

# OUTPATIENT SERVICE DESCRIPTION & TRIAGE GUIDELINES

## GASTROENTEROLOGY

### Southern Adelaide Local Health Network (SALHN)

### Description of Service

Luminal Gastroenterology services are provided at Flinders Medical Centre and Noarlunga Health Service. Click on the following links for referral and management guidelines for specific conditions. All required information and investigations outlined in these links need to be provided on the referral to enable appropriate triaging. Referrals that do not include the required information will be returned to the referring doctor.

- [Chronic lower abdominal pain](#)
- [Constipation](#)
- [Diarrhoea](#)
- [Dyspepsia](#)
- [Dysphagia](#)
- [Gastro-oesophageal reflux](#)
- [Haematemesis and Melaena](#) – contact Gastroenterology Registrar
- [Iron deficiency anaemia](#)
- [Nausea and Vomiting](#)
- [Rectal bleeding](#)
- [Weight loss](#)

### Services provided

- Management of gastroenterology conditions as above
- Luminal gastroenterology procedures
- Inflammatory Bowel Disease management (refer to IBD Clinic)
- SCOOP Program – colorectal cancer surveillance
- Management of liver conditions (refer to Liver Clinic)

### Services not provided

- Colonoscopy for average risk colorectal cancer screening

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

Flinders Medical Centre (FMC)  
Noarlunga Health Service (NHS)

Ph: 8204 5511  
Ph: 8384 9222

### For appointments contact the Gastroenterology clinics on

[Flinders Medical Centre \(FMC\)](#)

Fax: 8204 5555

Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) Clinic (FMC)

Fax: 8404 2152

[Liver Clinic \(FMC\)](#)

Fax: 8284 6869

### Triage Criteria for Referral

<b>Category 1</b> <b>Target within 4 weeks</b> <b>Current up to 7 months</b>	<b>Category 2</b> <b>Target within 3 months</b> <b>Current up to <math>\geq</math> 2 years</b>	<b>Category 3</b> <b>Target within 6 months</b> <b>No appointments currently offered</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FIT +ve</li> <li>• Iron deficiency anaemia - If premenopausal category 2</li> <li>• Dysphagia</li> <li>• PR bleeding (<math>\geq</math> 40 years)</li> <li>• Abnormal imaging where cancer is suspected</li> <li>• Coeliac serology (tTG or antiendomysial ab) positive referrals</li> <li>• Consideration of PEG</li> <li>• Suspected Upper GI Bleed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All referrals from within FMC &amp; NHS (unless fit category 1 criteria)</li> <li>• Significant weight loss</li> <li>• PR bleeding (under 40years)</li> <li>• Significant impact of symptoms on patient quality of life OR have presented to ED and does not fit urgent category</li> <li>• Complicated Diverticulitis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reflux</li> <li>• Family history CRC, no symptoms</li> <li>• Past history of colonic polyps/CRC for screening, no symptoms</li> <li>• Functional gut symptoms with history &gt;1 year and /or slight to moderate symptom impact</li> <li>• Uncomplicated Diverticulitis.</li> </ul>

General Information to assist with referrals and the and Referral templates for FMC are available to download from the SALHN Outpatient Services website [www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/SALHNoutpatients](http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/SALHNoutpatients)

Version	Date from	Date to	Amendment
2.1	Nov 2017	Nov 2019	Removal of RGH details