

Fact sheet

Royal Adelaide Hospital

Neurosurgery Outpatient Services

Clinical Information Sheet

Clinical Condition	Spinal disorder with associated red flags
Eligibility	<p>Spinal Pain +/- limb symptoms, or limb symptoms of suspected spinal origin <u>accompanied by</u> red flags. Including but not exclusive of the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unexplained weight loss • Immunosuppression • Prolonged use of steroids • IV drug use • UTI • Non mechanical pain • Fever • Bowel or bladder incontinence (with saddle anaesthesia, loss of anal sphincter tone) • Upper motor neuron signs • History of cancer
Pre-referral management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate for red flags as appropriate. Screening may include: XR, CT Scan, MRI, CBE (ESR, CRP), WBBS • Analgesia recommendation/prescription as appropriate
Priority	<p><u>URGENT</u></p> <p>Refer patient immediately to the Neurosurgery Outpatient Clinic with copies of investigation findings. Clearly mark referral as urgent and confirm receipt of referral (Fax. 08 7074 6247)</p> <p>If <u>IMMEDIATE</u> (same day) consultation is required refer patient to the Emergency Department and/or contact the Neurosurgery Fellow/Registrar at the RAH via switch: Tel. (08) 7074 0000</p>
Investigations required with referral	<p>Include copies of all relevant investigation findings (as suggested in pre-referral management above)</p>
Discharge Criteria/information	<p>Discharge after investigation and management as required</p>

For more information

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