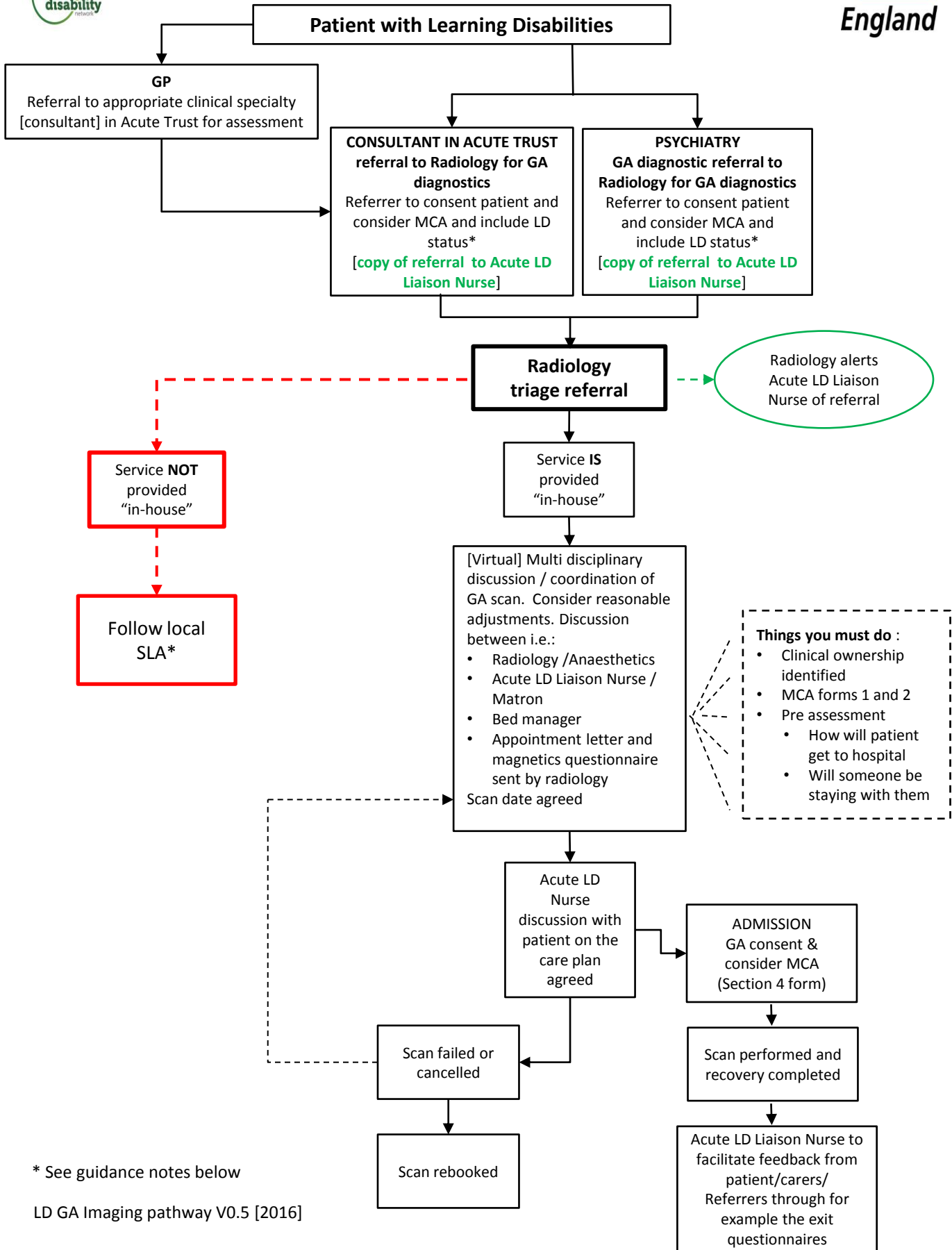


GENERAL ANAESTHETIC DIAGNOSTIC PATHWAY FOR LEARNING DISABILITY PATIENTS



* See guidance notes below

PATHWAY GUIDANCE

Referral point into the system

GP to refer directly to the most appropriate clinical specialty and not to radiology.

Consultant/Psychiatrist within an acute trust:

- Should send a referral to the radiology department.
- The referrer should consent the patient and consider the Mental Capacity Act at the point of referral.
- The referral should indicate if the patient is on a **cancer pathway**.
- The referral should include the patient's "learning disability status".
- As a safety netting process a copy of the radiology referral should be sent to the Trust Acute Learning Disability [LD] Liaison Nurse who will support the patient throughout the process.

Radiology

- To assess the appropriateness of the referral against imaging guidelines.
- As a safety netting process the Acute LD Liaison Nurse will be alerted by radiology to the receipt of referral into the department.

GA IS provided "in-house"

MDT discussion/co-ordination

- Virtual discussions and co-ordination of procedure takes place between the appropriate personnel i.e. Radiology, Anaesthetics, Acute LD Nurse.
- Procedure date is agreed.
- Radiology appointment and magnetic questionnaire is sent to patient.
- Acute LD Nurse supports the patient throughout the pathway.

"Must Do's"

- Someone **must** take clinical ownership of the patient [particularly where a hospital bed is required].
- Mental Capacity Act forms 1 & 2 should be completed.
- Pre assessment and consideration of social implications for the patient pre and post imaging [the latter will be coordinated by the Acute LD Nurse].
- Acute LD Nurse will discuss the care plan with the patient.

ADMISSION

- Patient is admitted and consented for GA.
- Scan is performed and recovery completed.
- Patient is discharged.
- Feedback via a questionnaire re the whole process will be sourced from patients/carers to ensure good service delivery is being achieved. This will be the role of the Acute LD Nurses.

SCAN FAILED

- Scan date rescheduled and coordinated re the above processes.

GA service is **NOT** provided "in-house"

- Where there is no radiology GA services provided locally the SLA pathway should be followed.