

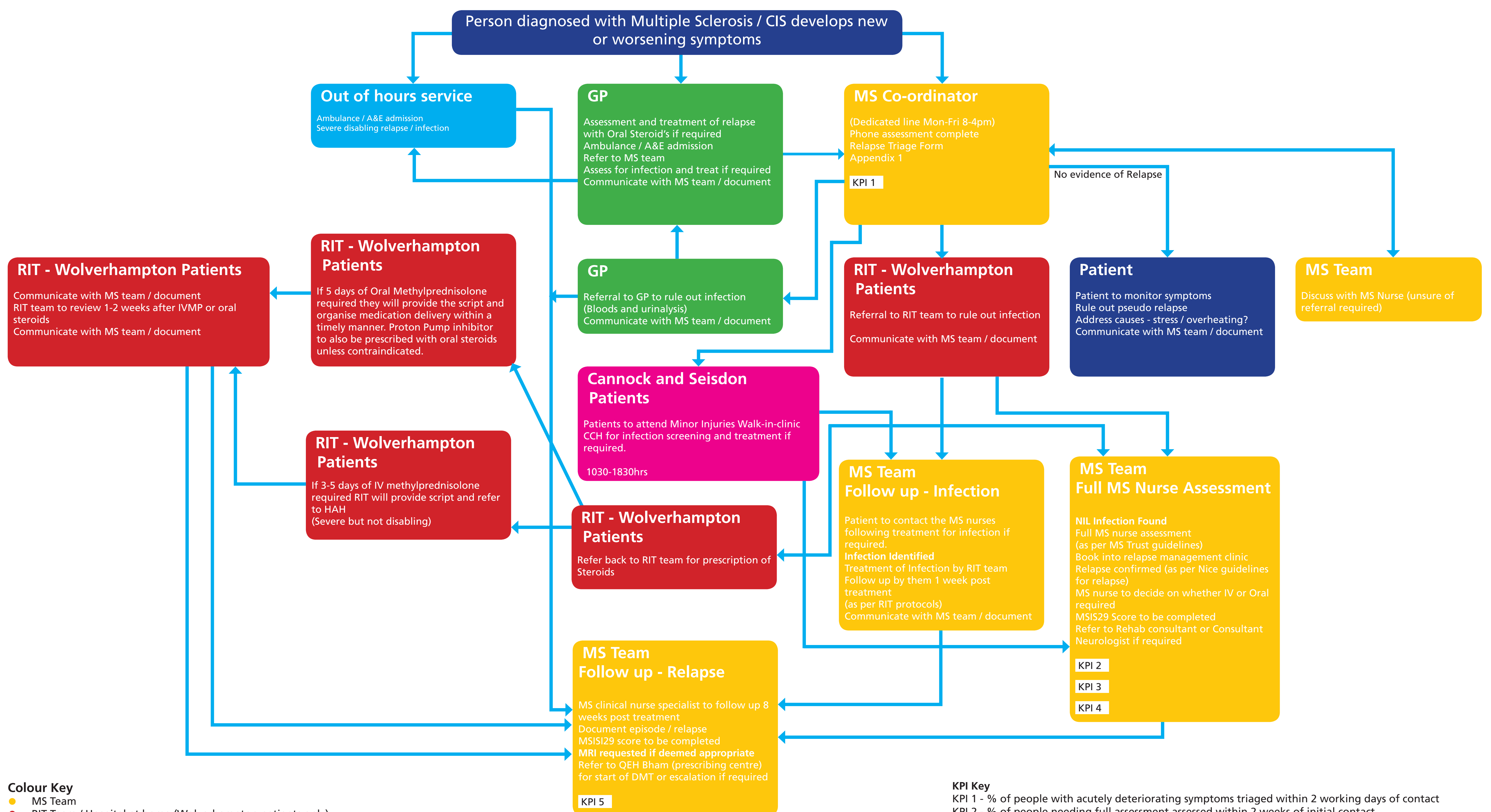
Relapse Management Pathway

By Dan Kucharczyk and Gail Shore
Multiple Sclerosis Clinical Nurse Specialists

The Relapse management pathway was developed by the MS nurse specialists to formalise MS relapse assessment and improve patient experience.

- The Relapse service has been streamlined, allowing the MS nurses a pathway of guidance from the first patient contact regarding a possible episode of relapse.
- This has included utilising other available services within the Trust such as the Rapid intervention and the Minor injuries department.
- Both of these services assist with infection screening and treatment where required.
- The Rapid intervention team also provide equipment as and when required and can organise and prescribe IV steroids at home.
- The other services provide excellent communication following their assessment and treatment and if required patients will have a rapid relapse assessment face to face.
- Allows us to collect data re: KPI (below) as set out in MS Trust document '8 steps to improving your relapse service'.
- Also meets NICE guideline on 'developing local pathway'.
- Meets NICE MS quality standard on relapse.

Relapse Management Pathway



Outcomes following pathway

- Reduce the MS Nurse workload
- Improve patient experience and outcomes
- Reduce workload for GP and A&E – hospital avoidance
- Provides patients with a more accessible, faster service
- More efficient service
- Reduced the time patients spend waiting for relapse management
- And better use of resources
- Auditable