

Fact sheet

# Central Adelaide Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) Service

## Clinical Information Sheet

Clinical Condition	Neck Masses
<b>Eligibility</b>	Inflammatory (ie, painful). Non-inflammatory (ie, painless). Thyroid masses
<b>Priority</b>	Inflammatory (ie, painful) otolaryngology/ Surgical referral indicated if mass persists for four weeks without improvement Urgent referral if painless, progressive enlargement or if suspicion of metastatic carcinoma. Non-Inflammatory (ie, painless) – Otolaryngology referral is indicated in all cases of non- inflammatory neck masses Thyroid masses- Otolaryngology referral is indicated.
<b>Differential Diagnoses</b>	
<b>Information required with referral</b>	Include history or findings of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete head and neck examination</li> <li>• Results of FNA/ Biopsy if performed</li> <li>• Results of CT scan if performed</li> <li>• Duration of symptoms</li> <li>• Smoking/alcohol use</li> </ul>
<b>Investigations required with referral</b>	Complete head and neck exam indicated. CT Scan Consider USS guided FNA after CT Open Biopsy is contraindicated for non- inflammatory and thyroid masses. Optional for inflammatory: CBC, Cultures, Intradermal TB test, HIV testing, ? Cat scratch disease, Toxoplasmosis titre, TSH levels.
<b>Pre-Referral management strategies (information required with referral)</b>	Inflammatory – Augmentin 20-40mg/kg/day Clindamycin 10 – 25 mg/kg/day Non- inflammatory-Trial of antibiotic therapy may be considered if an inflammatory mass is suspected. NB: 80% of all non thyroid masses are malignant.
<b>Discharge Criteria/information</b>	Once condition stabilises
<b>Fact sheets</b>	

### For more information

**Central Adelaide - Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) Service**

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**The Queen Elizabeth Hospital, 28 Woodville Road, WOODVILLE Telephone: 08 8222 6000**

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