



Clinical Access Service Biliary Colic Algorithm

Professional Responsible: Jewish General Hospital Clinical Access Service Nurse Clinician.

Patient Population: Patients referred by Family Physician (GP), Emergency (ED) physician, and/or Nurse Practitioner from

the West-Central Montreal CIUSSS, with biliary colic clinical symptoms requiring medical attention.

SPECIFIC CONTRAINDICATIONS: Send patient to Emergency Department (ED) if one or more of these symptoms or conditions are present

- Fever $\geq 38^{\circ}$ C, pulse ≥ 100 /min, RR ≥ 28 /min, Sp02 $\leq 92\%$
- Altered level of consciousness
- Liver disease or coagulopathy
- Currently pregnant

- Pain lasting > 6 weeks
- Pain for > 12 hours (hrs) unrelieved with analgesics
- > 4 episodes of pain in the last 2 weeks

SPECIFIC INDICATIONS:

- Meets general eligibility criteria of the Clinical Access Service
- Presence of clinical signs of biliary colic: intermittent right upper quadrant or epigastric pain lasting 30 minutes to a few hours following fatty meals; associated with nausea and vomiting; afebrile

Referral form received and approved. Telephone evaluation done by nurse.

Appointment at the Clinical Access Service booked. Blood tests: CBC, Na, K, Cl, Bicarb, Urea, Creat, Glucose, LFT, Amylase, RhCG (for women of child bearing age), PTT and INR (if on anticoagulants) Within ≤ 24hrs (if bloods were not done within the past 6 weeks) **SCENARIO 1 SCENARIO 2** Blood results different from those $-WBC > 15 \times 10^9/L$ $-WBC > 15 \times 10^9/L$ described in SCENARIO 1 and 2 and/or and/or - ALT > 80 units/L - ALT > 80 units/L and/or and/or Abdominal U/S (unless gallstones seen on CT scan and absence of - Bilirubin, Amylase or - Bilirubin, Amylase or pain) within 48-72hrs ALK > superior limit ALK > superior limit WITH WITHOUT Abdominal pain Abdominal pain Positive U/S = Other pathologies: Negative Cholelithiasis (gallbladder wall thickening, U/S or Gallbladder adenomyomatosis/ Abdominal ultrasound (U/S) polyps > 1cm symptomatic cholesterolosis) Refer to JGH ED (unless gallstones seen on CT scan) and repeat blood tests within ≤ 24hrs **General Surgery General Surgery** Stable/Normalizing consultation consultation blood values and Within 2 weeks Within 3 months Worsening cholelithiasis blood values and cholelithiasis Absence of D/C Clinical Access Service. cholelithiasis Summary including results, consult and/or other sent to MD/NP. pathologies

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