

Pulmonary Embolus

- Acute symptoms and suspected and newly diagnosed Pulmonary Embolism – Refer directly to Emergency Department at Flinders Medical Centre (FMC).
- Pulmonary Embolism – on treatment warrants review with respiratory physician at 6 months in the outpatient clinics.
- Bleeding complications on treatment (anticoagulation) refer to Emergency Department at FMC

Information Required

- Details of diagnosis – including imaging location.
- Duration of symptoms
- Past medical history – bleeding diathesis, or history of antiplatelet and anticoagulant use.
- Current medications
- Contraindication to anticoagulation (if any)
- History of falls and any potential issues with compliance of medication.

Investigations Required

- Relevant pathology and imaging reports
- Recent blood tests.
- Coagulation tests – including FBE, and INR.
- Renal & Liver function

Fax Referrals to

FMC Outpatient Clinic Fax: (08) 8204 6105 (Clinic B)
 Noarlunga GP Plus Fax: (08) 8384 9711

Red Flags – Requiring urgent review

Prompting consideration of other diagnosis, particularly malignancy

- ☞ Acute shortness of breath
- ☞ Pleuritic chest pain
- ☞ History of PE
- ☞ In the setting of recent immobilisation (surgery / long distance travel)
- ☞ History of DVT / Malignancy

Suggested GP Management

- Refer appropriately.
- Test of choice – if Chest radiograph is normal – V/Q scan. If Chest radiograph is abnormal – CTPA, (check renal functions prior), presuming no iodine or contrast allergy

Clinical Resources

- NICE. National Excellence for Health and Care Excellence. Venous thromboembolic diseases: the management of venous thromboembolic diseases and the role of thrombophilia testing. June 2012. <http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg144>

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.

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