

## General Oncology Specialist Clinics at Western Health:

Western Health provides General Oncology Specialist Clinics for patients who require assessment and management of cancers not managed by specific cancer clinics, and for patients for whom the primary cancer is not known. Patients diagnosed with a cancer of a specific tumour stream are referred onto the appropriate specialist oncology clinic. Patients will be clinically triaged according to specific clinical requirements.

## Conditions not seen by General Oncology Specialists at Western Health:

- Patients with or suspected of having localised cancer. These patients should be referred to the appropriate tumor specific surgeons
- Patients with symptoms such as weight loss without imaging or pathology to suggest malignancy

## Alarm Symptoms:

Where there are concerns about immediate patient safety and management, please direct referral to an Emergency Department.

## Access & Referral Priority General Oncology Cancer Services:

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.

<b>URGENT</b>  <b>Appointment timeframe 30 days</b>	<b>ROUTINE</b>  <b>Appointment timeframe greater than 30 days, depending on clinical need.</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Any patient with imaging or pathology indicating a suspicion or diagnosis or metastatic cancer when the primary tumor is not clear.</li><li>• Patients with a suspected or known metastatic cancer when there is no tumor specific cancer clinic at Western Health.</li></ul>	

# Western Health Specialist Clinics Access & Referral Guidelines

## 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.

Condition:	Key Information Points:	Clinical Investigations:
<p>Any patient with imaging or pathology indicating a suspicion or diagnosis or metastatic cancer when the primary tumor is not clear</p> <p>Patients with a suspected or known metastatic cancer when there is no tumor specific cancer clinic at Western Health</p>	<p>Clinical symptoms and examination findings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Symptoms suggesting site of primary malignancy</li> <li>• Severity and time course of symptoms or signs</li> <li>• Relevant past medical history</li> <li>• Current medications</li> <li>• Family history of malignancy</li> <li>• Smoking and alcohol history</li> </ul>	<p>Investigations ordered as part of patient work up including pathology and imaging</p> <p>If available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Histopathology results</li> <li>• Endoscopy Reports</li> <li>• Imaging reports</li> </ul>