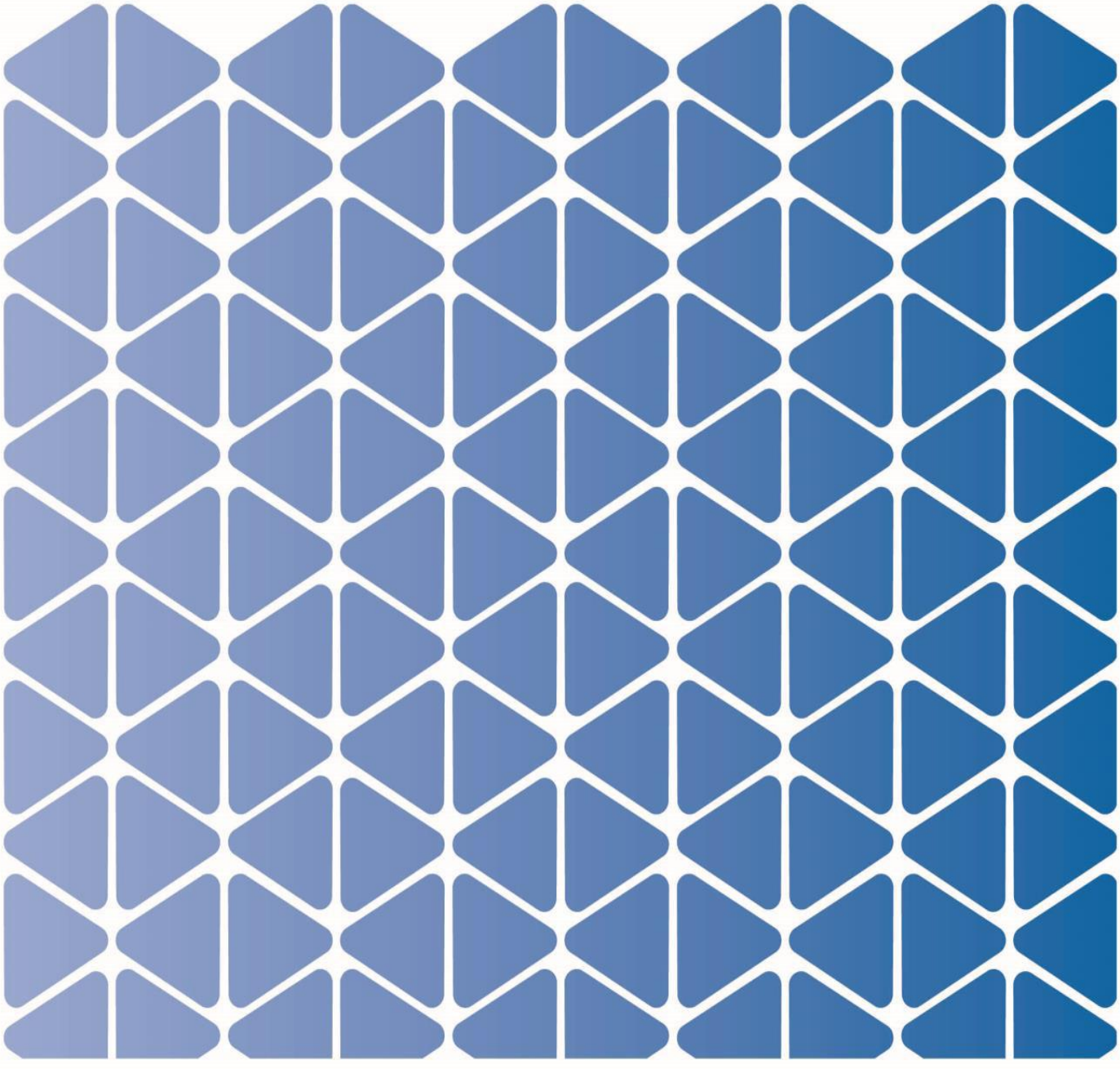
NHS
Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust

PATIENT INFORMATION

Protracted Bacterial Bronchitis (PBB) in Children



Protracted Bacterial Bronchitis (PBB) in Children

What is PBB?

PBB is a common cause of wet cough in children which typically lasts for more than 4 weeks.

It may also be known as:

- Persistent Bacterial Bronchitis
- Persistent endobronchial infection

Symptoms of PBB:

A persistent wet-sounding cough which can occur at any time of the day or night and generally does not respond to inhalers. Your child may otherwise be well and thriving with no other health concerns.

What causes PBB?

- Frequent viral illnesses may cause inflammation (swelling) in the airways and make it easier for certain bacteria to grow.
- Children at nursery may be exposed to more viruses therefore can be at higher risk of PBB
- Pre-existing conditions affecting the airways may increase the chances of bacterial infection

Diagnosing PBB in Children:

- Wet cough lasting more than 4 weeks
- No other cause identified for the cough
- Improvement in symptoms with at least a 2 week course of antibiotics
- A Chest X-Ray may be done but does not always show any significant changes
- A sputum sample or cough swab may be required to see if there is a specific bacteria to treat with antibiotics

What is the Treatment for PBB?

A course of treatment antibiotics for 2-4 weeks if no other cause has been identified. We would recommend a minimum of 2 weeks and to aim for a week free of symptoms before stopping the antibiotic course.

Can PBB come back?

- Almost half of children diagnosed with suspected PBB will have one or more episodes and will require a further course of antibiotics.
- A cough swab or sputum sample would be helpful at this point to guide antibiotic choice.
- Airway clearance with physiotherapy may be recommended to help loosen and move the mucus in the airways

Treatment antibiotics advised:

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Contact details

If you would like to contact the team please text or phone the Respiratory team mobile:

07775 682570

Please only leave non urgent messages

Other information

The following internet websites contain information that you may find useful.

- www.worcsacute.nhs.uk
  Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust
- www.patient.co.uk
  Information fact sheets on health and disease
- www.rcoa.ac.uk
  Information leaflets by the Royal College of Anaesthetists about 'Having an anaesthetic'

If your symptoms or condition worsens, or if you are concerned about anything, please call your GP, 111, or 999.

Patient Experience

We know that being admitted to hospital can be a difficult and unsettling time for you and your loved ones. If you have any questions or concerns, please do speak with a member of staff on the ward or in the relevant department who will do their best to answer your questions and reassure you.

Feedback

Feedback is really important and useful to us – it can tell us where we are working well and where improvements can be made. There are lots of ways you can share your experience with us including completing our Friends and Family Test – cards are available and can be posted on all wards, departments and clinics at our hospitals. We value your comments and feedback and thank you for taking the time to share this with us.

Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

If you have any concerns or questions about your care, we advise you to talk with the nurse in charge or the department manager in the first instance as they are best placed to answer any questions or resolve concerns quickly. If the relevant member of staff is unable to help resolve your concern, you can contact the PALS Team. We offer informal help, advice or support about any aspect of hospital services & experiences.

Our PALS team will liaise with the various departments in our hospitals on your behalf, if you feel unable to do so, to resolve your problems and where appropriate refer to outside help.

If you are still unhappy you can contact the Complaints Department, who can investigate your concerns. You can make a complaint orally, electronically or in writing and we can advise and guide you through the complaints procedure.

How to contact PALS:

Telephone Patient Services: 0300 123 1732 or via email at: wah-tr.PALS@nhs.net

Opening times:

The PALS telephone lines are open Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 4.00pm. Please be aware that you may need to leave a voicemail message, but we aim to return your call within one working day.

If you are unable to understand this leaflet, please communicate with a member of staff.