

The Golden Hour



**ACUTE PAEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY
PRESENTATIONS TO THE ED: A
CHANGE IN PRACTICE AND PROCESS**

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Overview of presentation



- Febrile Neutropenia and “The Golden Hour”
- Rationale for change in Starship Children’s Health
- Change in practice and process in CED
- Impact of change

Febrile Neutropenia (FN)



- **Fever**

- 38°C – 38.4°C on two consecutive occasions 1 hour apart **OR** single temp of 38.5°C or above

AND

- **Neutropenia**

- Neutrophil count of $<0.5 \times 10^9/L$ **OR** recent intensive chemotherapy where neutropenia is expected

(SCH Clinical Guidelines, 2014)

Febrile Neutropenia



- Oncological emergency
 - Morbidity: 10-20% of patients will have bacteremia on presentation
(Tomlinson & Kline, 2010)
 - PICU admissions: 4.7%
 - Fluid resuscitation $\geq 40\text{ml/kg}$: 10.1%
(Fletcher et al. 2013)
 - Fever of unknown cause 53% off all presentations
(Hakim et al. 2010)
 - Mortality: < 5% for solid tumors
< 10% for blood
(Naurois et al. 2010)

What is the golden hour?



- Early recognition and treatment in Sepsis
- Antibiotic treatment within an hour
- Fluid resuscitation 20-40 mls/kg

SCH historical FN process



- **Acute presentations direct to oncology department**
 - Stable or critically unwell
- **Normal working hours**
 - Presented to clinic/treatment room
- **Out of hours**
 - Presented to the ward. On call Medical Registrar/SHO review

Rationale for change



- Multiple high risk situations
- Delay to medical review and initiation of treatment for Oncology children
- Workload and capacity of Oncology team
- Geographic isolation of ward (7th floor)
- All other emergencies present to ED
- International practice
- Acute patient flow
- Delay for medical review for non oncology patients

Benefit vs Risk



- Reduced time to medical assessment
- Resuscitation resources
- Triage system and prioritisation

- Infection control
- ED team not as familiar with patient and treatment regimes

Impact



- Child and families
- ED
 - Environment
 - Process
 - Resources
 - Educational requirements
- Oncology service
- After hours medical coverage

Children and Family/Whanau



Children and Family/Whanau



Anecdotally:

