

Suspected Cauda Equina Syndrome. MSK Physiotherapy pathway

Low back or buttock pain with any of the following symptoms:

- Saddle anaesthesia/paraesthesia (May be unilateral or bilateral)
- Loss of sensation of bladder/ bowel filling
- Lack of awareness or loss of desire to void bladder/bowel
- Difficulty with micturition (Poor stream/having to strain/hesitancy)
- Urinary retention
- Bladder/Anorectal incontinence
- Sexual Dysfunction

Also consider

- Bilateral or progression from unilateral to bilateral lower limb radicular pain
- Bilateral or progression from unilateral to bilateral sensory/motor deficit in lower limbs

Complete CES proforma on ACN



CES suspected



Contact on-call Orthopaedic doctor via local hospital switchboard to discuss case and request immediate Orthopaedic assessment / recommended referral route to Orthopaedics

IRH patients must be discussed with and assessed by Orthopaedic on call doctor at RAH

Write cover letter on ACN using CES canned text and print if possible for patient to take with them.

Patient sent immediately to A&E/TAU/SDUCC depending on site for Orthopaedic assessment.

*** IRH patients must travel to RAH***

If urgent rather than emergency referral is advised, please arrange urgent referral to Orthopaedics via GP

QEUH	0141 201 1100
GRI	0141 211 4000
RAH	0141 314 7294