

Diagnosing Primary Lymphedema



WHAT IS RECOMMENDED

- Consider the diagnosis in any newborn or child with swelling of one or more limbs, chylothoraces/pleural effusions or ascites, for which no other obvious explanation is present.
- Refer children suspected of having lymphedema to an expert centre for inter(multi)- disciplinary analysis (follow the guidelines).
- Include parents in the diagnostic process if the lymphedema is present in a child.
- Refer adults with lymphedema to an expert clinic for inter(multi)-disciplinary analysis if lymphedema is present in one or more limbs and no obvious other explanation is present, especially if other congenital anomalies or disorders are present.



WHAT YOU SHOULD NOT DO

- Perform routine genetic testing, lymphoscintigraphy and blood examinations without dedicated lympho-vascular expertise.