Haemoptysis

- Major Haemoptysis - > 200ml – refer to Emergency Department.
- Small volume haemoptysis – in the setting of antiplatelet and anticoagulant therapy could be related to current treatment regime.
- Unexplained small volume haemoptysis contact respiratory registrar.

Information Required

- Volume of Haemoptysis
    - Major haemoptysis: > 200ml blood loss
    - Streaks of blood in sputum
- Current medications – detail antiplatelet & anticoagulant therapy.
- Reason for referral
- Associated symptoms
    - Breathlessness, pleuritic chest pain
- Duration of symptoms
- Past medical history
- Smoking history

Investigations Required

- Relevant pathology and imaging reports
- Chest X-ray & CT imaging (CTPA if PE is a consideration).
- Full blood exam and coagulation studies.

Fax Referrals to

Major Haemoptysis – FMC Outpatient Clinic Fax: (08) 8204 6105 (Clinic B)

Minor Haemoptysis – FMC Outpatient Clinic Fax: (08) 8204 6105 or

Noarlunga GP Plus Respiratory Clinic Fax: (08) 8384 9711

Red Flags

Refer immediately send to Flinders Medical Centre Emergency department
⚐ Major Haemoptysis
- >200ml blood loss
- Haemoptysis with Hypotension/Haemodynamic compromise

Refer urgently – contact Respiratory Registrar at Flinders Medical Centre
⚐ Moderate Haemoptysis with ongoing uncontrolled haemoptysis
- <200ml blood loss

Suggested GP Management

- Major haemoptysis – Refer to ED
- Minor haemoptysis – case review and consider discussion with respiratory team if indicated.
- If associated with intercurrent bronchitis treat infection
- If current smoker advise cessation

Clinical Resources

- Lordan J.L et al.
  The pulmonary physician in critical care *Illustrative case7: Assessment and management of massive haemoptysis. Thorax. 2003 Sep;58(9):814-

General Information to assist with referrals and the Referral templates for FMC and Noarlunga GP Plus are available to download from the SALHN Outpatient Services website www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/SALHNoutpatients.

Version	Date from	Date to	Amendment
2.0	August 2017	August 2019	Original

Government of South Australia

SA Health