

# Dermatology

Outpatient service information, triage and referral guidelines

## Description of service:

The objective of patients visiting the dermatology outpatients is for the assessment of patients living with skin disorders.

## Priority Service is provided to:

- > Complex skin disease, such as severe eczema / psoriasis
- > Systemic skin conditions
- > Skin malignancies – melanoma and NMSC, skin lymphomas
- > Moderate and severe skin disease unresponsive to first line management
- > Patients requiring complex drugs
- > Skin surveillance for high risk transplant patients

## Exclusions:

- > Referrals for outpatient appointments from the Emergency Department will not be accepted
- > Referrals for routine skin checks or cosmetic procedures will not be accepted
- > Indefinite referrals will not be accepted
- > Paediatrics
- > Overseas students and visitors from countries who do not have a reciprocal health care agreement with Australia.
- > Compensable patients e.g. WorkCover

## For admission or **URGENT** advice contact the dermatology Registrar

Royal Adelaide Hospital (RAH) Ph: (08) 7074 0000  
The Queen Elizabeth Hospital (TQEH) Ph: (08) 8222 6000

**Alternatively, if the problem is urgent and the patient is unstable, the patient should be sent directly to the Emergency Department of the nearest hospital for assessment.**

## For more information or to make a referral contact

Royal Adelaide Hospital (RAH) Fax: (08) 7074 6247 Ph: 1300 153 853  
The Queen Elizabeth Hospital (TQEH) Fax: (08) 8222 7188 Ph: 8222 7020

## Essential Referral Content

### Demographic

- > Date of birth
- > Contact details (including mobile phone)
- > Referring GP details
- > Interpreter requirements
- > Medicare number

### Clinical

- > Reason for referral
- > Duration of symptoms
- > Relevant pathology and imaging reports
- > Past medical history
- > Current medications

## Adult Triage Criteria for referral

Emergency All urgent cases must be discussed with the on call Dermatology registrar.	Category 1 Target within 4 weeks	Category 2 Target within 3 months	Category 3 Target 6-12 months
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Dermatological emergencies with threat to major organs. e.g. erythroderma who is hemodynamically unstable</li> <li>&gt; Severe skin infections e.g. eczema herpeticum.</li> <li>&gt; Severe widespread blistering/pustular disease (&gt;10% denuded skin) e.g. drug eruptions, toxic epidermal necrolysis, Steven Johnson syndrome</li> <li>&gt; Acute deterioration of a stable blistering/pustular disorder</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; New onset of erythroderma (haemodynamically stable)</li> <li>&gt; Diagnosis of melanoma/non-melanoma skin cancer (NMSC)</li> <li>&gt; Bullous pemphigoid/pemphigus or other autoimmune blistering diseases.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Suspected non-melanoma skin cancers</li> <li>&gt; Suspected dysplastic naevi</li> <li>&gt; Symptomatic extensive inflammatory dermatoses – new onset but patient hemodynamically stable</li> <li>&gt; Suspected infected dermatoses (excluding fungal infections)</li> <li>&gt; Melanomas requiring wider excision where primary completely excised</li> <li>&gt; Stable blistering disorders for diagnosis and management e.g. porphyria cutanea tarda</li> <li>&gt; Acute exacerbation of eczema/psoriasis with &gt;90% skin involvement.</li> <li>&gt; Newly diagnosed skin lymphoma</li> <li>&gt; Severe cystic acne</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Stable inflammatory dermatoses (previously diagnosed) but moderate/severe disease e.g. eczema / psoriasis</li> <li>&gt; Skin checks for high risk melanoma patients e.g. previous history of,               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) gorlins syndrome</li> <li>2) patients on immunosuppressive therapy and high risk of skin cancers</li> <li>3) History of multiple dysplastic naevi OR at risk for melanoma</li> </ol> </li> <li>&gt; Genodermatosis – cutaneous involvement</li> <li>&gt; Patients requiring complex medications</li> </ul>

General information to assist with referrals and the referral templates for the RAH & TQEH are available to download from the CALHN Outpatient Services [website](#)

## For more information or to make a referral

Royal Adelaide Hospital: OPD Level 3G and 3C

Referral Fax Number: (08) 7074 6247

Phone Number: 1300 153 853

The Queen Elizabeth Hospital: Level 3 Outpatients/Area 4

Referral Fax Number: (08) 8222 7188

Phone Number: (08) 8222 7020

Web: [www.sahealth.gov.au](http://www.sahealth.gov.au)

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Director of Dermatology

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