

## **X-ray triage for fracture clinic**

Our role as JMOs is to ensure that patients are triaged appropriately so that they have the correct orders in place on EMR (x-ray requests, plaster tech referral, etc) prior to being consulted by the Doctor in clinic. Fracture clinic occurs every Tuesday at Footscray hospital. It is busy (average 150-200 patients booked) and each one of these patients need to be triaged by us. This does require some level of understanding of the different types of injuries and which injuries can be demonstrated on certain imaging modalities. If in doubt, order the appropriate x-ray and views of the injured side and confer with a registrar (who are happy to help!). Refer to the Orthopaedic PAC guidelines document found in PAC (in the orthopaedic folder in the drawers) which contains useful information about different views and the "how to x-ray triage file" on google drive is a valuable resource.

The PAC resident and intern will have time allocated to x-ray triage during your clinic week. You will triage all remaining patients that haven't been triaged for the Tuesday fracture clinic (usually add ons over the weekend) on your PAC week and then for the following Tuesday. My advice is to start this early in the week as it is time consuming and somewhat arduous. It does get better with practice!

Types of patients:

- New - WH ED vs external (eg GP)
- Review

New patients referred via all WH ED campuses and can be easily looked up on EMR. The same applies to review patients (if they were consulted after outpatients was rolled out on EMR in July 2023, otherwise previous notes are on BOSSnet). For external referrals (visible on BOSSnet), the GP usually attaches a referral letter with results of imaging - please hub and spoke these imaging requests particularly if they are MRI, CT and ultrasound scans (as this is useful to the clinician consulting with the patient on the day). Order repeat x-rays for these new patients if required. Some patients may not require repeat imaging (especially those that have presented for a "clinical review").

Generally speaking, the most recent clinician's consult note should guide your subsequent order requests. (eg. A patient with a DR fracture managed conservatively with a FG cast, at 6 week review, remove cast, x-ray out of cast - XROOC). In the above example, two orders are required on EMR (a plaster tech referral to remove the cast and an x-ray request - specifically stating in the order comments XROOC). It's important to select the correct time interval when ordering a plaster tech referral (1 week, 2 weeks, within time of fracture clinic appointment).

The triage process has changed (in a better and more efficient manner) since EMR rolled out outpatients. Open up "ambulatory organiser" on power chart and select the correct date corresponding to a Tuesday and select "patients for ORTHO FH Fracture AM; ORTHO FH Fracture PM" and this will generate a list of the patients booked for fracture clinic that day. This will continue to update as more patients are booked in fracture clinic. See screenshot below of how the list should appear. We use the notes section to triage patients (those with a + visible next to their note have not been triaged yet and those with a paperclip symbol have been triaged - see first screenshot below). After you have reviewed the referral/ previous review note and determined what/ if orders are required then simply make a note of your request and keep it simple and transparent for our nursing and clerical staff (see second screenshot below). Continue this process for every patient and happy triaging!

- Anthony El-Bitar

Time	Duration	Patient	Details	Status (as of 2:03)	Notes
8:30 AM ORTHO FH Fractur...	5 mins	<b>Forsythe, Max MR</b> 23 Years, Male	Fracture New Data Migration iPM ReferralID: 6348...	Booked(Confirmed) Footscray	Reason for Visit: apt booked as per nurse triage
8:30 AM ORTHO FH Fractur...	5 mins	<b>Forman-Todd, Ann MRS</b> 65 Years, Female	Fracture Review	Booked(Confirmed) Footscray	Reason for Visit: Right ankle ORIF for weber C fractu...
8:30 AM ORTHO FH Fractur...	5 mins	<b>Falvo, Joe MR</b> 64 Years, Male	Fracture New Fracture Clinic	Booked(Confirmed) Footscray	Reason for Visit: 4/52 with XR prior As per discussed...
8:30 AM ORTHO FH Fractur...	5 mins	<b>Bartlett, Ezekiel MR</b> 24 Years, Male	Fracture Review	Booked(Confirmed) Footscray	Reason for Visit: 6w left mason 2 radial head, stiff ++
8:30 AM ORTHO FH Fractur...	5 mins	<b>Brown, Kevin MR</b> 92 Years, Male	Fracture New	Booked(Confirmed) Footscray <b>Triaged</b>	Reason for Visit: 22/8/23 review w XROA
8:30 AM ORTHO FH Fractur...	5 mins	<b>HOGAN, THOMAS MR</b> 41 Years, Male	Fracture Review	Booked(Confirmed) Footscray <b>Not triaged</b>	Reason for Visit: XR and review
8:35 AM ORTHO FH Fractur...	5 mins	<b>POPOVIC, JENNIFER MS</b> 73 Years, Female	Fracture Review	Booked(Confirmed) Footscray	Reason for Visit: Removal of cast then Dr review
8:35 AM ORTHO FH Fractur...	5 mins	<b>BIGNELL, JACQUELINE MS</b> 58 Years, Female	Fracture Review	Booked(Confirmed) Footscray	Reason for Visit: 6/52 post op fracture clinic r/v
8:35 AM ORTHO FH Fractur...	5 mins	<b>Guo, Fengling MRS</b> 59 Years, Female	Fracture Review Data Migration iPM ReferralID: 6340...	Booked(Confirmed) Footscray	Reason for Visit: 6wk rv Interpreter Mandarin
8:40 AM ORTHO FH Fractur...	5 mins	<b>Haidar, Eptesam MS</b> 42 Years, Female	Fracture New	Booked(Confirmed) Footscray	Reason for Visit: 5th Phalanx Fracture
8:40 AM ORTHO FH Fractur...	5 mins	<b>Pauta, Inoke MR</b> 17 Years, Male	Fracture New Fracture Clinic- 22.08.23	Booked(Confirmed) Footscray	Reason for Visit: F/U management
8:40 AM ORTHO FH Fractur...	5 mins	<b>TRINH, CHRISTINA MISS</b> 22 Years, Female	Fracture New Fracture Clinic	Booked(Confirmed) Footscray	Reason for Visit: Ortho
8:45 AM		<b>HONEYWILL, LEE MR</b>	Fracture New	Booked(Confirmed)	

Comments

Plaster tech referral and XROOC (ordered)

(41 / 255)

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Reason for Visit:

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