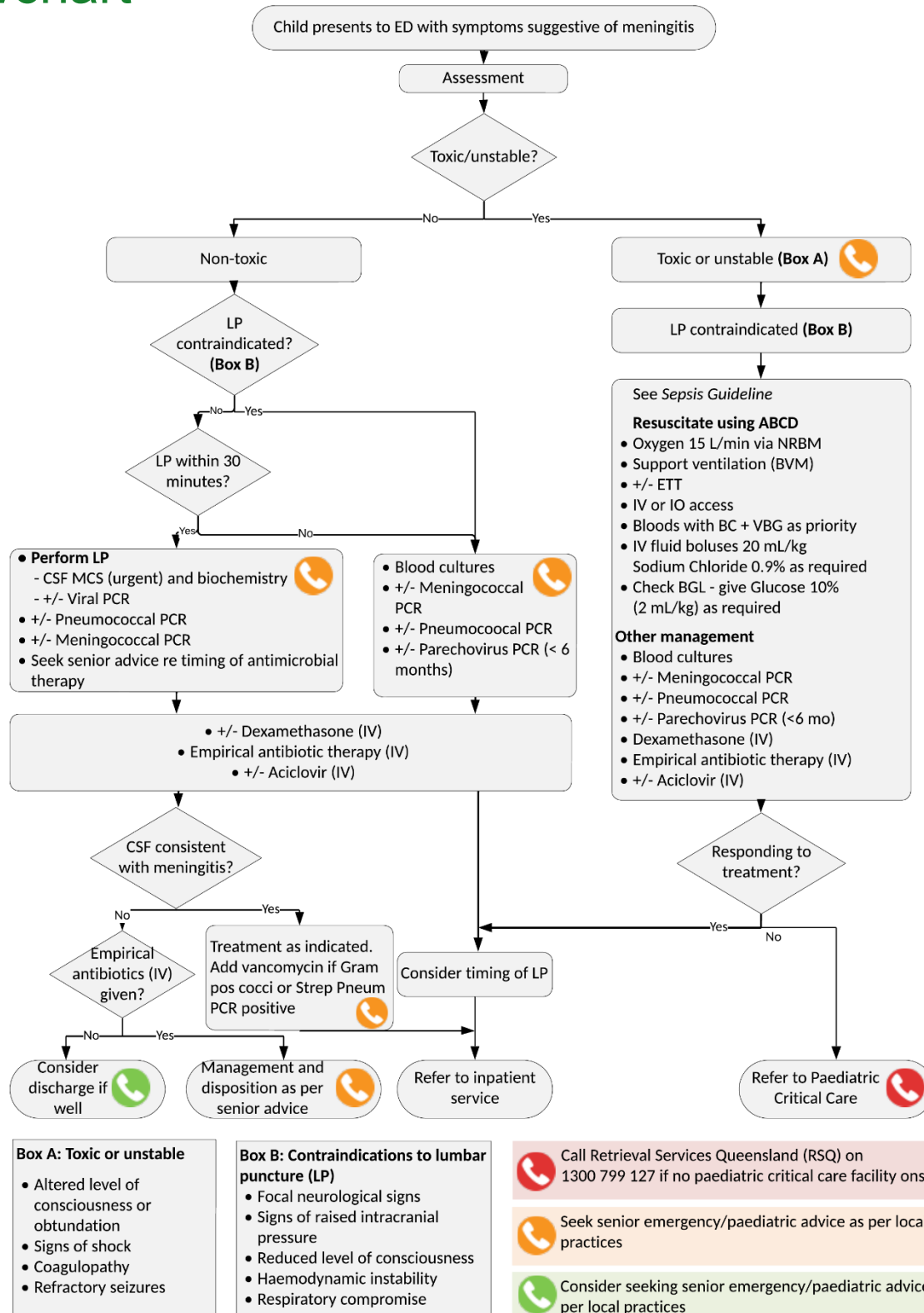


Queensland Paediatric Flowchart and Medications

Emergency

Meningitis - Emergency management in children – Flowchart



CHQ-GDL-60008-1 Meningitis– Emergency management in children – Flowchart

V4.0



Meningitis – Emergency management in children – Medications

Antimicrobial guidelines

Clinicians working in Townsville, Cairns and Gold Coast Hospital and Health Services should follow their local paediatric empirical antimicrobial therapy guidelines. Clinicians elsewhere in Queensland should follow the Children's Health Queensland paediatric antimicrobial prescribing guidelines until the results of microbiological investigations are available.

Links:

- [Cairns](#) (access via QH intranet)
- [Children's Health Queensland](#)
- [Gold Coast](#)
- [Townsville](#) (access via QH intranet)
- [Queensland Statewide Paediatric Sepsis Clinical Pathway](#)

Dexamethasone (IV) dosing for the treatment for meningitis in children over 2 months of age

Dexamethasone (IV)

For children over 2 months of age:
0.15 mg/kg (maximum 10 mg/dose), every six hours for four days if able to start prior to or within one hour of first antibiotic IV dose.

If not available, do not delay antibiotics.

Normal CSF values

	White cell count		Biochemistry	
	Neutrophils ($\times 10^6$ /L)	Lymphocytes ($\times 10^6$ /L)	Protein (g/L)	Glucose (CSF: blood ratio)
Normal (more than 1 month of age)	0	≤ 5	< 0.4	≥ 0.6 (or ≥ 2.5 mmol/L)
Normal neonate (less than 1 month of age)	0	< 20	<1.0	≥ 0.6 (or ≥ 2.5 mmol/L)

Taken from The Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne, Australia, Clinical Practice Guideline on *CSF Interpretation*, [Internet; cited June 18], Available from: <https://www.rch.org.au/clinicalguide/>

