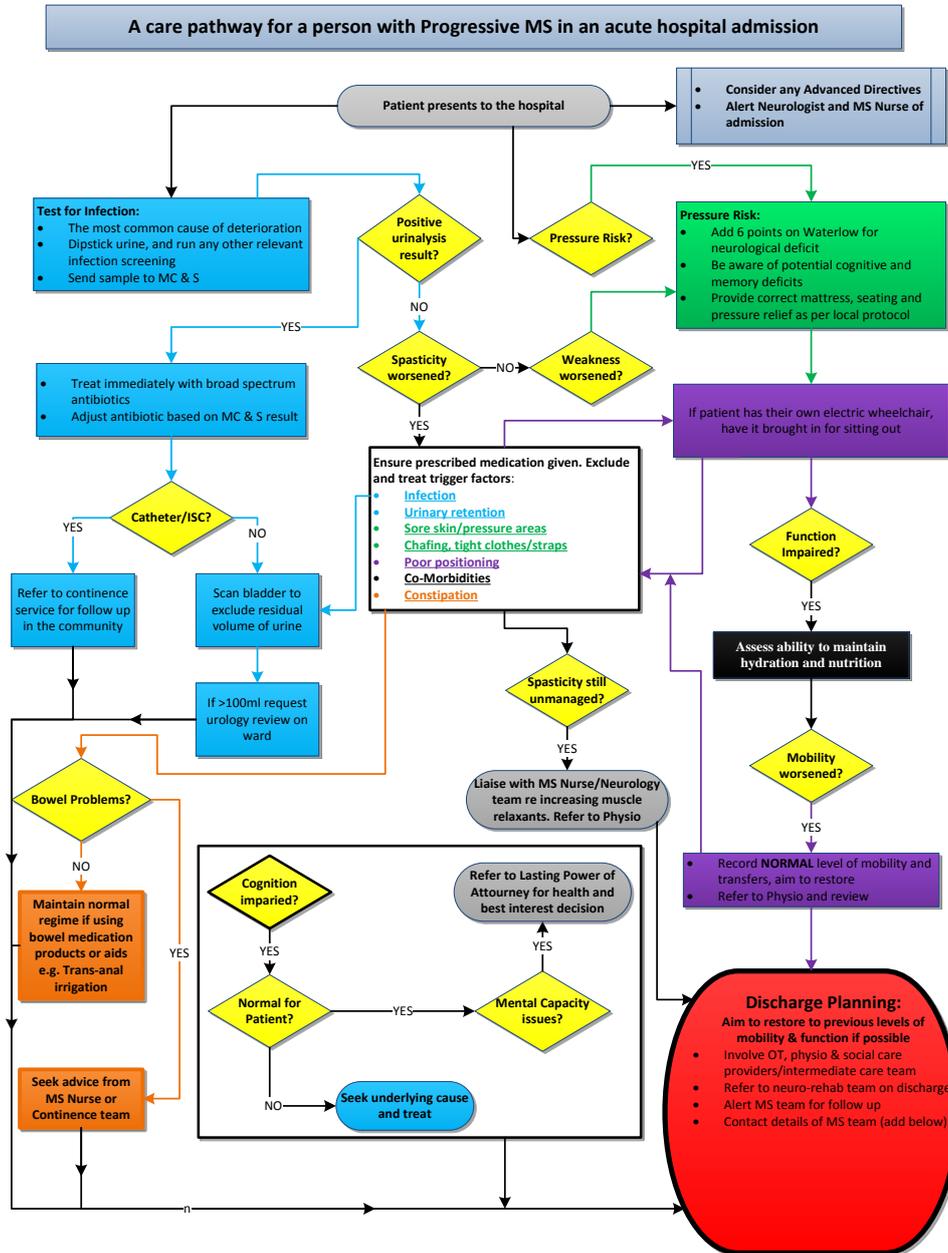


A Care Pathway for a person with Progressive MS in an acute hospital admission

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People with Progressive MS may have complex needs and are more likely to experience acute hospital admissions and elongated hospital stays (1). Not all MS nurses work within a hospital, not all hospitals have an MS nurse, and if they do, it's also possible for patients to be admitted and discharged without the MS nurse having an opportunity for input.

Once in hospital a person with complex needs due to MS is at risk of deterioration in their condition and an increased disability (2) due to immobility, spasticity, dehydration, constipation, pressure sores or infection. Prompt assessment and intervention can help prevent these complications from developing.



This pathway has been constructed using data provided by Emma Matthews and Miranda Olding of Bedford and Northampton MS Therapy Centre and Northampton NHS Trust. Sanofi Genzyme has not exerted any editorial control over the contents displayed in this document.

The pathway was developed to provide a simple prompt for the key action points which should be addressed when caring for a person with progressive MS during an acute hospital admission. It was created in collaboration with MS Nurses and ward staff, to be laminated and displayed as a prompt on each ward area, and can be adapted for local use.

We hope to help to standardise a high level of care and bring about a successful safe discharge home: avoiding any unnecessary deterioration in condition during the hospital stay.

- Evans C, Kingwell E, Zhu F, Oger J, Zhao Y, Tremlett H (2012) Hospital admissions and MS: temporal trends and patient characteristics. *The American Journal of Managed Care* 18(11):735-742
- Garland A, Metz LM, Bernstein CN, Peschken CA, Hitchon CA, Marrie RA (2017) Hospitalization is associated with subsequent disability in multiple sclerosis. *Multiple Sclerosis Related Disorders* May; 14:23-28