

epilepsy *action*

NHS
England

Children's Epilepsy Surgery Service (CESS) in England

Children's epilepsy brain surgery referrals –
a quick reference guide for
paediatricians in England



Introduction

In England, around 340 children each year could benefit from epilepsy brain surgery.

However, in recent years, only around 110 children each year have had this surgery.

The Children's Epilepsy Surgery Service (CESS) is providing high quality epilepsy brain surgery for children from any part of England. Surgery will predominately be undertaken by four centres. For children aged over five surgery may be performed locally with the agreement of the relevant CESS.

Referral to a CESS Centre

Children with epilepsy should have regular reviews of their epilepsy and treatment.

Children with epilepsy in any of the following groups should be discussed with your regional paediatric neurology service, or directly with a CESS centre, for a review of their epilepsy and consideration for epilepsy brain surgery.

Referral criteria

Children with catastrophic early onset epilepsy with evidence of lateralisation to the seizure onset.

All children under 24 months old with evidence of focality to seizure onset, with or without an MRI evident lesion.

Children of any age with evident focal epilepsy, or lateralised seizures associated with congenital hemiplegia, resistant to two appropriate anti-epileptic drugs (AEDs).

Referral criteria

Children who have epilepsy associated with a lateralised abnormality seen on a brain scan.

Children with epilepsy associated with Sturge Weber syndrome, benign tumours with developmental issues and/or ongoing seizures, or Rasmussen's syndrome.

Referral criteria

Children of any age with epilepsy associated with tuberous sclerosis resistant to two AEDs where seizures may arise from a single focus (probably from a single tuber).

Children who have 'drop attacks' as part of a more complex epilepsy.

Children with epilepsy associated with hypothalamic hamartoma.

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Further information and contact details for the CESS centres, and parent and patient information



**Birmingham Children's Hospital
NHS Foundation Trust**

Steelhouse Lane

Birmingham B4 6NH

Tel: 0121 333 9999

epilepsy.coordinator@bch.nhs.uk

North Bristol NHS Trust

Frenchay Park Road

Bristol BS16 1LE

Tel: 0117 970 1212

epilepsy.coordinator@bristol.nhs.net

Transferring to **University Hospitals
Bristol NHS Foundation Trust**
during 2014.

The phone number will change to
0117 342 0185.

**Great Ormond Street Hospital for
Children NHS Foundation Trust**

Great Ormond Street

London WC1N 3JH

Tel: 020 7405 9200 ext 5594

epilepsy.coordinator@gosh.nhs.uk

**King's College Hospital NHS
Foundation Trust**

Denmark Hill

London SE5 9RS

Tel: 020 3299 8305

kch-tr.EpilepsySurgery@nhs.net

**Alder Hey Children's NHS
Foundation Trust**

Eaton Road, West Derby
Liverpool L12 2AP

Tel: 0151 252 5163

epilepsy.coordinator@alderhey.nhs.uk

**Central Manchester University
Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**

Hathersage Road
Manchester M13 0JH

Tel: 0161 701 2346

epilepsy.coordinator@alderhey.nhs.uk

Information for parents and children about surgery and the CESS centres

Epilepsy Action has information about what might be involved in assessment and in surgery.

This can be obtained from 0808 800 5050 or downloaded from epilepsy.org.uk/childrenssurgery



Epilepsy Action

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Yeadon, Leeds LS19 7XY

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Epilepsy Action makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of information in its publications but cannot be held liable for any actions taken based on this information.

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