

REFERRAL GUIDELINES: GENERAL SURGERY - SANDRINGHAM HOSPITAL



Essential Referral Content

Demographic	Clinical
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date of birth • Contact details (including mobile phone) • Referring GP details • Interpreter requirements • Medicare number 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 1252



Exclusion Criteria

The following conditions are not routinely seen at Sandringham Specialist Consulting Clinics:

- Patients who are being treated for the same condition at another Victorian public hospital
- Surgical consultation for children under 18 years of age
- Patients who are at high anaesthetic risk
- Patients with BMI >40

Patients with a high anaesthetic risk may be referred to The Alfred for further management.

Sandringham Hospital offers a limited General surgery service including the following conditions:

- Hernias
- Skin & subcutaneous lesions
- Gall bladder surgery
- Haemorrhoids, anal fissures and anal fistulas

Please see [The Alfred General Surgery referral guidelines](#) for more referral information for these conditions.

REFERRAL PROCESS: GENERAL SURGERY - SANDRINGHAM HOSPITAL



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.

Further information regarding the specialists attending the Sandringham General Surgery clinic is available [here](#).

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 General Surgery Registrar on call on 9076 1000.