Figure 2: Specific chronic cough

Specific cough pointers present or abnormal CXR or spirometry (if >3-6 years old)

- Wheeze or Reversible airway obstruction?
  - Non cardiac chest pain
  - Exertional dyspnoea

- Other spirometry abnormality

- Differential airway sounds

- Failure to thrive
  - Assess and Mx simple cause of FTT (intake, diarrhoea)

- Feeding difficulties (including choking/vomiting)
  - Neuro-developmental abnormality

- Recurrent protracted bronchitis or recurrent pneumonia

- Wet cough not resolving after 4 weeks of antibiotics

- Digital clubbing

- Suspected medications
  - Cease suspected agent

- Crepitations with hypoxaemia or dyspnoea

- Crepitations without hypoxaemia and dyspnoea
  - 2 weeks of antibiotics

- Pectus carinatum or asymmetrical chest wall

- Non resolution of non-specific cough

Rx for Asthma

Review in 2-3 weeks
Cough and symptom resolved?

Yes
No

Management at level of tertiary practice

No resolution