

## FW: BMEC Paediatric ophthalmology emergency pathways during COVID surge 3

Dear All,

Following discussion with our paediatric colleagues, we have agreed on the following pathways for paediatric ophthalmology patients requiring admission during the temporary closure of CECU.

Medical patients eg orbital cellulitis/papilloedema. Pathway unchanged. Patient to be transferred to SGH for inpatient treatment or investigation. BMEC team to organise and handover ophthalmology follow up prior to transfer to general paediatrics.

Patients requiring emergency surgery (Previously admitted in CECU for 18 hours).

1. Day surgery admission can take place in BMEC on Monday and Thursday during 7am-6pm. Outside of these times, Please contact on-call paediatric team and paediatric nursing management to discuss case and explore the following options.
2. It may still be possible to admit these patients in a paediatric bed in CECU.
3. If admission in CECU not possible, please escalate to paediatric nursing management to look at whether a paediatric nurse can be sent over to BMEC paediatric eye surgical day unit. Paediatric nurse will be supported by nurses from BMEC eye ward. Nurses from general paediatrics will visit BMEC for orientation.
4. If unable to admit in BMEC, child to be transferred to SGH for admission. Child transferred back to BMEC for surgery. Post operatively, patient to be transferred to SGH for recovery and discharge. BMEC team to organise and handover ophthalmology follow up.

Please note that these are temporary arrangements during the current COVID-19 surge

3.

Kind regards,

Mr Abdul-Jabbar Ghauri  
Consultant Paediatric Ophthalmologist & Paediatric Ophthalmology Lead  
Birmingham & Midland Eye Centre