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**RED FLAG SYMPTOMS**

Children and adults <45yrs present with :

**Syncope:**

- exertional
- unexplained
- non-vasovagal

**Exertional chest pain**

**Palpitation with lightheadedness**

**Suspected case or family history of:**

Cardiomyopathies including

- Hypertrophic
- Dilated
- Arrhythmogenic

Channelopathies including

- LQTS
- Brugada syndrome

Marfan's or other Aortopathies

**Family history of unexplained sudden death (SADS) or premature SCD (<45)**

**Secondary Care Local DGH**

**FAST TRACK**  
to one stop clinic:  
Chest pain clinic  
Syncope clinic  
Arrhythmia clinic  
A and E

**In-patient admissions:**  
cardiac arrest, syncope, VT and heart failure

**Incidental or other findings:**  
Patients referred for other reason

Evidence/suspicion of inherited heart disease - liaise with inherited cardiac disease clinic (ICC) for support and advice including **Multidisciplinary Team** meeting.

**DIRECT REFERRAL**  
(out-patient and in-patient)

**Inherited Cardiovascular Condition (ICC) Clinic within Academic Health Science Network**

Shared management by local DGH & ICC clinic

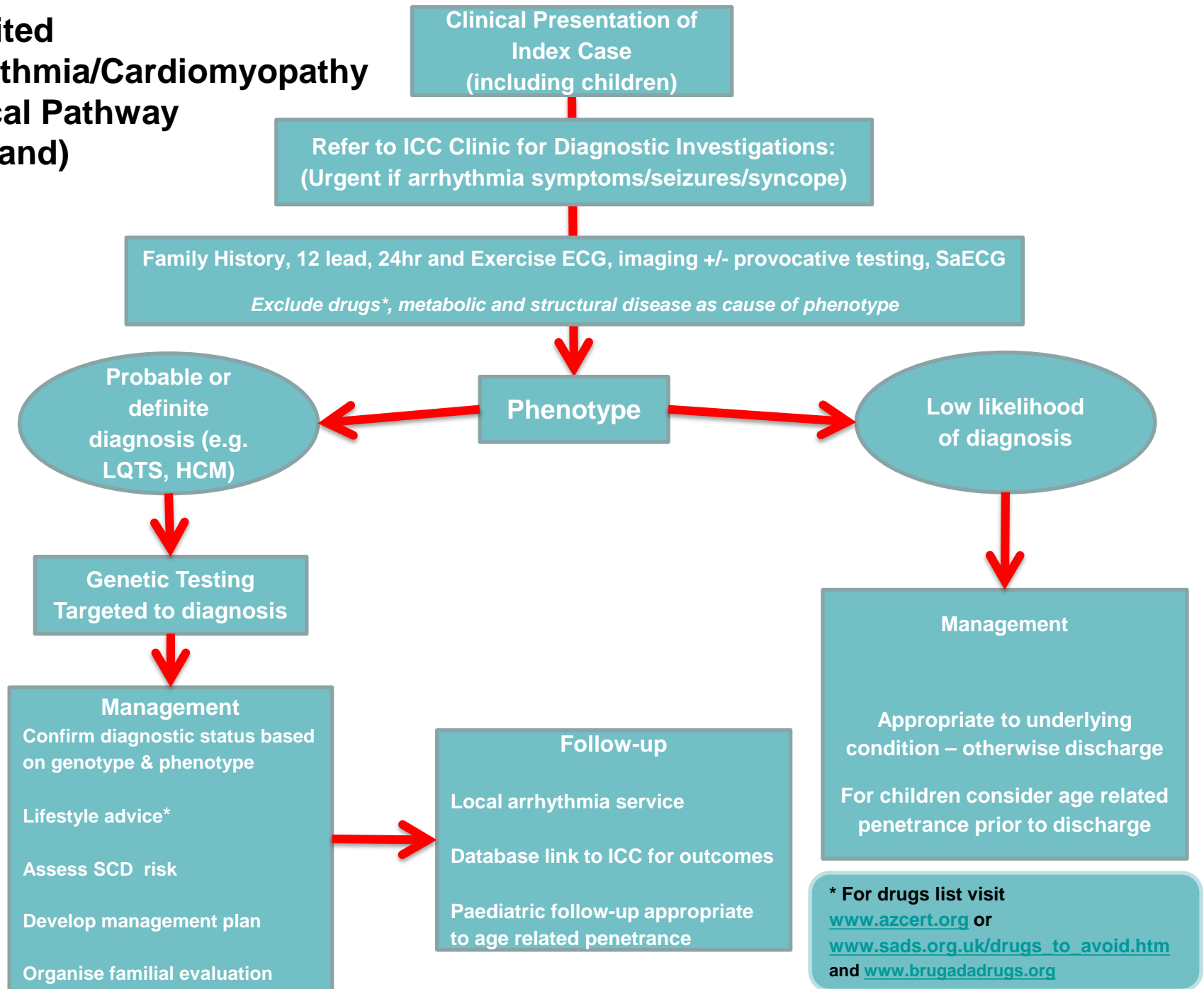
**DIRECT REFERRAL TO ICC CLINIC**

**Positive diagnosis:**  
If high risk follow-up in ICC clinic. If low risk refer back to secondary or primary care with management plan

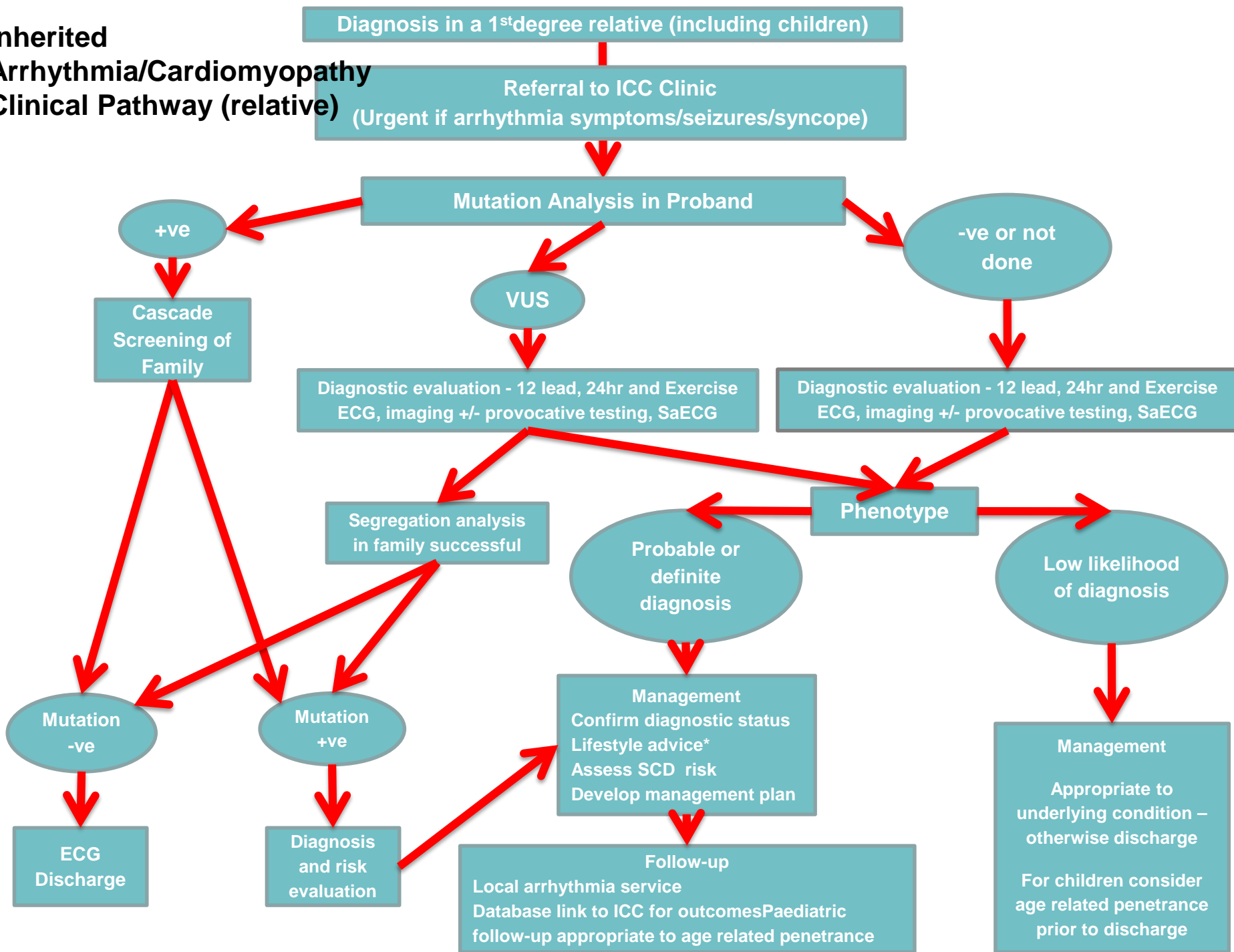
**Equivocal diagnosis:**  
Follow-up in ICC.

