

## REFERRAL GUIDELINES: **CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY**



### Essential Referral Content

Demographic	Clinical
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Date of birth</li> <li>• Contact details (including mobile phone)</li> <li>• Referring GP details</li> <li>• Interpreter requirements</li> <li>• Medicare number</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reason for referral</li> <li>• Duration of symptoms</li> <li>• Relevant pathology &amp; imaging reports</li> <li>• Past medical history</li> <li>• Current medications</li> </ul>

**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.**