

REFERRAL GUIDELINES LUNG CANCER SERVICE



Patients presenting with the following RED FLAGS require **immediate** referral to the Emergency Department:

- Moderate or severe haemoptysis
- Stridor
- Respiratory distress
- Symptoms of superior vena cava obstruction.

All other patients should be referred to Outpatients. Patients being referred for suspected cancer are considered urgent referrals. See more information about cancer referral processes [here](#).

Include details from the following categories (if relevant) in addition to standard referral information. Please include as much detail as possible to assist us to accurately triage the referral and to prioritise urgent appointments.

REFER TO

FAX to 8345 6856.

For suspected/new early lung cancer, referral to either Respiratory Clinic OR Thoracic Surgery is appropriate.

Known metastatic lung cancer should be referred to Lung Oncology Clinic.

DESCRIBE



Patient presentation

- Presenting problem
- Duration of symptoms
- Impact on patient
- Diagnosis or provisional diagnosis, if known
- Management to date
- Referral purpose

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INCLUDE IF PRESENT

Symptoms, signs and duration

- Weight loss or any other symptoms or signs. Refer to the Optimal Care Pathway for other possible signs/symptoms. Click [here](#) for link.

Relevant past medical history:

- E.g.: cancer, smoking, COPD, occupational exposure

Symptoms or signs suggestive of metastasis from a lung cancer

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PROVIDE

Provide images on film/disk + copy of report. Relevant investigations include:

- Chest X-ray
- Contrast spiral CT of the chest and upper abdomen

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.

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LIST

Dates and results of any past and future bookings for any other relevant investigations which are not included in the above section.

Click [here](#) to view the Lung Optimal Care Pathway.

Click [here](#) for more information about referral procedures for cancer services.

Also click [here](#) to be directed to Melbourne HealthPathways for guidance in assessing, managing and referring patients with suspected lung cancer.