



## Adult Critical Care Network

- The aim will be for care to be provided to all children on a PICU. In some circumstances, children over the age of approximately 14 years may be cared for on an Adult ITU to allow younger children to be accommodated within the PIC system. This scenario will be envisaged in POPEL 4, or when staffing ratios are unsafe. This shall be a temporary measure with an expectation that whilst in AITU support will be provided by the local paediatrician and the paediatric critical care transport service (CATS).
- It should be considered that if there are children in Adult ITU in a DGH hospital within sector, these children are transported to a tertiary centre adult critical care (where applicable). This will mean that the sector partners shall have to accept adult critical care patients in return to support the transfer of these patients. This shall be escalated regionally via CATS. Within sector, this should be escalated daily via the cross site calls.
- Resources for the upskilling of adult intensive care staff can be found here: <https://cats.nhs.uk/respiratory-surge-in-children/> and [Critical Care – Skills Passport](#)
- Request for adult critical care support letter - [available here](#)
- Referral guidance for young people 16-17 years old requiring general critical care – [available here](#)