

Lung Cancer Service at Western Health:

Western Health provides a multi-disciplinary Lung Cancer Service for patients who require management of lung conditions. Western Health has a team of staff who work together to provide a coordinated service to our patients. The specialist team of surgeons, medical oncologists, radiation oncologists, radiologists, palliative care physicians, nurses and pathologists work together to provide an integrated and comprehensive service.

Conditions not seen by Lung Cancer Services at Western Health:

- Patients with other non-cancer like lung or respiratory symptoms may be appropriate for the Respiratory or Thoracic Surgery Clinics
- Incidental solid nodules <6mm may be rejected

Alarm Symptoms:

Patients presenting with the following RED FLAGS require immediate referral to the emergency department

- Moderate or severe haemoptysis
- Strider
- Respiratory Distress
- Symptoms of superior vena cava obstruction

Access & Referral Priority Lung Cancer:

The clinical information provided in your referral will determine the triage category. The triage category will affect the timeframe in which the patient is offered an appointment.

Condition Specific Referral Guidelines:

Key information enables Western Health to triage patients to the correct category and provide treatment with fewer visits to specialist clinics, creating more capacity for care. If key information is missing, you may be asked to return the referral with the required information.

Western Health Specialist Clinics Access & Referral Guidelines

Condition:	Key Information Points:	Clinical Investigations:
<p>For suspected /new early lung cancer, referral to either Lung clinic OR Thoracic surgery is appropriate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presenting problem • Duration of symptoms • Impact on patient • Diagnosis or provisional diagnosis if known • Management to date • Referral purpose • Relevant past medical history • Symptoms or signs suggestive of metastasis from a lung cancer Smoking/vaping history 	<p>Essential:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chest X-ray • Contrast spiral CT of the chest and upper abdomen <p>If possible, request patients bring images on film/disk to Radiology (ground floor) at either Sunshine or Footscray Hospitals prior to their Outpatient appointment and request the images be scanned in. If this is not possible, ensure patients bring their films/disk to their outpatient appointment. If images are not available, please include results with referral.</p>
<p>Known Metastatic lung cancer refer to Lung oncology clinic</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presenting problem • Duration of symptoms • Impact on patient • Diagnosis or provisional diagnosis if known • Management to date • Referral purpose • Relevant past medical history • Symptoms or signs suggestive of metastasis from a lung cancer 	<p>Essential:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chest X-ray • Contrast spiral CT of the chest and upper abdomen <p>If possible, request patients bring images on film/disc to Radiology (ground floor) at either Sunshine or Footscray Hospitals prior to their Outpatient appointment and request the images be scanned in. If this is not possible, ensure patients bring their films/disc to their outpatient appointment. If images are not available, please include results with referral.</p>