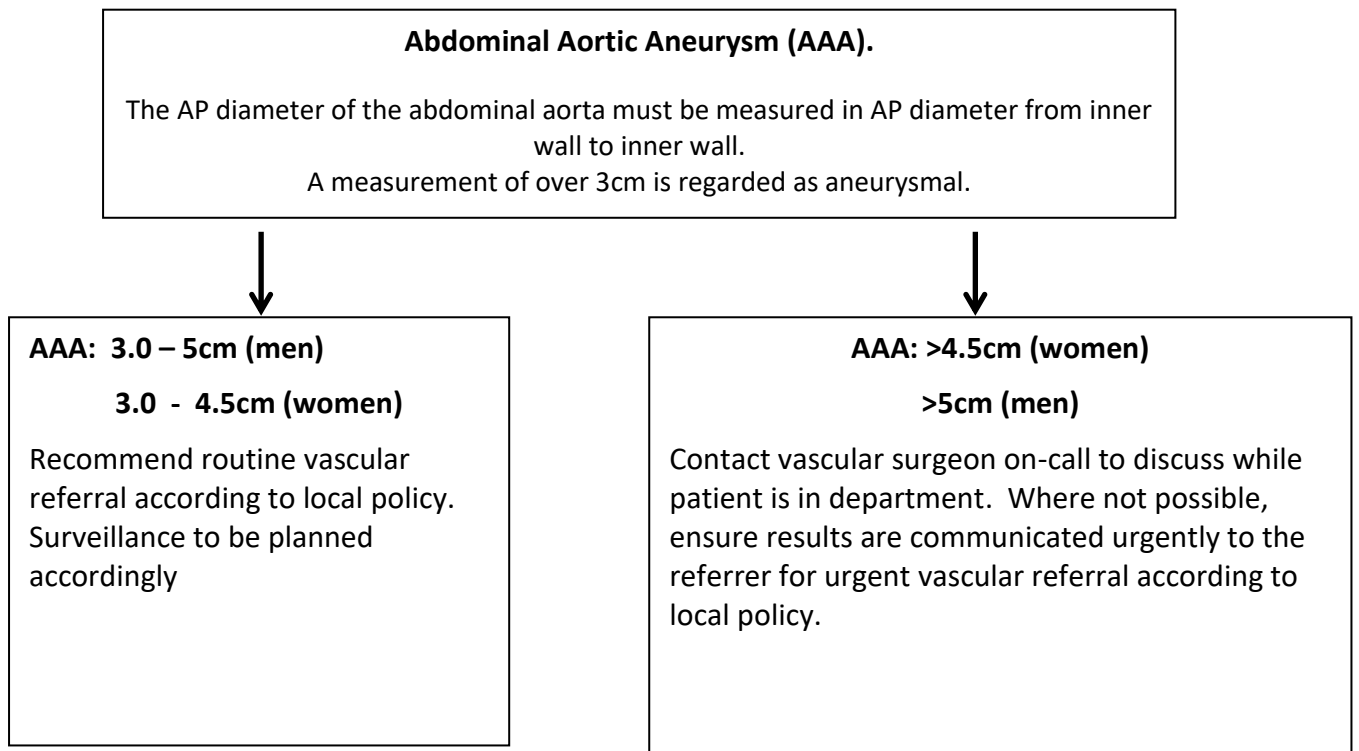


Ultrasound Management of Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA).

- An abdominal aortic aneurysm may be found as an incidental finding on abdominal ultrasound. This algorithm is intended to guide the management of those patients who have an incidental finding of a previously undetected AAA.



- ***The upper extend of the AAA must be visualised. If this extends above the diaphragm or is not visualised, additional imaging should be recommended to assess for thoracic aortic aneurysm.***
- ***Seek clinical assistance if the aneurysm is tender, regardless of size.***
- ***The presence of a previously undiagnosed intimal flap/dissection should be regarded as a surgical emergency and immediate help sought.***

References

Public Health England. NHS Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA) Screening Programme. Essential elements in providing an AAA screening programme within the HHS Screening Programme in England. 2017. Available at https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/598365/AAA_Screening_Standard_Operating_Procedures_March_2017.pdf

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Agreed by the Diagnostic Regional Ultrasound Group

Review date : October 2022