 1
(numbers refer to numbered footnotes on subsequent pages)**



Primary Care Referral – No Neck Lump – Figure 2
(numbers refer to numbered footnotes on subsequent pages)



Abbreviations used: UAT Upper Aerodigestive tract

Notes to numbered points on Figures 1-2

1 - Features suspicious of cancer associated with the non-thyroid neck lump itself (reference: Department of Health Referral Guidelines for the Diagnosis of Cancer, reviewed 2005):

- Persists for three weeks despite antibiotics;
- Infectious Mononucleosis excluded.

** If the clinician feels that the degree of suspicion for cancer is high, then immediate referral is suggested, rather than awaiting 3 weeks to see if there is any resolution

2 - See measure 11-1D-102i regarding the requirements for common working between designated clinicians for UAT cancer assessment and consultant haemato-oncologists.

3 - Features suspicious of UAT cancer which are not features of the lump itself (reference: Department of Health Referral Guidelines for the Diagnosis of Cancer, revised 2005):

- Hoarseness for more than six weeks;
- Oral mucosal ulcer persisting for more than three weeks;
- Oral swelling persisting for more than three weeks;
- Red or red and white patches of the oral mucosa;
- Dysphasia for more than three weeks;
- Unilateral nasal obstruction, especially with purulent discharge;
- Unexplained tooth mobility, not associated with periodontal disease;
- Cranial neuropathies;
- Orbital masses.

4 - Referral to a neck lump clinic or direct to a designated clinician is at the discretion of the referrer depending on the nature of the presenting features.

5 - In the absence of a thyroid lump, there are unlikely to be any other head and neck features which would discriminate towards thyroid cancer compared to UAT cancer. Stridor is dealt with independently.

- Features of haematological malignancy, without neck lumps are not relevant to head and neck specific guidelines.
- The very rare cases of UAT and thyroid cancer presenting only with features due to distant metastases are not covered by these guidelines. They are better dealt with as part of guidelines on the diagnosis and management of a separate entity "carcinoma of unknown origin".

6 - Features suspicious of haematological malignancy (reference: Department of Health Referral Guidelines for Suspected Cancer).

Abbreviations used: UAT Upper Aerodigestive tract