Metropolitan Referral Unit
Information for General Practitioners

The Metropolitan Referral Unit (MRU) provides a centralised single point of contact for referral to a range of services to support hospital avoidance and discharge support services for SA Health public hospitals. The team of clinicians in the MRU review and assess referrals to link individuals to the most appropriate service model and response to avoid hospital admission or support an early return home from SA Public Hospitals.

What is SA Community Care?
SA Community Care is the SA Health model of care that provides short term clinical services to support immediate hospital avoidance for individuals at home or in residential aged care that are at risk of a hospital presentation. Services regularly accessed by General Practitioners and Practice nurses include:

> IV antibiotic therapy- including cannulation
> Short term wound care
> Blood Transfusion – low risk
> Other Nursing/ Midwifery care and allied health, personal care services directly related to immediate hospital avoidance

If you have a patient who you think we could assist in avoiding a public hospital presentation please contact the clinicians in the MRU and discuss your patients individual needs. Please ensure your patient has consented to a referral to MRU for services.

How to contact the Metropolitan Referral Unit?
The MRU is open between 8am and 8pm, 7 days a week including public holidays. Referrals are accepted by telephone or fax. Please note that the service is not an emergency response and usual processes for emergency care should be followed.

**Telephone: 1300 110 600**
**Fax: 1300 546 104**

A referral form and other information related to specific service that you may need to access are found [www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/MRU](http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/MRU)

Once we have received your referral we will contact you and confirm a service for eligible patients within one hour.

Do you need a site visit from team to provide education and update?
Please contact the MRU Coordinator on 1300 110 600 if you would like to have the team from the MRU arrange a time to visit your organisation and discuss directly the services that can be provided.