

Pathway:	Onychodystrophy
Referral Criteria/Commissioning position:	
<p><i>Referral to secondary care if:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is diagnostic uncertainty • there is no response to medical treatments used for an adequate length of time (as in BNF) <p>'Red Flag' symptoms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be aware of subungual melanoma presenting as discolouration of nail <p>Investigations prior to referral</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nail clippings sent for mycology. Need to check adequate sample sent and may be worth repeating if first sample comes back negative 	
Information to include in referral letter:	
<p><i>The GP referral letter should contain:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description of symptoms and duration including nails affected • Details of treatments and measures tried including outcomes & results of nail clippings sent for mycology • A photograph is desirable • Relevant past medical/surgical history including personal or family history of any skin disease • Drug history (prescribed and non-prescribed) • Current regular medication • BMI • Smoking status • Alcohol consumption 	
References & Additional information:	
<p>Patient Information Leaflets http://www.patient.co.uk/health/fungal-nail-infections</p> <p>References: Very useful webpage with good pictures of lots of nail problems. http://www.dermnetnz.org/hair-nails-sweat/nails.html</p> <p>General information about fungal nail infection and management. http://www.dermnetnz.org/fungal/onychomycosis.html</p>	
CCG GP sign off:	SRCCG Business Committee (Delegated to Dr Greg Black)
Review date:	2017