

Action Required by GP if child Was Not Brought (WNB) to appointment

When a child is not brought to appointment at surgery or the practice receives notification that child "Was Not Brought" to an external appointment and no further action by provider has been taken regarding this.

1) Add an **EMIS problem code: "Child not brought to appointment"** and **arrange for clinical review** of the notes by a nominated GP.
eg. task to safeguarding lead or add to duty doctor review list (local process to be developed in each practice).

2) The **clinician should review the notes and consider if the patient is a child at risk or** is cared for by a potentially vulnerable adult, looking for potential red flags.

These could include previous DNA's, child in need/child protection plans, looked after children, mental health diagnoses, substance misuse, neurodiversity, domestic abuse, frequent A&E/OOH/LAS use, gender identity issues, learning difficulties, reliance on a carer to bring them, physical disability, or cognitive issues such as dementia.

Consider potential impact of WNB on health and well-being of child

- Are there Safeguarding concerns? Could this be an indicator of neglect?
- Are there issues impacting on parenting ability of Carers or access to the appointment?
- Have they missed previous appointments?

NB: **Missing the 6-8 week check** has been a factor in several child deaths, so please pay particular attention to WNB for this appointment & escalate as necessary.

No risk of harm identified:

- Add a '**comment**' in **EMIS saying "notes reviewed, no cause for concern"**
- Re-arrange GP appointment if necessary or re-referral if child was discharged from external provider.
- If necessary, contact parents by letter or phone to inform of this plan.

Risk of harm identified:

- Add a '**comment**' in **EMIS saying "notes reviewed, cause for concern" - document all actions taken:**
- Telephone contact with parents/carers: ideally on same working day to discuss reasons for not attending and to facilitate future appointments.
- Inform safeguarding administrator/lead in the practice
- Make any appropriate early help or safeguarding referral if needed.
- Discuss at Safeguarding Meeting / consider adding to risk register if needed.
- Discuss with Health Visitor / School Nurse / looked after children's nurse / Social Worker (if allocated).
- Discuss with external providers: communicate concerns in timely manner & record what actions they have taken.
- Have a system in place to ensure that actions taken have been effective.