

Referral framework

Send referral...

Orange – Fax referral to 6360 2005

Dubbo – Via Argus to [wswlhd-ccdubsmc@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:wswlhdccdubsmc@health.nsw.gov.au).

If unable to access Argus, please fax to 6881 6569.

- All referral letters will be seen by a respiratory physician within 14 days
- During usual working hours, our respiratory physicians are happy to discuss any referrals

Indications for specialist referral

- Persistent haemoptysis or signs of superior vena cava obstruction
- Suspicious lesion on chest x-ray or CT scan
- High clinical suspicion of lung cancer and/or significant risk factors

Referral information required

- Please use the Lung Cancer Suspect Fast Track referral form [WNSWLHD Lung Cancer Suspect Fast Track referral form.pdf](#)

Investigations required

- Chest x-ray (PA and lateral). Note that a normal chest x-ray does not exclude lung cancer.
- CT scan of chest and upper abdomen (low resolution with contrast)

Initial management

- Manage the patient's symptoms and provide psychosocial support
- Consider a smoking cessation program
- If the patient is Aboriginal, consider involving an Aboriginal Health Worker
- For all patients, a Cancer Nurse Specialist can help with psychosocial support

'Red Flag' items

- Massive haemoptysis (> 100mL blood)
- Stridor
- Respiratory distress
- Signs to suggest superior vena cava obstruction



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

Refer any patient with red flags immediately

- For GPs in Dubbo, contact Emergency Physician in Charge on 6809 7120
- For GPs located outside of Dubbo, contact Patient Flow Unit

Other information

- Find your Lung Cancer MDT specialists on <https://www.canrefer.org.au/>
- Information on optimum cancer care pathways: <https://canceraustralia.gov.au/publications-andresources/cancer-australiapublications/investigating-symptoms-lung-cancerguide-gps> and <http://gp.cancer.org.au/gp-tools/>
- Patient information sheets <http://www.cancervic.org.au/downloads/resources/booklets/Understanding-Lung-Cancer.pdf>