

THE ALFRED REFERRAL GUIDELINES: INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Infectious diseases:

Skin and soft tissue infections

Genital discharge

Fever / pyrexia of unknown origin

Diarrhoea

Acute diarrhoea

Chronic diarrhoea

Jaundice

Upper respiratory tract infection

Lower respiratory tract infection

Fever and a rash

Travel medicine

Travel advice

Fever in returned travellers

HIV medicine

New diagnosis HIV

Established HIV

HIV / Hepatitis C co-infection

Mental health issues in HIV patients

Non-occupational post-exposure prophylaxis

Splenectomised and hyposplenic patients

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Infectious diseases

Diagnosis	Evaluation	Referral Guidelines
Skin and soft tissue infections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swab of purulent discharge FBE U&Es LFTs 	Refer to Infectious Diseases Clinic, contact telephone: 9076 6081 Fax: 9076 6528 Return to contents page
Genital discharge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> STI history Swab of discharge Serology for syphilis, HIV Urine for Chlamydia, gonococcal PCR 	Refer to Infectious Diseases Clinic, contact telephone: 9076 6081 Fax: 9076 6528 Return to contents page
Fever, pyrexia of unknown origin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travel, contact, animal history FBE, LFTs, CRP Urine for MSU Blood cultures 	If rigors present, refer IMMEDIATELY by contacting Infectious Diseases registrar through The Alfred Switchboard on 9076 2000. Return to contents page
Diarrhoea (acute)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faeces for M&C Faeces for ova, cysts and parasites 	Refer to Infectious Diseases Clinic, contact telephone: 9076 6081 Fax: 9076 6528 Return to contents page
Diarrhoea (chronic)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faeces for M&C Faeces for ova, cysts and parasites Cryptosporidium stain Faecal fats Thyroid function 	Refer to Infectious Diseases Clinic, contact telephone: 9076 6081 Fax: 9076 6528 Return to contents page
Jaundice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> History of travel, gallstone pain, medications, exposure to hepatitis Upper GIT USS The Alfred Radiology request form LFTs FBE, Haemolytic screen Serology for Hep BsAg, Hep A IgM, IgG, Hep C antibody 	Contact Infectious Diseases registrar through The Alfred Switchboard on 9076 2000. Return to contents page
Upper Respiratory Tract symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Throat swab for PCR for respiratory viruses Nasopharyngeal aspirate PCR Serology for EBV, influenza, pertussis 	If concerned, refer to Infectious Diseases Clinic, contact telephone: 9076 6081 Fax: 9076 6528 Return to contents page
Lower Respiratory Tract symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sputum for M&C CXR The Alfred Radiology request form Legionella and pneumococcal urinary antigens Consider any TB contacts, then sputum for AFB, M&C Serology: Legionella, Mycoplasma and Chlamydia 	IMMEDIATE referral if rigors, breathless on room air or oxygen desaturation: contact Infectious Diseases registrar through The Alfred Switchboard on 9076 2000. Return to contents page
Fever and a rash	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> History of travel, animal contacts Seek history of medication and bites FBE, LFTs Blood cultures If vesicular rash, swab for herpes virus PCR 	Consider meningococcal infection and IMMEDIATE referral. Return to contents page

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Travel medicine

Diagnosis	Evaluation	Referral Guidelines
Advice for travellers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clinical history• Record of previous vaccinations• Medications• Travel plans	For travel advice, phone 9076 3795. Return to contents page
Fever in returned travellers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Blood cultures (typhoid)• FBE, LFTs• Thick and thin film and ICT for malaria• Faeces M&C• Serology: Dengue, Hepatitis A	IMMEDIATE referral recommended by contacting Infectious Diseases registrar through The Alfred Switchboard on 9076 2000. Return to contents page

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HIV medicine

Diagnosis	Evaluation	Referral Guidelines
New diagnosis HIV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Symptomatic illness ie constitutional symptoms or organ specific symptoms • Copy of HIV Antibody test result and Western blot Also, if available: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CD4 count • Viral load • Sexually transmitted infection testing • Hepatitis screen 	Refer on confirmation of diagnosis. Newly diagnosed patients will be seen within 1 week of referral. Fax referral to 9076 6528. If acutely unwell, phone HIV registrar through Switchboard on 9076 2000, and/or send to the Alfred Emergency and Trauma Centre. Return to contents page
Established HIV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reason for referral eg complications • History of AIDS-defining illness • Treatment history including Antiretroviral Rx • Current therapy Baseline testing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIV Antibody test result and Western blot Also, if available: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General pathology – FBE, U&Es, LFTs • CD4 counts • HIV Viral loads • HIV Genotype • HLA B57 • Sexually transmitted infection testing • Hepatitis screen 	Referral for review in appropriate HIV subspecialty clinics : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIV Neurology • HIV Neuropsychology • HIV/Hepatitis C Co-infection • Metabolic Abnormalities • Drug and Alcohol Services • Victorian HIV Mental Health Service • HIV Oncology • HIV Women's Clinic • HIV Surgical Lipo atrophy If acutely unwell, phone HIV registrar through Switchboard on 9076 2000, and/or send to the Alfred Emergency and Trauma Centre. If not an emergency, fax referral to 9076 6528. Return to contents page
Hepatitis C/HIV Co-infection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIV treatment history • History of active Hepatitis B/C infection including LFTs, liver biopsy result if performed • Past and current treatment of viral hepatitis 	Refer on confirmation of diagnosis. Fax referral to 9076 6528. If acutely unwell, phone HIV registrar through Switchboard on 9076 2000, and/or send to the Alfred Emergency and Trauma Centre. Return to contents page
Mental health issues in HIV patients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Psychiatric history • Past and current treatment • Risk assessment, if available 	Victorian HIV Mental Health Service home page Victorian HIV Mental Health Service referral form If acutely unwell, phone local area CAT team. Return to contents page
Non-Occupational Post –Exposure Prophylaxis (NPEP)		Phone 1800 889 887 For more information, see the Non-occupational Post Exposure Prophylaxis (NPEP) homepage Return to contents page

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Splenectomised and hyposplenic patients

Diagnosis	Evaluation	Referral Guidelines
Post-splenectomy Hyposplenism Asplenism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reason for splenectomy • Reason for hyposplenism eg extensive spleen damage, splenic embolisation • Date of splenectomy • Vaccination history • Prophylactic antibiotics • History of sepsis/thrombosis • Referral if travel advice required • FBE and film • Howell-Jolly bodies • IgM memory B cell testing is available at The Alfred <p>Victorian Spleen Registry Patient Information</p>	<p>If signs of bacterial infection, refer IMMEDIATELY to The Alfred Emergency and Trauma Centre. For referral and enquiries, phone 9076 3828. To register, fax Victorian Spleen Registry outpatient registration form to 9076 2431. Recommendations for prevention of infection in asplenic (or hyposplenic) patients Victorian Spleen Registry outpatient registration form</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Return to contents page</p>