

## Geriatric Medicine

Telephone: 9431 2673; Moss St Centre: 9319 8644

**'GP Hotline'**: Geriatric Registrar, Page through Switchboard 9431 3333; 9431 2673 for information on progress of referral, referrals to ACAT or to contact doctors, social workers or community nurses

Head of Department: Professor David Bruce

Consultants: Dr Roger Clarnette, Prof David Bruce, Dr Emma Johnston, Dr John Kitchin, Dr Mark Wilson, Dr Alan McCutcheon, Dr Natalie Martin and Dr Helen Thomas

### Services

The Department provides a regional Geriatric Medicine service within the Fremantle Catchment Area (a copy of the catchment area can be obtained by phoning 9431 2673) The Department welcomes referrals for advice and assistance for any elderly patients, and for younger patients with disabilities if they are in need of services provided by the department.

#### **Aged Care Assessment Team (ACAT)**


This is a statutory agency incorporated within the Department. It is not a separate department and referrals should not be sent to 'ACAT' but to 'Geriatric Medicine'. Members of the Department have delegated authority to assess patients for high care (nursing home), low care (hostel) and community aged care packages. If other alternatives are available then these will be pursued. Completion of the Aged Care Client Record (ACCR) is necessary before admission to high and low level care facilities can occur. The Department carries out a comprehensive geriatric assessment on all such patients prior to completion of the ACCR.

### Rehabilitation Wards (V5 at Fremantle Hospital and Amity Ward Kaleeya Hospital)

Admission to the ward occurs via a priority wait list administered by the department. The waiting for admission varies but may be up to two weeks at peak periods. Admission of patients directly from the community is possible but difficult because of waiting lists. Emergency admissions direct to the ward are therefore unlikely and such patients should be sent directly to the emergency department.

### Patients in the Community

These patients may be seen either at home or at the Moss St Centre in East Fremantle depending on the type of assessment required. There is close liaison with other community-based agencies. Referrals for outpatient/home assessment are welcome from GPs, and from Hospital staff eg following an admission or a visit to the Emergency Department. Hospital staff must inform the patient's GP of any such referral.

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## Moss St Centre

The Department operates a Day Therapy centre with specialty clinics at 33 Moss St, East Fremantle. The Moss St Centre is staffed by Registered Nurses, allied health including OT, PT, speech, dietician and clinical psychologist.

Clinics include:

- **Memory Clinic:** one of the two specialised memory clinics in the state (Dr Clarnette/Dr McCutcheon)
- **Parkinson's Clinic:** one of the two statewide Parkinson's clinics (Dr Wilson/Dr Kitchin)
- **Balance and Mobility (Falls) Clinic** (Prof Bruce)
- **Continence Clinic:** one of three state-wide Geriatrician-led clinics (Dr Johnston)
- **General Geriatric Clinics and Allied Health Clinics**

**Referrals to Moss St should be sent to Fremantle Hospital as below, not to Moss St Centre directly.**

## Referral

### Routine General Referral:

**Priority 1-3** (i.e. within 30-365 days) must be sent via mail addressed to:

Outpatient Central Receipting Office  
B10 Fremantle Hospital and Health Service  
PO Box 480  
Fremantle WA 6959

[Teaching Hospital Outpatient Referral Form](#) preferred;

To order a hard copy referral pad fax request to Fax **9431 2009**


Or

[Southern Aged Care Evaluation and Rehabilitation Service](#); to order hard copy referral form:


Tel 9431 2966

**Urgent: Priority '0':** If your clinical assessment of the patient is they require review ASAP in a specialist clinic you need to **first discuss this with the relevant Registrar** via switchboard on **9431 3333** and then Fax the referral, clearly marked **URGENT** and **stating the name of the Registrar you have spoken to** with any attached reports to Fax **9431 2009**. Please ensure that the Fax header clearly identifies

- patient name;
- clinic referred to;
- appointment date; and
- total number of pages.

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The Registrar may also request a referral be faxed directly to the clinic if your patient will be attending within 48 hours. Please also send the original by post marked with **FAXED** including date that it was faxed.

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