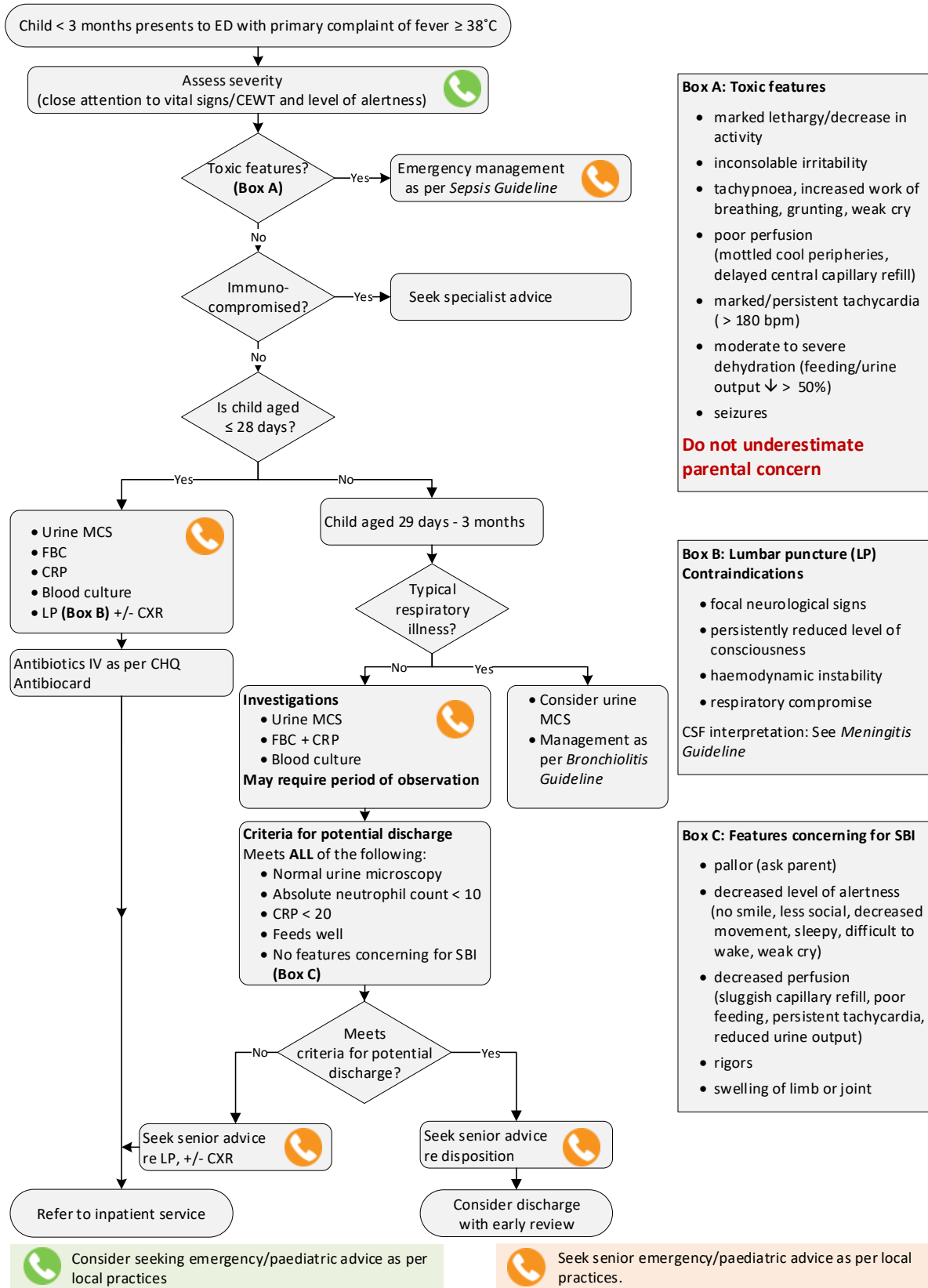


Queensland Paediatric Flowchart

Emergency

Febrile illness – Emergency management in children < 3 months – Flowchart



Box A: Toxic features

- marked lethargy/decrease in activity
- inconsolable irritability
- tachypnoea, increased work of breathing, grunting, weak cry
- poor perfusion (mottled cool peripheries, delayed central capillary refill)
- marked/persistent tachycardia (> 180 bpm)
- moderate to severe dehydration (feeding/urine output ↓ > 50%)
- seizures

Do not underestimate parental concern

Box B: Lumbar puncture (LP) Contraindications

- focal neurological signs
- persistently reduced level of consciousness
- haemodynamic instability
- respiratory compromise

CSF interpretation: See *Meningitis Guideline*

Box C: Features concerning for SBI

- pallor (ask parent)
- decreased level of alertness (no smile, less social, decreased movement, sleepy, difficult to wake, weak cry)
- decreased perfusion (sluggish capillary refill, poor feeding, persistent tachycardia, reduced urine output)
- rigors
- swelling of limb or joint

Consider seeking emergency/paediatric advice as per local practices

Seek senior emergency/paediatric advice as per local practices.

CHQ-GDL-60006-Appendix 1 V2.0

For more information refer to [CHQ-GDL-60006 – Febrile illness – Emergency management in children](#)

