

## Referral framework

All referrals will be assessed by the on-call General Physician. All urgent referrals please contact the on-call General Physician via the BHBH switchboard on 08 8080 1333.

There are no out of hours service for outpatient department.

Send referral to...

**Broken Hill Outpatient Service**

[FWLHD-OutpatientServices@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:FWLHD-OutpatientServices@health.nsw.gov.au)

**Fax referral to 08 8087 3689**

### Name of Clinical Condition

- Iron deficiency anaemia (IDA)

### Indications for specialist referral

- Short time to non-deferrable surgery associated with substantial blood loss
- Rapid iron repletion clinically important to prevent decompensation or transfusion
- Demonstrated intolerance to oral iron (despite modification of dose and frequency)
- Demonstrated non-compliance with oral iron
- Demonstrated lack of efficacy with therapeutic doses of oral iron (100-200 mg of elemental iron a day: e.g. 1 or 2 tablets per day of either Ferro-tab, Ferro-f-tab, Ferrogradumet, Ferrograd C, Fefol or FGF)
- Ongoing iron (blood) losses exceeding absorption
- Malabsorption of iron
- Absolute or functional iron deficiency in chronic heart failure (as per national guidelines)
- Absolute or functional iron deficiency in chronic kidney disease (as per Renal Unit guidelines)

### Referral information required

- Duration of IDA
- Symptoms
- Any source of bleeding

- Referral to the relevant specialities to investigate IDA such as gastroenterology clinic?

### Investigations required

- FBC
- Iron studies
- B12 and folate
- Renal function
- Liver function
- Coeliac screen if history is suggestive of coeliac disease

### Initial management

- Oral iron supplement if tolerated
- Refer to indication list of iron infusion as above

### 'Red Flag' items

- Any signs and symptoms of acute active bleeding
- Signs and symptoms of underlying malignancy



### How to access care in the event of a 'red flag'

- Emergency department in case of acute bleeding
- Relevant specialities in case of suspected malignancies

### Patient hand deliver or fax referral to

- 08 8087 3689