## Grampians Children at Risk (CAR) - Paediatric assessments

## **Acute referrals**: **Routine referrals: Emergency referrals**: - sexual assault >72 hrs - sexual assault (<72 hrs) - behavioural and - recent (<48 hrs) or - physical assault >48 hrs developmental concerns severe physical assault - out of home care reviews - neglect - severe neglect resulting - child at risk of harm - court reports\* in medical instability Call 53204000 to contact 1. Obtain doctor referral 1. Obtain doctor referral Paediatric Registrar or 2. Complete CAR proforma 2. Complete CAR proforma (if no Reg available), 3. Include all relevant 3. Include all relevant Paediatrician on call\* reports and documents\* reports and documents 4. Fax to BHS CAR clinic 4. Fax to either: - decision discussed re urgency of review (below) (53204822)- BHS CAR clinic (53204822)Do not take client to BHS Please include details of - Paediatrics Ballarat (53271400 - fee applies) ED without a call urgency and mark as 'acute referral' **Emergency Paediatric assessment - BHS:** - Paed Reg/Paediatrician will inform ED AO - CPU/police escort client to ED at agreed time - Paed paged & assessment performed, follow up planned - report supplied in *mutually* agreed timeframe Generally seen within a few days to weeks\* **Emergency ED assessment:** - used in cases of acute medical concern (e.g. head injury) Generally seen at - Paed Reg/Paediatrician will inform relevant ED AO next available clinic\* - CPU/police escort client to ED, ED doctor assesses child - no formal report written by ED staff - decision re referral to CAR clinic (ED can write referral) or need for Emergency Paediatric assessment (above) Non-emergency assessment: - Decision that case is not an 'emergency' - Assessment planned as either an assessment in ED at a mutually agreed time or as a priority case in BHS CAR clinic **Paediatrics Ballarat BHS CAR clinic: Emergency Paediatric assessment - VFPMS**: - referral triaged by - decision that case is not suitable for assessment by local (Sturt Street): Paediatric Fellow Paed staff or cannot be expedited in agreed timeframe - referral triaged by - allocated to either BHS CAR - liaise with VFPMS to have assessment performed in Paediatrician clinic or BHS General Melbourne - CPU/family must call Paediatric clinic for appointment time BHS = Ballarat Health Services - BHS notifies family/CPU - no acute referrals CAR = Child at Risk - bulk billed - fee applies

## \*Notes:

term: Protection)

ED = Emergency Department AO = Admitting Officer

- Please discuss matters pertaining to children at risk with a Paediatric Registrar, Paediatric Fellow or Paediatrician; clerical, nursing or Paediatric Resident staff are **NOT** authorized to make decisions with or plan review of CAR cases

Full referral guideline and forms: http://www.bhs.org.au/governance-documentation-search (CPG0105 Child at Risk proforma; search

- For all consultations requesting a medical report please supply ALL relevant documentation prior to or at the time of the consultation; we possess limited resources to chase information after performing assessments
- Generation of medical/court reports is a time consuming process that must be allowed sufficient timeframes; only brief interim reports will be provided in emergency cases or with short notice
- The paediatric staff of BHS aim to provide a comprehensive and timely assessment service to children at risk. Please understand that we must always give priority to urgent medical matters and apologise if this affects assessments
- For escalation of matters please contact Dr David Tickell, Head of Paediatrics, BHS or Dr Anne Smith, Director, VFPMS