EXCLUSIONS

Services not offered by Monash Children’s Hospital

For referrals of children with Complex Developmental Issues:
- Urgent referrals are not appropriate for this clinic. Suggest contact local paediatrician or ELMHS for urgent advice.
- Paediatrician or Child Psychiatrist referral is required. Direct GP referrals are not accepted.
- Assessment clinic only - no ongoing management clinic available.
- Referral for isolated allied health assessments not available.

For referrals of children with Spina Bifida:
- External urgent referrals not appropriate.
- GP or Paediatrician referral required.
- Referral for isolated allied health assessments not available.
- Antenatal counselling for neural tube defects is via referral from the Monash Foetal Diagnostic Unit only.

We see patients up to 18 years of age.

For referrals of children for FASD Assessment:
- External urgent referrals not appropriate.
- Paediatrician referral required. Direct GP referrals are not accepted
- Referral for isolated allied health assessments not available.
- Assessment clinic only - no ongoing management clinic available.
- Children aged 3-10 are assessed through Victorial Fetal Alcohol Service (VicFAS)
- Children aged 0-3 are assessed through the Jacana Clinic

CONDITIONS

Complex developmental issues  Spina bifida  Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

PRIORITY

All referrals received are triaged by Monash Children’s Hospital clinicians to determine urgency of referral.

For emergency cases please do any of the following:
- send the patient to the Emergency department OR
- Contact the on call registrar OR
- Phone 000 to arrange immediate transfer to ED

Urgent referrals are not appropriate for these clinics. Please consider referral to a local paediatrician for urgent advice.

The patient's condition is unlikely to deteriorate quickly or have significant consequences for the person's health and quality of life if the specialist assessment is delayed beyond one month

Head of unit:  Dr Katrina Harris
Program Director:  Prof Nick Freezer
Last updated:  20/02/2023
## Mandatory referral content

### Demographic:
- Full name
- Date of birth
- Next of kin
- Postal address
- Contact number(s)
- Email address
- Medicare number
- Referring Paediatrician details including provider number
- Usual GP
- Interpreter requirements

### Clinical:
- Reason for referral
- Duration of symptoms
- Management to date and response to treatment
- Past medical history
- Current medications and medication history if relevant
- Functional status
- Psychosocial history
- Dietary status
- Family history
- Diagnostics as per referral guidelines

## REFERRAL

### How to refer to Monash Children’s Hospital

All external referrals need to be submitted via HealthLink, no faxed or emailed referrals will be accepted.

Internal referrals are submitted via SMR.

## CONTACT US

### General enquiries:
Phone: 8572 3004

### FASD Services enquiries:
Phone: 8572 3773

### Submit a referral

Referrals should be to:
- Dr K Harris (Developmental Paediatrics)
- Dr K Harris (FASD Services)
- Dr S Hennel (Spina bifida clinic)

Phone: (03) 8572 3004

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**Head of unit:**
Dr Katrina Harris

**Program Director:**
Prof Nick Freezer

**Last updated:**
20/02/2023
COMPLEX DEVELOPMENTAL ISSUES

PRESENTATIONS MAY INCLUDE
• Developmental concerns in a number of areas
• Autism for assessment
• 22q11 deletion syndrome and other genetic conditions (Developmental assessment)
• Other

INITIAL PEDIATRICIAN/ CHILD PSYCH WORK UP
• Check hearing
• Check vision
• Referral to local allied health as indicated.
• Referral to Early intervention services, as appropriate.
• School report outlining concerns.

MANAGEMENT OPTIONS FOR GP
Referral to local General paediatric or Child Youth Mental Health services

WHEN TO REFER?

ROUTINE
The Developmental Paediatrics Clinic provides multidisciplinary assessment only. Ongoing long term management is not provided. Access to the service requires paediatrician/child psychiatrist referral.
SPINA BIFIDA

Spina Bifida

Initial GP Work Up
• Check hearing
• Check vision
• Referral to local allied health as indicated.
• Referral to Early intervention services, as appropriate.

Management Options for GP
Referral to local General paediatric services

WHEN TO REFER?
Routine
Patients, under 18 years presenting with spina bifida/neural tube defects who have long term complex needs

FASD Services

Victorian Fetal Alcohol Service - VicFAS

WHEN TO REFER?
Routine
Patients 3-10 with developmental and behavioural concerns, and a history of prenatal alcohol exposure.
Access to the service requires referral by a paediatrician.
The patient must reside in Victoria

Initial GP Work Up
• Check hearing
• Check vision
• Referral to local allied health as indicated.
• Referral to Early intervention services, as appropriate.

Management Options for GP
Referral to local General paediatric services

Jacana Clinic

WHEN TO REFER?
Routine
Babies and young children aged 0-3 years with confirmed prenatal exposure to alcohol, where there are concerns about their current or future development.
Referrals can be made by GP’s, obstetricians and paediatricians.

Initial GP Work Up
• Check hearing
• Check vision
• Referral to local allied health as indicated.
• Referral to Early intervention services, as appropriate.

Management Options for GP
Referral to local General paediatric services

WHEN TO REFER?
Routine
Patients, under 18 years presenting with spina bifida/neural tube defects who have long term complex needs