

Leukaemia

- Pallor
- Spontaneous bleeding/bruising/petechiae
- Unexplained fever
- Bone/joint pain
- Persistent worsening fatigue

Bone tumours

- Bone swelling/lump
- Bone/joint pain
- Restricted arm/leg movement or limp
- Persistent back pain
- Numbness or weakness in legs or arms
- Incontinence of urine or stool
- Erectile dysfunction in teenagers

Neuroblastoma

- Abdominal distension/lump with or without pain
- Weight loss
- Weakness in legs
- Back pain
- Numbness in arms or legs
- Unexplained bruising around the eye
- Enlarging head/neck swelling
- Unexplained shortness of breath

If a child or teenager has had 3 persistent symptoms, or has visited their doctor 3 times, or has had 3 weeks of unexplained symptoms, it might be time to pick up the phone and make a referral to the local on-call paediatrician.

Cancer grows faster in children and teenagers than in adults, so the urgent suspected cancer pathway doesn't work. All symptoms should be considered carefully if they persist for 2 weeks or have no clear explanation, as they might indicate other more serious illnesses.

Cancer symptoms often appear together as clusters rather than on their own. In addition, children may also have unexplained fever, tiredness or weight loss.

Renal tumours

- Abdominal distension/lump with or without pain*
- Rose coloured or red urine (blood)

Liver tumours

- Abdominal distension/lump with or without pain
- Jaundice (skin or sclera)

Brain tumours

- Persistent headache
- Persistent recurrent/vomiting
- Blurred/double/loss of vision
- Abnormal eye movements
- Balance/co-ordination / walking difficulties
- Fit or Seizures (not with a fever)
- Abnormal head position (wry neck, head tilt)

Retinoblastoma

- Leucocoria
- Squint/abnormal eye movements
- Reduced vision/loss of vision
- Protruding/enlarging eye

Lymphoma

- Weight loss
- Large and growing lymph nodes in neck, axilla or groin
- Abdominal mass/distension
- Drenching night sweats
- Unexplained fever
- Bone pain
- Unexplained shortness of breath

Soft tissue sarcoma

Soft tissue sarcomas can occur anywhere on the body

- Unexplained lump with or without pain
- Unexplained swelling (eye, limbs, abdomen)
- Skin changes over the lump / swelling

Germ cell tumour

- Lump/swelling in testicle, breast, groin
- Abdominal distension (with or without pain)
- Early signs of puberty (before the age of 8 in girls, and 9 in boys) such as enlarging breasts, excess hair growth, starting periods

Find out more at www.childcancersmart.org.uk

CCLG and The Children & Young People's Cancer Association are operating names of The Children's Cancer and Leukaemia Group, registered charity in England and Wales (1182637) and Scotland (SC049948).