

Saliva control service

This leaflet offers information on what to expect if your child is referred to the saliva control service at Evelina London Children's Hospital. If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us using the details listed at the end of this leaflet.

What does the saliva control service offer?

The saliva control clinic provides specialist assessment, advice and treatment on issues surrounding your child's saliva control. This may involve interventions such as injections (botulinum toxin type A), changes to your child's medication, oral-motor therapy (exercises designed to help children learn a more mature swallowing pattern to avoid drooling), or surgery.

Who can attend?

The clinic is for children who have difficulties swallowing their saliva, leading to dribbling/drooling.

Where do I need to go?

The clinic is held in Ocean, our main children's outpatient department, on the ground floor (level 0) of Evelina London Children's Hospital. If you need help with transport, please contact Patient Transport Services on **t: 020 7188 2888**, for a telephone assessment.

Who will I see?

On your first visit you are likely to see a consultant paediatrician in neurodisability and a speech and language therapist.

What do I need to bring with me?

It is sometimes helpful for the speech and language therapist to see how your child eats and drinks in order to assess how he or she uses the muscles in his or her mouth. If your child eats and drinks orally, please bring a snack and a drink with you to the appointment.

What will happen at my child's first appointment?

At your first appointment we will have a chat about your child's medical history. You will be given the opportunity to discuss:

- details of your child's drooling
- what has already been tried to help manage the drooling
- what you want your child to achieve.

The speech and language therapist may examine your child's mouth. There will be toys available for them to play with during the appointment. If appropriate, your child will be invited to contribute to the discussion. All the possible treatment options for helping to manage the drooling will be discussed with you.

What happens next?

A written summary of the history, findings, discussion and advice will be sent to you, to the person who referred you and to any other local professionals who are involved. Further medical tests or treatments may be offered at the hospital at a later date. Follow-up appointments can be arranged, if appropriate.

Contact us

If you have any questions or concerns regarding appointments, please contact the consultant's secretary on **t:** 020 7188 4003.

If you have any questions regarding speech and language therapy, please contact the team on **t:** 020 7188 3992.

For more information leaflets on conditions, procedures, treatments and services offered at our hospitals, please visit **w:** www.evelinalondon.nhs.uk/leaflets

Further information

Evelina London Medicines Helpline

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's medicines, please speak to the staff caring for them or contact our helpline.

t: 020 7188 3003, Monday to Friday, 10am-5pm **e:** letstalkmedicines@gstt.nhs.uk

Your comments and concerns

For advice, support or to raise a concern, contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS). To make a complaint, contact the complaints department.

t: 020 7188 8801 (PALS) **e:** pals@gstt.nhs.uk
t: 020 7188 3514 (complaints) **e:** complaints2@gstt.nhs.uk

Language and accessible support services

If you need an interpreter or information about your care in a different language or format, please get in touch.

t: 020 7188 8815 **e:** languagesupport@gstt.nhs.uk

NHS 111

Offers medical help and advice from fully trained advisers supported by experienced nurses and paramedics. Available over the phone 24 hours a day.

t: 111

NHS website

Online information and guidance on all aspects of health and healthcare, to help you take control of your health and wellbeing.

w: www.nhs.uk

Get involved and have your say: become a member of the Trust

Members of Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust contribute to the organisation on a voluntary basis. We count on them for feedback, local knowledge and support. Membership is free and it is up to you how much you get involved. To find out more, please get in touch.

t: 0800 731 0319 **e:** members@gstt.nhs.uk **w:** www.guysandstthomas.nhs.uk/membership

Map



Was this leaflet useful?

We want to make sure the information you receive is helpful to you. If you have any comments about this leaflet, we would be happy to hear from you, fill in our simple online form, [w: www.guysandstthomas.nhs.uk/leaflets](http://www.guysandstthomas.nhs.uk/leaflets), or [e: patientinformationteam@gstt.nhs.uk](mailto:patientinformationteam@gstt.nhs.uk)

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