Seek medical help for persistent symptoms. Should you receive treatment and the symptoms don’t go away, on completion of treatment you should seek help from the same clinic/doctor. If symptoms go away after treatment but then come back, seek help.

**EYE**
A white spot in the eye can be a cancer of the eye.
A new squint or new blindness can be a cancer of the brain.
A bulging eye can be a cancer of the eye that has been there for long, or it can be a cancer behind the eye. Absent or abnormal red reflex, with or without a squint, requires immediate referral.

**LUMP**
It can be in the abdomen, pelvis, head, neck, limbs, testes and glands. Every lump must be referred.
A TB lump should go away after two weeks of treatment, if not, seek help.
Cancerous lumps are generally hard and they grow.

**UNEXPLAINED**
Unexplained fever for more than 2 weeks.
Unexplained loss of weight and appetite.
Unexplained paleness.
Unexplained tiredness.
Unexplained easy bruising or bleeding.

**ACHING**
Aching bones, joints, back and easy fractures.
A child should never get backache.
Aching bones, backache and easy fractures are usually associated with leukaemia.
Aching bones and joints indicate cancer of the bone, which usually affects children in adolescence.

**NEUROLOGICAL**
Regression of milestones.
Change or deterioration in walk or balance or speech.
Slurred speech.
Headache for more than a week, with or without vomiting.
Enlarging head.

**EARLY WARNING SIGNS OF CHILDHOOD CANCER**

To improve the survival rate more children need to be diagnosed, at early stages, and treated by paediatric oncologists.

**TO GET HELP:**
If you detect any of the early warning signs, SMS the name of the province to 34486 (SMS costs R2)

Call the CHOC Helpline (during office hours) 0800 333 555

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