

Pathway for Management of Suspected Metastatic Spinal Cord Compression (MSCC) – for use in ED/AMU

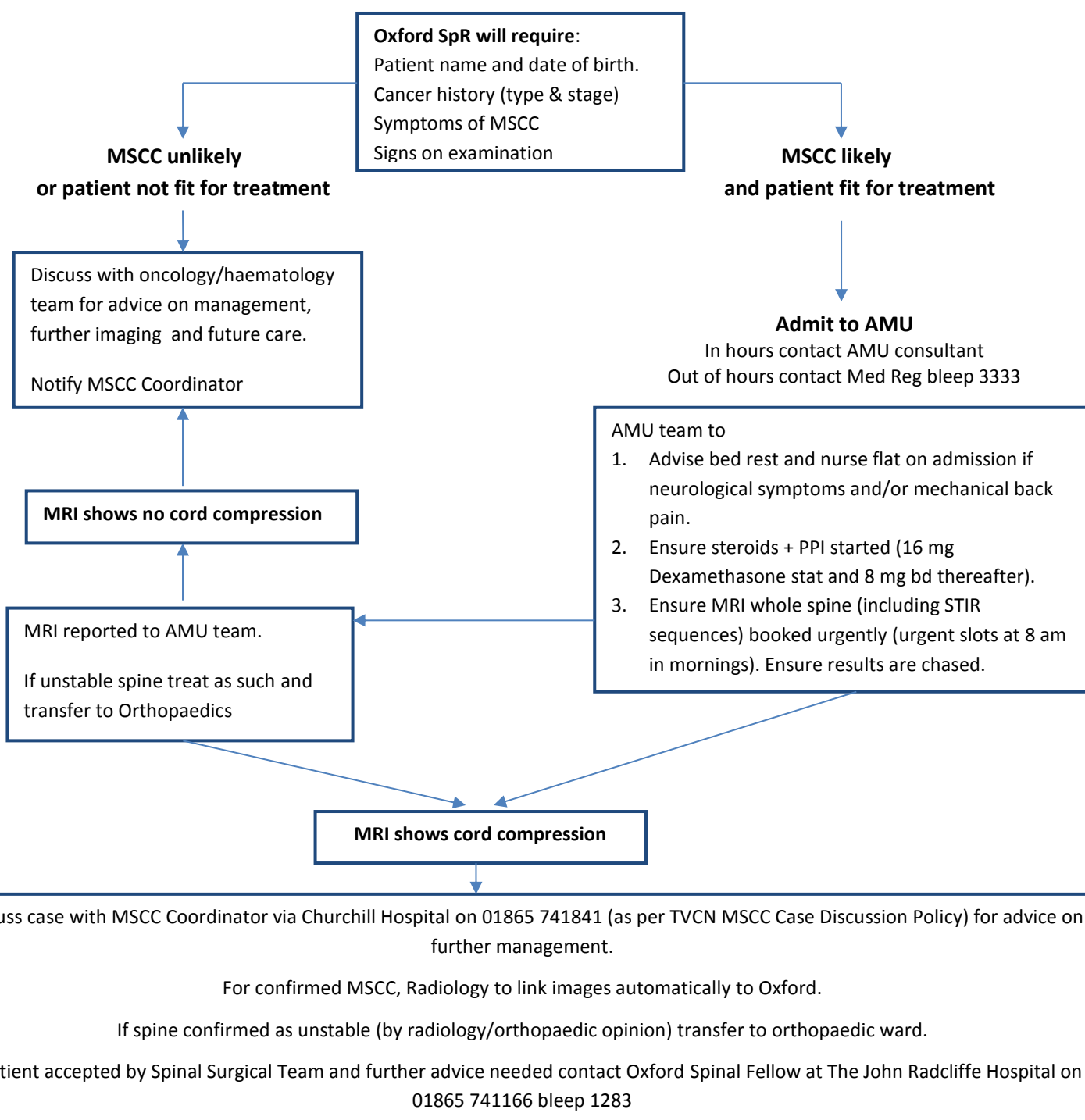
Patient with malignancy presents with:

- Severe intractable back pain, especially thoracic (if pain alone, MRI can be done within 1 week).
- New spinal nerve root pain.
- New difficulty walking.
- Reduce power/altered limb sensation.
- Bowel or bladder disturbance.

All cases of suspected MSCC must be notified at presentation to the MSCC Coordinator (on-call Clinical Oncology SpR) at the Churchill Hospital, Oxford on: 01865 741 841

If known haematology malignancy then also inform: weekdays 09.00-17.00 GWH AOS Bleep 1942. Out of Hours (or if unable to contact GWH AOS team) contact on call Consultant Haematologist GWH

If known oncology malignancy then also inform: weekdays 09.00-17.00 GWH AOS Bleep 1942. Out of Hours (or if unable to contact GWH AOS team) ensure GWH AOS team informed by leaving message.



MSCC CHECKLIST

	Yes	No	Time
Full neurological exam completed and full history taken			
MRI Booked			
Steroids and PPI given			
MSCC Coordinator contacted			
MRI +/- CT images linked to Oxford			
SINS score completed			
MSCC Coordinator contacted			

SPINAL INSTABILITY NEOPLASTIC SCORE (SINS)

SINS Component	Score
Location	
Junctional (occiput-C2, C7-T2, T11-L1, L5-S1)	3
Mobile spine (C3-C6, L2-L4)	2
Semirigid (T3-T10)	1
Rigid (S2-S5)	0
Pain	
Yes	3
Occasional pain but not mechanical	1
Pain-free lesion	0
Bone lesion	
Lytic	2
Mixed (lytic/blastic)	1
Blastic	0
Radiographic spinal alignment	
Subluxation/translation present	4
De novo deformity (kyphosis/scoliosis)	2
Normal alignment	0
Vertebral body collapse	
> 50% collapse	3
< 50% collapse	2
No collapse with > 50% body involved	1
None of the above	0
Posterolateral involvement of spinal elements†	
Bilateral	3
Unilateral	1
None of the above	

Scoring system: assesses risk of spinal instability. 0 to 6 denotes stability, 7 to 12 denotes indeterminate (possibly impending) instability and 13 to 18 denotes instability.

A surgical consultation is recommended for patients with SINS scores greater than 7 depending on individual assessment and prognosis