

## Oncology Department

# Telephone maintenance therapy for children with Acute Leukaemia

## Information for Parents and Carers

### Introduction

We are introducing telephone maintenance therapy for children attending clinic for Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia. At the moment your child attends Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust for clinic every two weeks. Participation in the telephone maintenance clinics means your child will attend their clinic appointments less often.

### How will this service work?

When you and your child attend the hospital you will be seen by the Doctor or Advanced Nurse Practitioner and be given four weeks supply of medicines. The medicines will be explained to you. You will receive an Oral Chemotherapy Record with the first two weeks doses of chemotherapy completed. You will also receive a Chemotherapy Dosing Chart that will tell you about dose changes that may happen after two weeks

Two weeks after this appointment, the day before your telephone appointment, a full blood count will be taken by your Community Nurse or at your Shared Care Centre or Alder Hey Hospital. The results of the blood count will be sent to Alder Hey.

You will be telephoned the next morning with the results of your child's blood count. You will also be advised of the dose of medicines your child will need to take for the next two weeks. Please write this dosage information on the Oral Chemotherapy Record. A copy of these instructions will be sent to you by e-mail or post the same day, as well as the date and time of your child's next clinic appointment.

If you do not receive a telephone call with your child's blood count results please telephone 0151 252 5804 during clinic.

When you return to the hospital for your child's next appointment you must bring:

- Any unused medication (return to pharmacy)
- Oral Chemotherapy Record

### For further information

If you have any concerns or worries about your child then please contact the Oncology Unit for advice on 0151 293 3684

This leaflet only gives general information. You must always discuss the individual treatment of your child with the appropriate member of staff. Do not rely on this leaflet alone for information about your child's treatment. This information can be made available in other languages and formats if requested.

Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust  
Eaton Road, Liverpool. L12 2AP  
Tel: 0151 228 4811

[www.alderhey.nhs.uk](http://www.alderhey.nhs.uk)