

Northeast Health Wangaratta – Hand Clinic Pre-referral Management Guidelines

V3, 12/2020

Clinical staff: Occupational Therapists	Clinic Contact Details and Hours: Northeast Health Wangaratta (NHW) PO Box 386, Wangaratta, VIC 3676 Phone: (03) 5722 5555 Fax: (03) 5722 5419 Pager: 078 Availability for Outpatient Hand Clinic bookings: Tuesday – Friday Servicing the Fracture Clinic: Wednesday PM & Friday 1/2 day.	Hand Clinic <u>External Referrals:</u> GP or Surgeon to forward referral containing all relevant medical history, requests and restrictions. Appointments will be arranged based on Priority Level. Public patients only. (No TAC, WorkCover or Private funded clients).	Hand Clinic <u>Internal Referrals (NHW):</u> Referrals can be made using the Internal Outpatient Services Form, detailing medical history, request and restrictions. UR12-03 Hand Clinic Referral, provides further information/guidance for referral details. Appointments will be arranged based on Priority Level.
Conditions Treated: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hand and wrist fractures• Dislocations and sprains• Extensor tendon injuries• Flexor tendon injuries• Nerve injuries• de Quervains Tendinopathy• Dupuytren's Fasciectomy• Trigger Finger• Carpal Tunnel Syndrome (pre and/or post operatively)• Crush injuries• Complex Regional Pain Syndrome• Digit replantations/amputations• Burns/grafts/bites• Arthritis		<i>Triage Categories/Priority Levels:</i> Priority 1 referrals: within 3 working days <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Acute referrals including referrals from Fracture Clinic, Emergency Department & Inpatient wards where non-provision of hand therapy services is detrimental to the patient's outcome, for example an unprotected fracture or tendon repairs. Priority 2 referrals: within 2 weeks <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Acute referrals with either pre-admission bookings timed to post-operative protocols▪ Urgent need presentations (eg pain, swelling, open wound, new trauma,)▪ Preparation for surgery,▪ Conservative management prior to surgical decision. Priority 3: within two month <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Stable/Chronic conditions that were sustained greater than 3 months ago	