**Negative diagnosis:**  
Reassure and discharge back to primary care.

# Inherited Arrhythmia/Cardiomyopathy Clinical Pathway (proband)



# Inherited Arrhythmia/Cardiomyopathy Clinical Pathway (relative)








Phenotype	GP	Referral Point	Investigations	Phenotype identified in relative?	Genetic testing	Follow-up	Therapy?
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<p><b>SADS: Unexplained SCD</b></p> <p>(also consider Sudden Unexplained Death in epilepsy [SUDEP] as SADS until proven otherwise)</p> <p>Investigations before referral:</p> <p>Expert autopsy</p> <p>Retention of fresh tissue or blood for freezing +/- DNA extraction</p>	<p><b>Refer first degree blood relatives including children</b></p> <p>Unexplained syncope or seizures?</p> <p>Refer urgently</p>	<p><b>ICC clinic</b></p>	<p>Expert pathology</p> <p>Review coronial reports, PMH, old ECGs</p>	<p><b>YES</b></p> <p><b>NO</b></p>	<p>YES</p> <p>Appropriate to phenotype (see recommended pathway)</p> <p>Consider role for a molecular autopsy of SADS victim if suitable tissue retained</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>Appropriate to phenotype and refer at risk relatives</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>Appropriate to phenotype and risk</p>
	<p><b>More distant blood relative:</b></p> <p>Seek advice from ICC clinic</p> <p>Refer key relatives who are likely carriers and/or suffer unexplained syncope or seizures</p>		<p>Investigations can include: Family history, ECG, Echo, ExECG +/- SaECG, Tape and Ajmaline test</p> <p>Children to complete investigation as age permits</p>		<p>Consider de novo disease and role for a molecular autopsy of SADS victim if suitable tissue retained</p>	<p>Follow-up children when able to complete testing and then once during, once after puberty and then once in adulthood, investigating as appropriate.</p> <p>Discharge adults</p> <p>Re-refer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>urgently if symptomatic</li> <li>if a phenotype is identified in another blood relative</li> </ul>	<p>NO</p>

**SADS families:  
Patient Management Pathway**

Clinical presentation	GP DGH	Referral Point	Investigations	Phenotype	Genetic testing	Management	Follow-up
<b>Pathway direction</b> 							
<b>Index case</b>	Refer  <b>Urgent if syncopal or unexplained seizures</b>	<b>ICC Clinic</b> 	FH, ECG, Tape, ExECG +/- epinephrine test	Probable or definite LQTS	YES – KCNQ1, KCNH2, SCN5A, KCNE1, KCNE2	Lifestyle advice* and consider SCD risk	YES - evaluate first degree relatives
			Exclude drugs*, metabolic and structural disease as causes **	Low likelihood	NO	Management appropriate to any underlying condition – discharge otherwise	
<b>Relative with FH of LQTS in a blood relative</b>  (Disease mutation may be known)	Refer  <b>Urgent if syncopal or unexplained seizures</b> 	<b>ICC Clinic</b> 	Disease mutation identified in family – gene test & counsel: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Asymptomatic relative ECG</li> <li>Symptomatic relative ECG, Tape, ExECG +/- epinephrine test</li> </ul> 		NB Ensure SCD risk assessed especially if symptomatic Cascade genetic test –ve – discharge and manage any symptoms appropriately Cascade genetic test +ve continue pathway at †		
			<b>VUS</b> identified or Disease mutation absent in family	Probable or definite LQTS	YES - if family untested YES - if <b>VUS</b> present to inform segregation study NO - if mutation absent	Lifestyle advice* and consider SCD risk	YES - evaluate family according to pedigree
			FH +/- segregation study, ECG, Tape, ExECG +/- epinephrine test	Low likelihood	NO	Lifestyle advice* only (precautionary)	Dependent on age and sex

