

Referring to a public specialist clinic in Victoria? New statewide referral criteria from 1 May 2021

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- WHAT: Statewide specialist clinic referral criteria (SRC) have been developed by the Department of Health (DH) in consultation with specialists and GPs, for select core conditions within a number of specialties. Statewide referral criteria is now in effect for ENT, Vascular, Urology, Gastroenterology, Gynaecology and Neurology.
- WHY: Health services often have different referral guidelines for specialist clinics.

Statewide referral criteria provide clear guidance to referring clinicians about which patients will be seen in specialist clinics and what investigations are required to support safe and appropriate triage.

Statewide referral criteria are shared by all Victorian hospitals, making referral less complex and more equitable.

This project is supported by the Victorian Government and the Victorian and Tasmanian Primary Health Network Alliance (VTPHNA)

- WHERE: The new statewide referral criteria, and related clinical and referral pathways, are now available across all Victorian HealthPathways websites (or equivalent). Alternatively, the SRC can be viewed on the official DH website at <u>src.health.vic.gov.au</u>
- WHEN: From 1 May 2021 all Victorian public hospitals are currently expected to assess new adult referrals for Cardiology, Endocrinology, Obstetrics, Ophthalmology and Rheumatology against the statewide referral criteria.

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