REFERRAL GUIDELINES: CARDIOThorACIC SURGERY

Essential Referral Content

Demographic
- Date of birth
- Contact details (including mobile phone)
- Referring GP details
- Interpreter requirements
- Medicare number

Clinical
- Reason for referral
- Duration of symptoms
- Relevant pathology & imaging reports
- Past medical history
- Current medications

The Alfred Outpatient Referral Form is available to print and fax to the Outpatient Department on 9076 6938

Exclusion Criteria

The following conditions are not routinely seen at The Alfred:
- Patients who are being treated for the same condition at another Victorian public hospital
- Children under 18 years of age are not seen at The Alfred

REFERRAL PROCESS: CARDIOThorACIC SURGERY

STEP 1
You will be notified when your referral is received by outpatients.
Essential referral content will be checked and you may be contacted for further information if required.

STEP 2
The referral is triaged by the specialist unit according to clinical urgency.
This determines how long the patient will wait for an appointment.

STEP 3
Patients with urgent conditions are scheduled to be seen within 30 days.
Patients with routine conditions are given the next available appointment according to clinical need.
Both the referrer and patient are notified.

Some clinics offer an MBS-billed service. There is no out of pocket expense to the patient. MBS-billed services require a current referral to a named specialist—please provide your patient with a 12 month referral addressed to the specialist of your choice.

Please note: The times to assessment may vary depending on size and staffing of the hospital department.

If you are concerned about the delay of the outpatient appointment or if there is any deterioration in the patient’s condition, please contact the Cardiothoracic Registrar on call on 9076 2000.