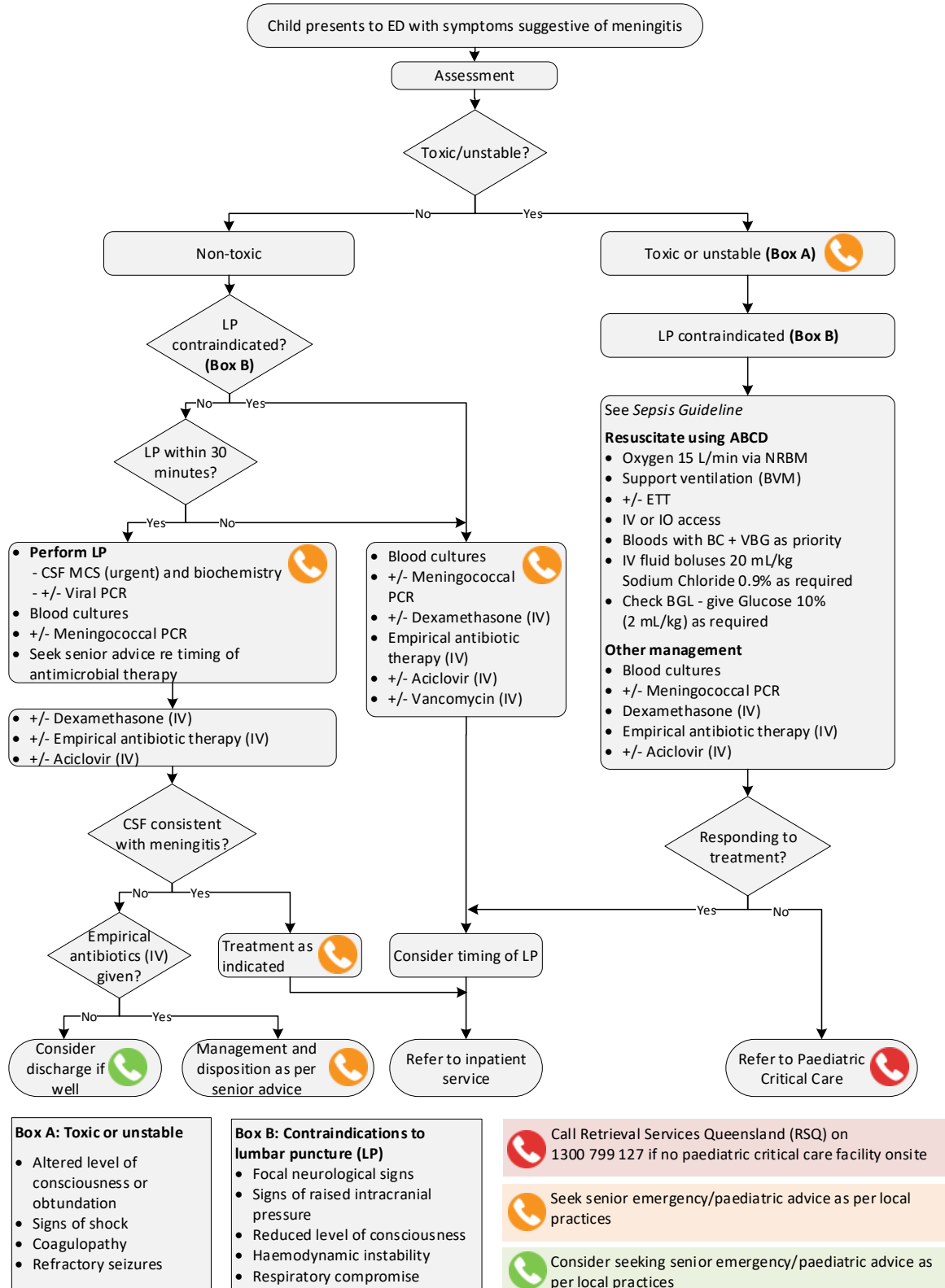


Queensland Paediatric Flowchart and Medications

Emergency

Meningitis – Emergency management in children – Flowchart



CHQ-GDL-60008-Appendix 1 V2.0

For more information refer to [CHQ-GDL-60008 - Meningitis – Emergency management in children](#)



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)

Dexamethasone (IV) dosing for the treatment for meningitis in children over 3 months of age

Dexamethasone (IV)	<p>For children over 3 months of age:</p> <p>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 antimicrobial therapy.</p> <p>Do NOT delay antimicrobial therapy if steroids are not available.</p>
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Normal CSF values

	White cell count		Biochemistry	
	Neutrophils (x 10 ⁶ /L)	Lymphocytes (x 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/>

For more information refer to [CHQ-GDL-60008 - Meningitis – Emergency management in children](#)

