



REFERRAL GUIDELINES

Dialysis Outpatients

Head of Unit: Dr Kim Wong

Referrals: Referral addressed to named head of unit is preferred.

E-referral using the GP Referral Template located within the Mastercare Referralnet system is preferred.

For faxed referrals: **FAX 97881879**

Please Note: The referral should not be given to the patient to arrange an appointment. No appointments can be made over the phone. Once a referral has been received the patient is notified by mail of the date and time of their appointment.

Clinic overview:

Specialist outpatient service for patients with medical complications on dialysis or new patients commencing dialysis. Includes Haemodialysis and Peritoneal Dialysis.

Categories for Appointment

	Clinical Description	Timeframe for Appt
Category 1 Urgent	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New dialysis patient• Disequilibrium syndrome• Significant concerns regarding hypotension or hypertension• Vascular access problems preventing adequate dialysis• Unestablished target weight• Increasing SOB despite reduction to target weight• Anaemic patients not responding to Iron and ESA therapy who are symptomatic• Clients wanting to discuss end of life care / termination of dialysis treatments	Contact consultant or registrar for phone advice before referral or for clinical advice and urgent follow up. Ideally, these clients should be seen within 1 month

IMPORTANT:

The following referral information is mandatory:

Referral:

- Date of referral
- Speciality
- Referring practitioner name
- Provider Number
- Referrer's signature

Patient Demographic:

- Full name
- Date of birth
- Postal address
- Contact numbers
- Medicare Number

Clinical:

- Reason for referral
- Duration of symptoms
- Management to date
- Past medical history
- Current medications
- Allergies
- Diagnostics as per referral guidelines

Preferred:

- Addressed to named practitioner
- Duration of referral (if different to standard referral validity)
- Next of kin

HEAD OF UNIT

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PROGRAM DIRECTOR**ENQUIRIES**

PH: 9784 2600

Reviewed: July 2021



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing review and Management of End Stage Renal Disease • Medication Review • Dialysis Prescription Review 	
Category 2 Routine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dialysis access issues, not compromising treatment • Fluid assessments • Management of signs and symptoms of dialysis 	<p>1-4 months depending on problem</p> <p>Regular review 3-4 monthly</p>
Emergency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acute illness requiring immediate attention eg chest pain, collapse, unstable diabetes, reduced mobility or infective illness requiring isolation, acute pulmonary oedema. • Rapid deterioration in client condition eg. functional status, mental decline • Non-functioning dialysis access • Bleeding from AVF fistula, graft or CVC site • Peritoneal Patient with suspected exit site, tunnel or peritoneal infection • No bruit or thrill in AVF/Graft 	<p>Immediate via Emergency Department</p> <p>Advise patient to call an ambulance on 000</p> <p>Contact the consultant Nephrologist on duty at Frankston Hospital immediately</p>

Eligibility Criteria

- Current referral from renal team following transfer of patient to unit
- Current referral from GP – preferably indefinite
- Referral from other medical professional requesting transfer of care
- Haemodialysis patients of Peninsula Health – chronic patients who either dialyse in-centre or at home
- Peritoneal dialysis patients of Peninsula Health

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Exclusions

- Medical Emergencies
- Non-Peninsula Health clients - Advise client to contact their usual dialysis unit or parent hospital
- >18 years (under 18 years Monash Medical Centre Paediatric Renal Unit)

Alternative referral options

Drop in services are available for patients at Rosebud and Frankston hospital after phone referral or self- referral if clinical situation is appropriate (see contact details below)

- Dialysis patient requiring blood tests on non-dialysis day (eg cross match for blood transfusion; INR; pre surgery bloods)
- Dialysis -related wound care or suture removal on non-dialysis day
- Administration of medications (eg. antibiotics, eye drops) to dialysis client on non-dialysis day
- Planned removal of central venous catheter
- Phone consultations for blood pressure or blood sugar levels review, post dialysis follow up, medication reviews
- PICC line dressing for chemotherapy clients
- Pathology tests for cytotoxic bloods:
- Dressings and heparin relock to CVC
- Peritoneal dialysis adequacy test
- Peritoneal dressings
- Review of tenckhoff catheter exit site

Clients may also make an appointment with a Nephrologist in their private rooms. Wait times may be longer and a separate referral will need to be made by their GP. Clients will need to make their own appointment.

Minimum Referral Information Required

Please note, referral cannot be processed if minimum information is missing)

- Referring practitioner name, provider number and signature.
- Date of referral
- Patient's name, address, date of birth, Medicare number and phone number.
- Clinical details and reason for referral
- Relevant medical history
- Medications
- Allergies
- Results of all recent and relevant investigation

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Clinic information

Frankston and Rosebud Hospitals

- Frankston Clinic
1st, 3rd and 4th Thursday of the month, 0900-1200.
Outpatient Area 3
Hastings Road, Frankston
PH 9784 2600
- Rosebud Clinic runs
2nd, 3rd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, 0900-1200.
Rosebud Community Health
38 Braidwood Avenue
Rosebud West
Rosebud Dialysis Unit 5986 0655

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