About new appointments

# What are Specialist Clinics?

Specialist Clinics are medical clinics where you can see specialist doctors, allied health professionals or nurses about a specific health problem. You need a referral from your General Practitioner (GP) or family doctor, or other health care worker to see a specialist. Specialist clinics are also called ‘outpatient’ clinics.

# What happens at a clinic appointment?

A specialist doctor, allied health professional or nurse will talk to you about your health. Sometimes you might see two or three health professionals. They may arrange tests for you or other treatment. You can eat or drink before your appointment unless we tell you not to.

# What if I can’t come to my appointment?

Please tell us as soon as possible if you cannot come. You can contact us to cancel or to make a new appointment time. We can give your appointment time to someone else who can come. This helps us reduce waiting times for everyone. If you do not come to two appointments and do not tell us beforehand, you will not be given another appointment. You will need a new referral.

# How do I get ready for my appointment?

You can write down any questions you want to ask your specialist. You can also bring family or a friend to your appointment. Please come prepared on the day of your appointment. Bring a list of your medicine, relevant test results and scans, and your GP’s name and address.

# What if I need extra support?

Please tell us if

You have a disability

You need an interpreter or other cultural support

You need help with transport

# What if I need an interpreter?

Please tell us if you need an interpreter and we can provide one for your appointment. Sometimes you may need to use a telephone interpreter. There is no cost to you if you have a current Medicare card.

# Do I need to pay for my appointment?

Patients with a current Medicare card do not need to pay. If you do not have a Medicare Card or you are an overseas visitor, please tell us as you will need to pay for your appointment.

# What happens after my appointment?

Your specialist will tell you if they need to see you again. They will talk to you about what will happen next and what you need to do.

We will share information about your care with your GP and

other health professionals involved in your care.