

Paediatric Plastic Surgery Specialist Clinics at Western Health:

Western Health provides the following Specialist Clinics for infants and children prior to their 18th birthday who require assessment and management of plastic surgical conditions. Patients will be triaged by a Consultant Plastic Surgeon / Plastics Surgery Registrar into management pathways according to specific clinical requirements.

These referral guidelines are for Paediatric Specialist Clinics provided at Joan Kirner Women's and Children's at Sunshine Hospital only

Referrals may be triaged to alternative Paediatric Specialist Clinics at Western Health.

Conditions not seen by Paediatric Plastic Surgery Specialists at Western Health:

Some conditions are complex and/ or best treated by multidisciplinary teams. Please consider referring the following conditions to Royal Children's Hospital:

- Craniofacial birth defects
- Brachial plexus palsy
- Cleft lip & palate
- Vascular anomalies, haemangiomas & vascular malformations

Paediatric Plastic Surgery Alarm Symptoms:

- Acute injury
- Burn injuries which are extensive or involve special areas (face, hands, perineum) or meet the criteria for referral should be discussed with the Paediatric Burns Unit at Royal Children's Hospital.
- Extensive or multi-trauma paediatric injuries are best treated at the Royal Children's Hospital

Access & Referral Priority: Paediatric Plastic Surgery

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.

URGENT Appointment timeframe 30 days.	ROUTINE Appointment timeframe greater than 30 days, depending on clinical need.
Open wounds/ lacerations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer as soon as possible. Consider referral to Emergency Department 	Skin lesions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cysts Naevus Pilomatrixoma Naevus sebaceous Unfavourable scars
Burns <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer as soon as possible. Consider referral to Emergency Department 	Hand conditions/ Anomalies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trigger thumb & fingers Polydactyly Syndactyly Ganglion
Hand fractures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer as soon as possible. Consider referral to Emergency Department 	Prominent/ bar ears
	Macromastia

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.

Conditions	Essential or Key Information Points	Clinical Investigations
Open wounds/ Lacerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date of injury • Mechanism of injury • Examination findings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copy of XR reports including details of radiology service provider (if applicable)
Burns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date of injury • Mechanism of injury • Examination findings • First aid implemented. 	
Hand Fractures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date of injury • Mechanism of injury • Examination findings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copy of XR reports including details of radiology service provider
Skin lesions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provisional diagnosis • History: duration, problems caused • Examination findings 	
Hand conditions/ anomalies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provisional diagnosis * History: duration, problems caused. • Examination findings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copy of XR and ultrasound reports including details of radiology service provider.
Prominent/ bat ears	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History: duration, problems caused • Examination findings 	
Macromastia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History: duration, problems caused • Examination findings 	