

## **PRIMARY CARE ENT SERVICE FOR:**

**Canterbury and Coastal CCG; South Kent Coast CCG; Thanet CCG**

### **3.4 Acceptance and exclusion criteria and thresholds FOR ALL 3 CCGs**

#### **Acceptance Criteria**

In accordance with the core competencies for Practitioners with a Special Interest in ENT, the clinic will accept referrals for patients with:

- Acute Otitis Media
- Recurrent tonsillitis (Please read guidance page for Tonsillitis referral\_
- Epistaxis
- Rhinitis
- Nasal Obstruction
- Deafness
- Rhinorrhoea
- Dysphagia (Please read guidance page for Dysphagia)
- Vertigo/ dizziness
- Hoarseness (Please read guidance page for Hoarseness)
- Otagia
- Neck swelling
- Microsuction

#### **Exclusions**

- Patients who require emergency treatment
- Patients not registered with a Canterbury and Coastal CCG; Thanet CCG or South Kent Coast CCG GP**
- Treatments and procedures listed in the Kent and Medway Referral and Treatment Criteria document.
- Sore throat associated with stridor or respiratory difficulties. These patients should be referred as emergencies to secondary care.
- Children aged under 5 years old**
- Urgent suspected cancer referrals
- Conditions requiring Computed Tomography (CT) or Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) where a competitive direct access price has not been negotiated.
- The service is not available to patients who require emergency treatment.

**The service will not undertake any procedures from the exclusions listed in this specification unless there is a clear clinical need.**

Some conditions can require further investigations such as CT or MRI. These conditions usually are, but not limited to the following:

<b>Condition</b>	<b>Investigation</b>
<b>Chronic Rhinosinusitis</b>	CT
Asymmetrical Sensorineural Hearing Loss	CT/MRI
<b>Nasal Obstruction</b>	CT
Disequilibrium	MRI
<b>Unilateral Tinnitus</b>	MRI

Patients with these suspected diagnoses should be referred directly to the Acute Trust or be referred with the relevant scan(s) – CT and/or MRI