Statewide Referral Criteria

Information for Referrers

SRC support clinical judgement with:

- identification of appropriate conditions for referral
- preparation of referrals with the required clinical information
- flagging emergency or alternative care clinical indications

What is included in each SRC?

1 **Emergency**	Red flags, when seeking medical advice, and when urgent or emergency care should be considered. Do not use these criteria to refer to public specialist outpatient services.
2 **Out of scope**	Presentations not routinely managed by the outpatient service. Primary or alternative care may be appropriate, with exceptions where clinically appropriate.
3 **Access and prioritisation**	Who may be suitable and the recommended urgency category. Applies only where a service exists and manages the condition.
4 **Required information**	Information that must be included so the referral can be assessed for clinical urgency.
5 **Additional information**	Helpful information to include if it is available. Referral processing can continue without it.

What referrers need to do:

Find	Open the SRC for the relevant specialty and presenting condition.
Check	Confirm the service manages the condition and review emergency or out-of-scope criteria.
Include	Provide all required information and any useful additional information available.
Discuss	Explain the next step to the patient, including other care options where appropriate.

SRC availability:

NSW Health website: www.health.nsw.gov.au/outpatients/referrals
HealthPathways: Western NSW HealthPathways
Electronic referral systems (ie embedded in HealthLink eReferrals)

FAQs: www.health.nsw.gov.au/outpatients/referrals/Pages/faqs
For more information or feedback, contact: MOH-Outpatients@health.nsw.gov.au