Description of Service

ENT services are provided at Flinders Medical Centre. 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 enough required information to triage will be returned to the referring doctor.

- Sinus and Nasal Disorders
- Laryngeal and Voice Disorders
- Tonsillectomy and adenotonsillectomy
- Head and Neck Disorders
- Obstructive Sleep Apnoea and Snoring Disorders

Services provided

- Sinus and skull base surgery
- Head and neck surgery
- Sleep apnoea
- Sleep disordered breathing surgery
- Laryngology (voice)
- Otology and cochlear implant
- General paediatrics
- General adult ENT

Services Not Provided

- Chronic Otitis Externa
- Cosmetic Rhinoplasty
- TMJ/Dental Issues
- Auditory Processing Disorders
- Requests for hearing aids for bi-lateral down-sloping high frequency symmetrical sensorineural hearing loss

Hearing assessments should be referred directly to the Audiology Department on fax 8204 8941

Triage Criteria for Referral

**Category 1**
Target within 4 week
Current < 4 weeks
- Head & Neck Cancer
- Enlarging neck mass
- Persistant ulcer in mouth or throat (>1 month)
- Abnormal imaging where malignancy is suspected
- Persistent sore throat (>1 month) and unilateral ear pain
- Persistent hoarseness in a current smoker or recently reformed smoker (stopped within a year)
- Persistent hoarseness in a patient with a known gastric, lung or ENT malignancy
- Progressive dysphagia with weight loss
- Facial palsy and a discharging ear/ear pain

**Category 2**
Target within 3 months
Current paediatrics 1½ yrs
Current adults 1 yr
- Cholesteatoma diagnosis or suspicion
- Speech or developmental delay in a child with a hearing loss greater than 30dB average
- Child with congenital syndromes that affect their learning and development and/or a hearing loss greater than 30dB average
- Recurrent acute otitis media (>3 infections in 6 months or >4 in a year)
- Sleep disordered breathing / OSA in a child between aged 2 to 12 years (refer to WCH directly if age < 2 years or < 15 kg weight)

**Category 3**
Target within 6 months
Current paediatrics > 3 yrs
Current Adults > 3 yrs
- Recurrent acute sinusitis (>3 infections in 6 months or >4 in a year)
- Chronic sinusitis (continuous symptoms > 3 months)
- Epistaxis
- Obstructive sleep apnoea (mild) in an adult intolerant of CPAP or primary snoring
- Otitis externa
- Tonsillitis
- Tinnitus
- Chronic hearing loss
- Tympanic membrane perforations

For admission or URGENT advice contact the ENT Registrar
Flinders Medical Centre (FMC) Ph: (08) 8204 5511

For appointments contact the ENT clinic
Flinders Medical Centre (FMC) Fax: (08) 8374 4928

Approved by Prof Eng Ooi
Date:
| Fractured nose within 7 days of injury | Moderate to severe Obstructive sleep apnoea (sleep study result attached) in an adult intolerant of CPAP | Vertigo ‘Globus’ – sensation of a lump in the throat with no other voice or swallowing symptoms |
| Persistent unilateral nasal discharge mixed with blood > 1 month | CSF rhinorrhea (Beta-2 transferrin positive nasal fluid) | | Orbital complications from sinusitis |
| Enlarging neck mass | Benign head and neck, thyroid masses | Chronic sinusitis with red flags |
| Persistent ulcer in mouth or throat (> 1 month) | Facial palsy and a discharging ear/ear pain | | Sudden severe hearing loss |
| Abnormal imaging where malignancy is suspected | Persistent hoarseness in a current smoker or recently reformed smoker (stopped within a year) | | Persistent hoarseness in a patient with a known gastric, lung or ENT malignancy |
| Persistent hoarseness in a patient with a known gastric, lung or ENT malignancy | Progressive dysphagia | | Persistent sore throat (> 2 months) and unilateral ear pain |

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