Syncope Ambulatory Emergency Care Pathway
Ambulatory Emergency Care (AEC) Unit

Open: Monday – Friday 8am – 8pm

Consultant: Dr M Oldfield
Consultant: Dr D Harris
Lead Nurse: Catie Paterson

Direct Line: 0771 580 8241
Land Line: 0208 934 3883
Fax: 0208 934 3884

Medical On Call Team
SPR: 174
SHO: 172/173

Syncope Pathway

Patient From
ED (Emergency Department)
AAU (Acute Assessment Unit)
GP

ASSESSMENT

Observations:
T O₂ Sats
P GCS
BP
RR
BM

Bloods:
FBC
U&E
CRP
Clotting

Tests:
ECG
CXR

EXCLUSION CRITERIA

Unable to attend appointments
<16 yrs old
Altered GCS
Persisting acute focal neurology
Patient found on floor with delayed or no spontaneous recovery
Known seizure disorder presenting with typical recurrence
Abnormal ECG
Abnormal Bloods
Abnormal CVS examination

Treatment (Page 3)

Ambulatory Emergency Care (AEC)

IN HOURS AEC
08:00 – 20:00, Mon-Fri

Patient to AEC
Patient to take own notes

OUT OF HOURS ED
20:00 – 08:00

Treatment in ED

Authors: Sophie O’Brien; Catie Paterson; Dr Matt Oldfield
Syncope Ambulatory Care Pathway. Version 2.1
**Syncope Treatment**

**Observations:**
- Pulse
- BP Hourly, lying then 0, 1, 3 minutes after standing

Has specific cause been identified?
- **Yes**
  - Treatment for cause

- **No**
  - Post investigations review against discharge criteria

**Discharge Criteria:**
- No examination findings of unstable IHD, CCF, ventricular arrhythmia, cardiomyopathy or significant vascular disease
- Normal ECG
- Patient feels well after 4 hours of observation

- Organise Follow Up with GP
- Discharge
- Discharge Letter
Ambulatory Emergency Care Unit: Information for Patients and Carers

What is Ambulatory Emergency Care?

Kingston Hospital Trust Ambulatory Emergency Care (AEC) Unit delivers a range of treatments which have historically been administered within the in-patient setting i.e. with you sitting in a hospital bed on a ward. However, evidence and experience has shown that for certain carefully selected conditions it is just as safe and the treatment is just as effective when given as an outpatient. Many people also prefer to have their treatment whilst staying in their own home.

Eligible patients receive their care in the AEC area situated on level 3 of the Surgical Unit and visit the unit on a daily basis during the course of treatment. Of course if you do require hospital admission during your treatment beds are available 24 hours a day on our associated wards.

What advantages does Ambulatory Emergency Care offer me?

You will receive the same treatment as on the ward except that it is scheduled between the hours of 9am and 7pm. This allows you to continue daily life at home.

You will continue to have 24 hours access to Medical and Nursing care despite not staying in a hospital ward. You will be given contact numbers telling you how to contact us throughout your treatment period.

Is Ambulatory Emergency Care right for me?

As you will be required to take a more active role in your care, it is important to find out whether Ambulatory Emergency Care is suitable for you. Your nurse or doctor will discuss this with you.

What can I expect?

You will be assessed and treated by an advanced nurse practitioner who has extensive experience in working with patients receiving treatments in ambulatory emergency care.

The unit is open 5 days a week: Monday to Friday – 8am to 8pm. Outside of these hours you continue to have access to medical support through contacts in the Accident and Emergency department. Of course the usual ways to access medical advice e.g. NHS direct and your GP will also still be able to advise you in an emergency.

What to expect in the Ambulatory Emergency Care Unit:

- You will be seen and assessed. Your AEC nurse will take your temperature, pulse, blood pressure and weight.

- Blood tests and other necessary investigations will be carried out

- You will receive your prescribed treatment, any additional investigations and consequent treatment.

  *Treatments may sometimes run later than expected, you should allow some flexibility for this.

- The details of the condition you are being treated for and what happens now will be given to you in writing along with contact numbers and details of any appointments.

- If you require hospital admission this will be arranged for you by the AEC nurse who will accompany you to the ward

- If you have any concerns or questions please don’t hesitate to ask-we are here to help!
Dear

Your patient attended the Ambulatory Emergency Care (AEC) Unit at Kingston Hospital for treatment on the syncope ambulatory emergency care pathway.

A full discharge summary will be faxed to you.

**Should you require urgent information please contact**  AEC: 0208 934 3883

Regards,