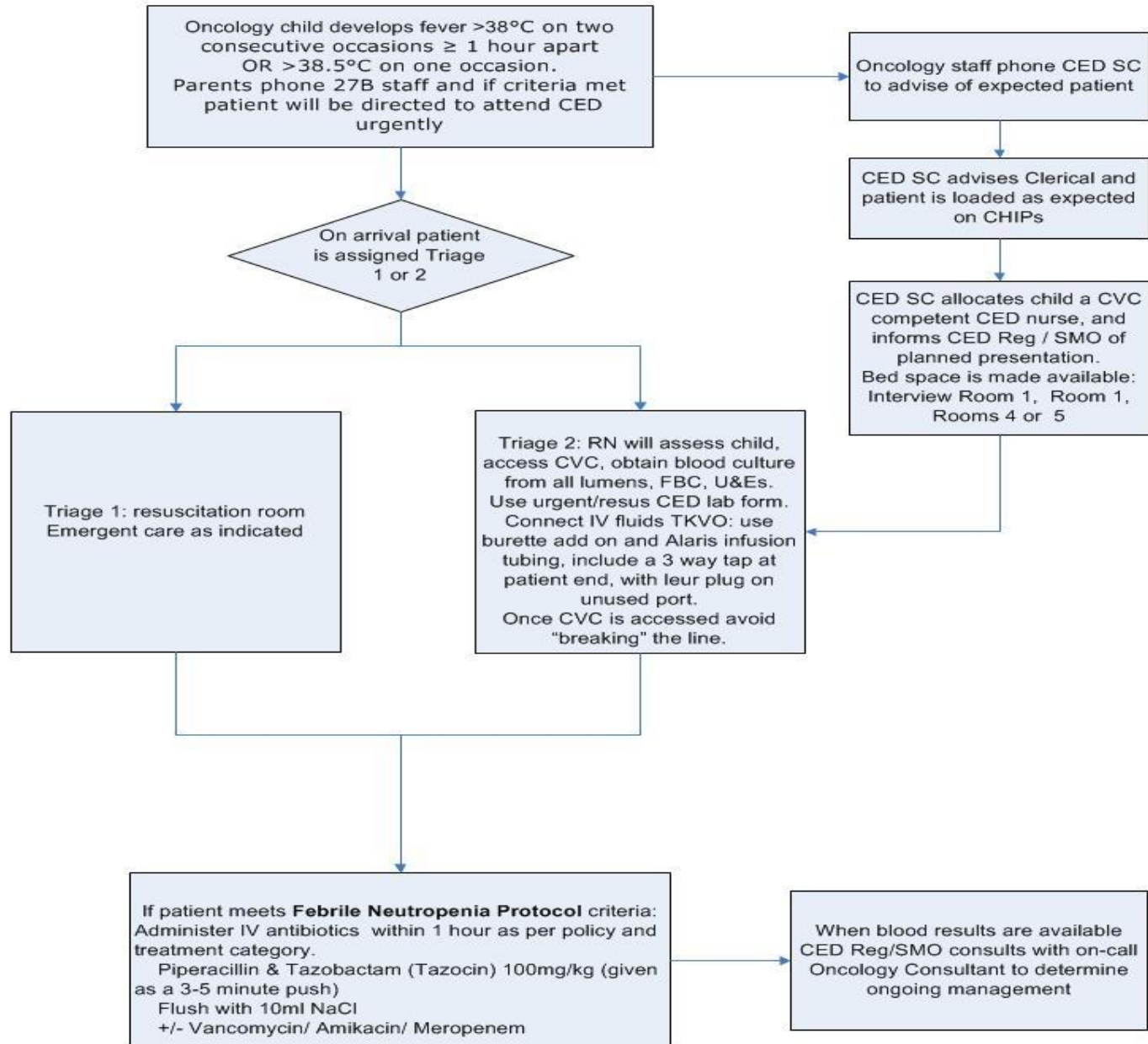
- Seen immediately or within 10min
- Time to AB's consistent between CED and Oncology
- Emergency MDT and environment

ED: Process



- **Phone referral**
 - Families call Oncology dept → call CED
- **Triage**
 - Review of Triage RBP
 - Category 1 or 2
 - Taken directly to room
 - Utilisation of assessment nurse
- **Development of flow chart**

Febrile Neutropenia – the first hour



ED: Environment



- Room selection
 - Visibility vs protective isolation
- Physical alterations required
- Central monitoring

ED: Resources



- Development of central access trolley
- Ordering stock for central line access
- Ordering AB's
- Addition of oncology AB's CED guardrails profile
- No additional staffing resource for CED

ED: Educational requirements



- Worked with Oncology CNM and NE
- CVL access
 - Three Level IV RN champions
 - CVL policy
 - Powerpoint presentation
 - CVL test
 - Oncology OPC
 - Simulation
- Oncology staff

ED: Educational requirements



- New drug regime
- Different set up for TKVO IVF
- Recent change in FN protocol
- Requested feedback from team re educational needs

Impact on Oncology Nurse



- **Patient safety is paramount**
 - 1-4 patients/RN
 - Up to 5 infusions/patient/day
 - 10-12 ABs, AVs, AFs/ day – Tx children up to 25 meds/day
 - Hourly monitoring of IVF
 - Daily CVL cares
 - Regular oral cares
 - Regular obs
 - NG feeds
 - Visiting specialists
 - Ward rounds
 - etc etc etc!



Impact on Oncology service



- Patient flow is not compromised
- Reduction in infection risk to other oncology patients
- Potential of deskilling in resuscitation (??)

Conclusion



Questions?

