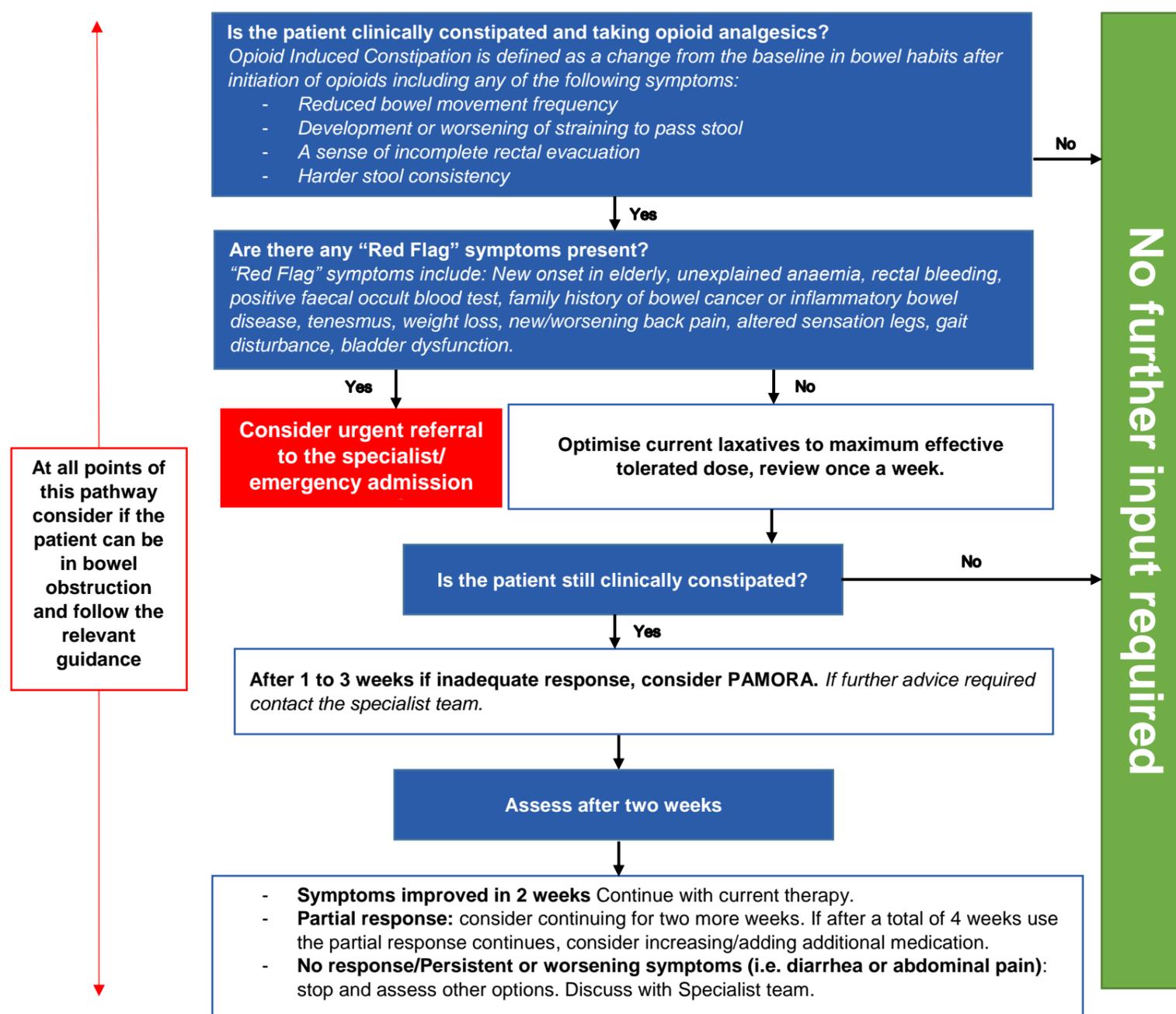


Guidelines for the management of opioid induced constipation in Adults

The manufacturer's summary of product characteristics (SPC) and the most current online edition of the British National Formulary should be consulted for full information on contraindications, warnings, side effects and drug interactions.

Prescribing notes:

- On initiation of an opioid analgesic provide dietary, fluid & exercise advice and co-prescribe laxatives. Inform patients that constipation affects nearly all patients receiving opioid treatment.
- Ensure that the constipation is caused by opioids as peripherally acting μ -opioid receptor antagonists (PAMORAs) such as Naldemedine and Naloxegol only work in opioid induced constipation.
- For other causes of constipation please refer to the NICE Clinical Knowledge Summary (NICE CKS) for Constipation in Adults.



Medication choices

First Line

- Stimulant laxative: Senna +/-
- Stool Softener: sodium docusate

Other add on laxatives:

- Macragol- Laxido®

PAMORA

- **Naldemedine**¹ (preferred choice- Formulary Status "**Blue**")- can continue with other laxatives OR
- **Naloxegol**² (Formulary Status "**Green**")- stop all other laxative treatment until clinical effect is determined.

If impaction with stool in rectum consider enemas/suppositories.

1. Use Naldemedine in line with NICE TA651: <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta651>
2. Use Naloxegol in line with NICE TA345: <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta345>

Reference

- Rome III diagnostic criteria for function gastrointestinal disorders: http://www.theromefoundation.org/assets/pdf/19_RomeIII_apA_885-898.pdf
- BNF British National Formulary – NICE- <https://bnf.nice.org.uk/>
- NICE Clinical Knowledge Summaries (CKS) Scenario: Constipation in adults revised November 2020: <https://cks.nice.org.uk/topics/constipation/management/adults/>
- Use Naldemedine in line with NICE TA651: <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta651>
- Use Naloxegol in line with NICE TA345: <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta345>

This guidance is based on the NHS West Essex Clinical Commissioning Group and The Princess Alexandra NHS Hospital *Guideline for the Management of Opioid Induced Constipation in Adults* and Pan Mersey Area Prescribing Committee (APC) *Management of Chronic Constipation in Adult Patients in Primary Care* with permission.