**More distant blood relative:** Seek advice from ICC clinic. Refer key relatives who are likely carriers and/or suffer unexplained syncope or seizures

\* For drugs list visit [www.azcert.org](http://www.azcert.org) or [www.sads.org.uk/drugs\\_to\\_avoid.htm](http://www.sads.org.uk/drugs_to_avoid.htm)  
 \*\* Consider K/Mg/Ca and thyroid function, echocardiography and cardiac MRI  
**VUS** = variant of unknown significance – pathogenic effect can be assessed by segregation study of variant and phenotype, FH = family history

† Relative with positive genetic test 	<b>ICC Clinic</b>	Family history, Tape, ExECG 	Lifestyle advice* and consider SCD risk	YES - evaluate family according to pedigree
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## Long QT Syndrome: Patient Management Pathway

Clinical presentation	GP DGH	Referral Point	Investigations	Phenotype	Genetic testing	Management	Follow-up
<b>Pathway direction</b>							
<b>Index case</b>	Refer  <b>Urgent if syncopal or unexplained seizures</b>	<b>ICC Clinic</b>	FH, ECG*, Tape, +/- SaECG, ExECG, ajmaline test *	Brugada syndrome: Brugada type 1 ECG pattern present spontaneously or with ajmaline	May be useful – SCN5A +/- other associated genes	Lifestyle advice ** and stratify SCD risk	YES - evaluate first degree relatives
			Exclude drugs, metabolic and structural disease as causes **	Brugada type 1 ECG pattern absent even after ajmaline test	NO	Management appropriate to any underlying condition – discharge otherwise	
<b>Relative with FH of Brugada syndrome in a blood relative</b>  (Disease mutation may be known)	Refer  <b>Urgent if syncopal or unexplained seizures</b>	<b>ICC Clinic</b>	Disease mutation identified in family  ECG +/- ajmaline test*			Ensure SCD risk assessed especially if symptomatic  Cascade genetic test +ve – continue pathway at †  Cascade genetic test –ve – discharge if disease mutation of high penetrance and ECG +/- ajmaline test –ve	
			Family untested or mutation absent  FH +/- segregation study, ECG, SaECG, ExECG, Tape +/- ajmaline test*	Brugada type 1 ECG pattern	May be useful if family untested NO - if mutation absent	Lifestyle advice** and consider SCD risk	YES - evaluate family according to pedigree
				Brugada type 1 ECG pattern absent even after ajmaline	NO	Lifestyle advice only ** (precautionary)	Dependent on age and sex
<b>More distant blood relative?</b> Seek advice from ICC clinic. Refer key relatives who are likely carriers and/or suffer unexplained syncope or seizures			* ECG and ajmaline testing should utilise high right ventricular leads in patients without a resting type 1 ECG pattern. Tape ideally should have right ventricular leads. Flecainide can replace ajmaline but is not ideal due to lower sensitivity. ** For drug list see <a href="http://www.brugadadrugs.org">www.brugadadrugs.org</a> . Consider K, Mg, thyroid function, echocardiography, cardiac MRI and coronary angiography.				
† Individual with positive cascade genetic test		<b>ICC Clinic</b>	ECG, Tape +/- ajmaline test*, SaECG			Lifestyle advice** and risk stratify for SCD	YES - evaluate family according to pedigree

## Brugada Syndrome: Patient Management Pathway