



Alder Hey Children's  
NHS Foundation Trust



# Alder Hey Craniofacial

**How to Refer a Patient**

# How to refer to Craniofacial

- Some craniofacial conditions can be treated with early surgery before about 5 months of age.
- For this option to be available early referral should be made
- If you have concerns about the shape of a baby's head, take a look at our [short videos](#) as a guide to who needs referral.
- If after watching the videos, you think referral is appropriate here is the process.....
- If you are a parent, you can show this to your GP.

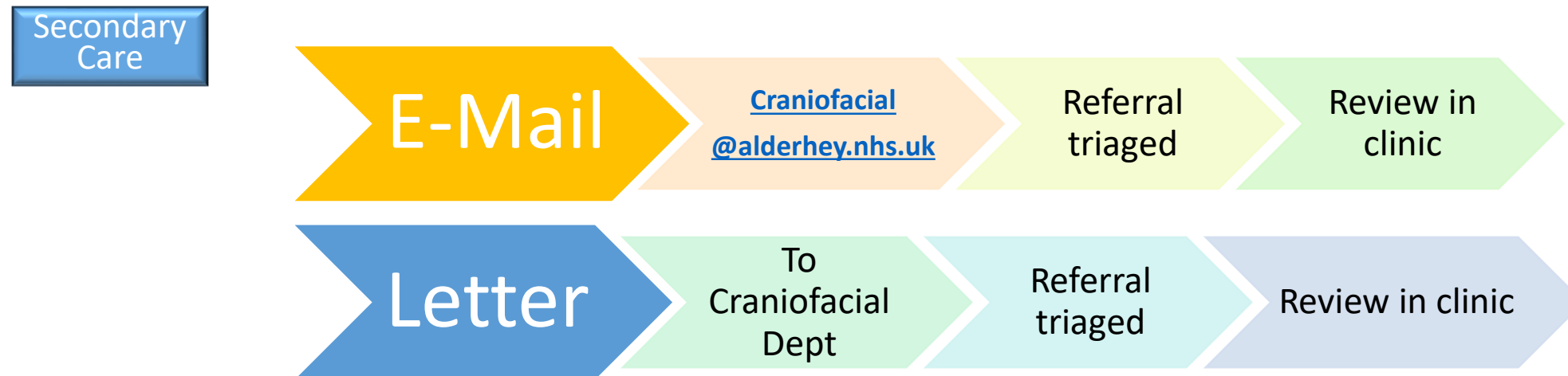
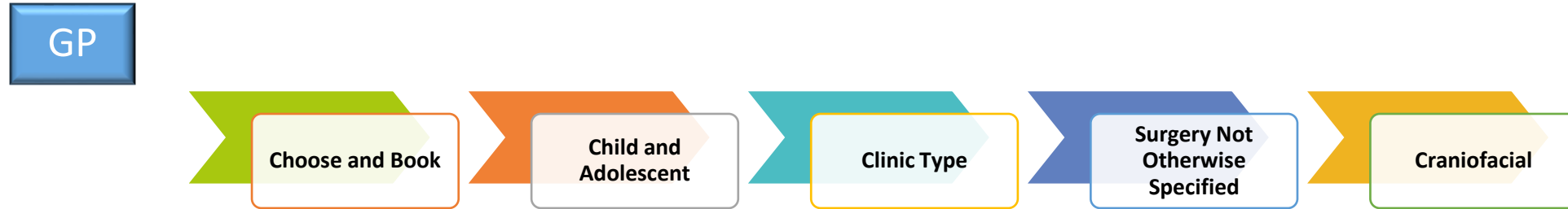
# Refer **DIRECTLY** to Craniofacial



- Traditionally, NHS patients would be referred sequentially up a hierarchy of specialism
- This is time consuming and hinders or prevents early treatment
- We are keen that patients bypass the normal pathway and are referred directly



# How to refer to Craniofacial



Any problems: contact [craniofacial@alderhey.nhs.uk](mailto:craniofacial@alderhey.nhs.uk)

# How to refer to Craniofacial

## How to take a photo of your child's head

Photos can really help us to triage a referral appropriately.

These can be taken by family on any camera including a phone.



Front view



Back of head



Top-down view



Left side of face and head



Right side of head

### Tips:

- Take the pictures with your child's hair wet so that their head shape is not camouflaged by their hairstyle e.g. in the bath.
- Move clothing so that it does not cover any part of the face.
- Try to take the picture so it is level with the floor; not tilted up or down.
- Make sure your child's head is in the centre of the photo.
- Make sure your child's head and face take up most of the photo.
- Take the photo against a plain background.