

Further information

If you need any more information or advice please contact: 111.

Call 111 if you need medical help fast, but it's not life-threatening – for example, if you:

- Think you need to go to the hospital.
- Don't know who to call for medical help.
- Don't have a GP to call.
- Need medical advice or reassurance about what to do next.

For health needs that are urgent, you should call your GP.

If a health professional has given you a number to call for a particular condition, you should continue to use that number.

This information has been produced by the Emergency Department.



Support our Emergency Department


Birmingham
Children's Hospital
Charity
Doing more for sick kids

With up to 200 children coming to our Emergency Department every day, with everything from broken toes to severe road traffic injuries, there can be a bit of a wait. With your help, we can continue to provide books, toys and activity packs to keep children occupied and distracted during any waits and throughout their treatment journey.

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NHS

**Birmingham Women's
and Children's**
NHS Foundation Trust

Advice Sheet for

Croup

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CPADS: 49298



Information for Parents: Caring for your baby/child with bronchiolitis

Information for Parents:

This leaflet has been produced to provide you with information about croup and aims to answer any questions that you might have.

What are the symptoms?

- Generally Croup starts with a mild fever and runny nose. This progresses to a dry cough often described as 'barking like a seal'.
- Noisy breathing when breathing in (known as stridor).
- Hoarseness of the voice
- Restless and irritable
- When breathing in, pulling in of the muscles between ribs and around the neck.
- Difficulty swallowing or drooling (in severe cases)

Symptoms may all be worse at night and the symptoms may vary.

How can i help my child?

- Try and stay calm for your child – anxiety could affect your child's breathing. A small child may become distressed with Croup, crying can make things worse.
- Allow your child to stay in the position they prefer. Sit your child upright if breathing is noisy or difficult. Do not make your child lie down if they do not want to.
- If your child has a temperature, give them the medicine that you would normally use to lower their temperature, following the instructions on the bottle or as advised by the chemist.
- Your child may be reluctant to eat so

encourage them to have plenty of clean cool drinks. Do not make your child drink if they do not want to.

- A cool environment such as taking your child outside...
- If your child is having difficulty breathing, swallowing or is drooling a Doctor should see them immediately.

What happens if you child is admitted to hospital?

- Your child may require oxygen at first.
- A steroid medicine is usually given or a nebuliser of inhaled steroids.
- An overnight stay may be necessary for your child to be observed.

Most children fully recover with no complaints however, the cough may last up to 5-7 days especially when tired and upset.

If you have concerns that the cough is lasting longer than this, please contact your own GP.

Data Protection - Looking after and sharing information about your child

We have a duty of care to help patients and families understand how information about them is kept and shared and we include the following information in all our patient leaflets:

Information is collected about your child relevant to their diagnosis, treatment and care. We store it in written records and electronically on computer. As a necessary part of that care and treatment we may have to share some of your information with other people and organisations who are either responsible or directly involved in your child's care. This may involve taking your child's information off site. We may also have to share some of your information for other purposes; such as research etc. Any information that is shared in this way will not identify your child unless we have your consent. If you have any questions and/or do not want us to share that information with others, please talk to the people looking after your child or contact PALS (Patient Advice and Liaison Service) on 0121 333 8403.