

Rapid Access Positive FOBT Clinic

What is the Direct Access Pathway?

The Direct Access Colonoscopy (DAC) service is an innovative nurse-led clinic that fast tracks people with a positive faecal occult blood test (FOBT), who meet set clinical criteria, through to colonoscopy, thus avoiding the wait time to see a gastroenterologist.

How are the patients triaged and the timeframe?

The nurse coordinator triages referrals and undertakes virtual assessments within 7 days of receiving the referral. The Gastroenterologist oversees the service and reviews any patients who have a complex medical history prior to being scheduled for colonoscopy.

How will I find out about my patient's results?

The results will be emailed to the GP practice as the preferred option. In the instance there is no email address, the service will mail the results. The GP will be responsible for the surveillance of their patients.



Referral Criteria

- Positive FOBT
- < 75 years age
- Fit and healthy
- No anticoagulant medication
- No history of heart disease, diabetes, epilepsy, kidney or liver disease, or serious lung disease
- BMI < 35 and no high anaesthetic risks



Essential Referral Information

- SVHNS Referral form available on website
- Best Practice and Medical Director forms available on CESPHN website
- All mandatory fields need to be completed (incomplete will be returned)



Urgent Reviews & specialist input

All referrals are triaged against the DAC criteria. If the patient requires urgent review (seen within 7 days) or has multiple co-morbidities, they will be reviewed by the Gastroenterologist in consultation with the GP



The DAC service is a NSW Ministry of Health initiative that is being supported by the Cancer Institute as part of the Leading Better Value Care priorities. This service is part of the movement towards providing value based healthcare that matters to the patient, improving patient outcomes and experience.



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