

<b>Orthopaedic Outpatients</b> <b>Clinic for general orthopaedic conditions for adults</b>		
Categories for Appointment		
	Clinical description	Timeframe for Appointment
Urgent	Eg life threatening condition (possible malignancy) severe pain and debilitation , carer or unable to work	0-3 months
Semi-urgent	Severe pain and debilitation , carer or unable to work	3-6 months
Routine	Eg Minimal effects on Activities of Daily Living, not a carer and condition not requiring time off work	variable
Emergency	Based on clinical judgement eg immobile, unable to self- care, sepsis, joint infection	Refer to Emergency Department For assessment
Eligibility Criteria and referral triage		
<p>For general adult orthopaedic conditions.</p> <p><b>Referral Triage</b>            GP referrals are triaged by Orthopaedic Consultants</p> <p><b>1) Accurate Triage for urgency is assisted by GP referral information;</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diagnosis</li> <li>• History and duration of complaint</li> <li>• Symptoms and severity of complaint</li> <li>• Details of conservative treatment to date</li> <li>• How condition affects <b>Activities of Daily Living</b></li> <li>• <b>Social history eg: employment or carer status</b>                how the complaint affects ability to work or be a carer directly affects triage</li> <li>• <b>Imaging results</b> (plain x-rays results &lt; 6months old)</li> <li>• Stipulation of new patient/complaint or review patient for same complaint (review patients for same complaint seen earlier).</li> </ul> <p><b>2) Orthopaedic Screening Clinic:</b> Patients may be required to attend an Orthopaedic Screening Clinic run by an advanced musculoskeletal physiotherapist for further triage, assessment and management advice (eg referral to physiotherapy) prior to being seen in Orthopaedic Outpatients, particularly for hip, knee and shoulder complaints.</p>		

Exclusions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Children</b> - can be referred to Monash Health or Royal Children's Hospital <b>NB Acute hip and knee conditions/injuries in children over the age of 15 years can be managed if appropriate at Peninsula Health after assessment in the Emergency Department.</b></li> <li>● <b>Spinal or Back</b> Conditions - can be referred to Monash Health or other provider</li> <li>● <b>Hand Surgery</b> Conditions- can be referred to private Plastic Surgeon or other provider</li> <li>● <b>Fractures</b> - can be referred to Fracture clinic after acceptance of referral by Orthopaedic registrar or Emergency Department for emergency care. See 'Fracture Clinic Outpatients' service description for more information</li> </ul>
Alternative Referral Options
Private orthopaedic services <a href="#">Victorian Paediatric Orthopaedic Network</a>
Clinic Information
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Referral must be addressed to Head of Unit, Mr Peter McCombe</b></li> <li>● Tuesday and Friday (except public holidays )</li> <li>● Outpatient Area 1, Hastings Road, Frankston Hospital.</li> <li>● Contact details Fax <b>9788 1879</b> PH 9784 2600</li> </ul>
Minimum Referral Information Required (Please note, cannot be processed if minimum information is missing)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Referral must be addressed to Head of Unit, Mr Peter McCombe</b></li> <li>● Referring practitioner name, provider number and signature.</li> <li>● Date of referral               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ If review of same complaint occurs after 12 months from initial referral, a new referral will be required</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <i>Period for which referral is valid (if different to standard referral validity)</i></li> <li>● Patient's name, address, date of birth, and phone number.</li> <li>● Medicare Number desirable</li> <li>● Clinical details and reason for referral.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Single orthopaedic issue per referral*</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Relevant medical history</li> <li>● Medications &amp; Allergies</li> <li>● Results of all recent and relevant investigations <b>specifically x-rays, ultrasound and MRI reports. Plain x-rays need to be less than 6 months old at time of referral</b></li> </ul> <p>*Different orthopaedic issues can be given different triaging time frames and can be referred to different surgeons. Although this can mean the patient needs to attend two appointments, it ensures they are managed by the correct surgeon for each issue</p>

### Other Information

- GPs are encouraged to have patients trial conservative treatment, especially physiotherapy, before referral to or while waiting to be seen in orthopaedic specialist clinic.
- Peninsula Health Orthopaedic Referral Guidelines 2015
- Fracture Clinic service description
- Orthopaedic Scening clinic service description, includes information on
  - **OAHKS** (Osteoarthritis Hip and Knee Service)
  - **STIRC** (Sort Tissue Injury Review Clinic)