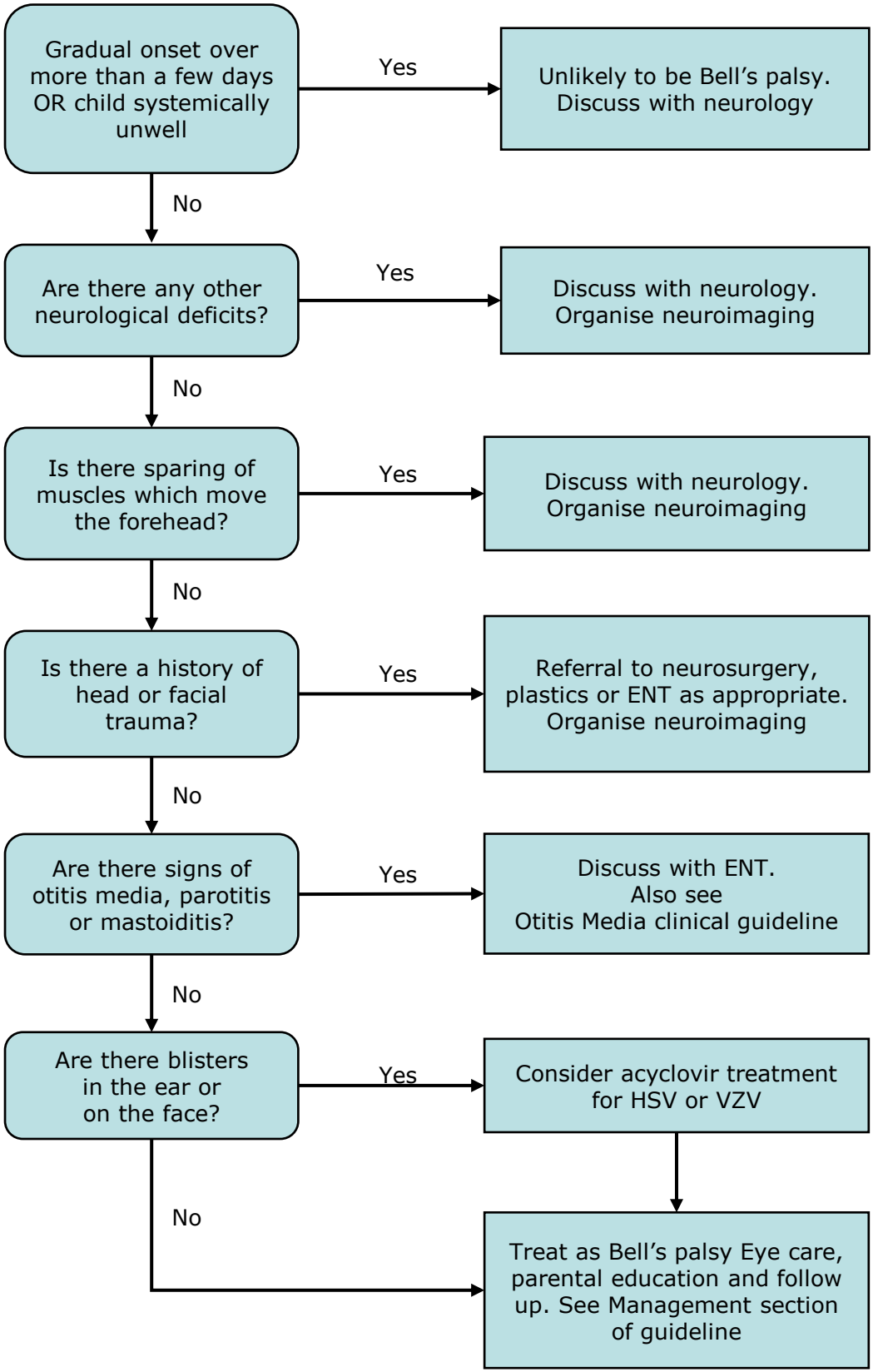
Gradual onset over more than a few days OR child systemically unwell
Yes
Unlikely to be Bell's palsy. Discuss with neurology
No
Are there any other neurological deficits?
Yes
Discuss with neurology. Organise neuroimaging
No
Is there sparing of muscles which move the forehead?
Yes
Discuss with neurology. Organise neuroimaging
No
Is there a history of head or facial trauma?
Yes
Referral to neurosurgery, plastics or ENT as appropriate. Organise neuroimaging
No
Are there signs of otitis media, parotitis or mastoiditis?
Yes
Discuss with ENT. Also see Otitis Media clinical guideline
No
Are there blisters in the ear or on the face?
Yes
Consider acyclovir treatment for HSV or VZV
No
Treat as Bell's palsy Eye care, parental education and follow up. See Management section of guideline