

Consultant to Consultant Referrals – A Quick Guide



Urgent

NHS / Private
Immediate need or Urgent
(< 28days) for Investigation
or Treatment

> REFER DIRECT to appropriate specialist team

- Either related or unrelated to the originating condition
- · Ensure safety netting in place
- · Do NOT refer back to the GP

2 NHS + Not urgent :
Condition related to the condition for which they

> REFER DIRECT to appropriate specialist team

- Includes referrals to other providers e.g. physio, SALT, Mental Health, Tertiary teams
- Consider locally agreed pathways or policies
- · Do NOT refer back to the GP

Routine

Private + Not urgent:
Condition related to the
condition for which they
were referred or presented

were referred or presented

> REFER DIRECT to appropriate specialist team

- Patients are entitled to be transferred from private care to the NHS.
- Secondary Care MUST accept these referrals regardless of the proforma.
- This is not a bypass to quicker treatment
- Do NOT refer back to the GP

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NHS / Private + Not urgent: Condition NOT related to the condition on they were referred or presented

➤ ADVISE THE PATIENT to consider making a GP appointment

- Do not tell the patient the GP will contact them
- Do not advise the patient what the GP should do
- The General Practice can assess the situation & decide on the appropriate pathway

Payment: Cheshire & Merseyside ICB will pay for all referrals completed in good faith using this protocol