



Fremantle Hospital services April 2015

GP update

In February 2015, Fremantle Hospital became a high performing 300-bed specialist hospital dedicated to improving the health of the community through the delivery of safe, efficient and high-quality health care.

As south metropolitan's biggest specialist hospital, Fremantle Hospital focuses on providing a range of services including aged care, mental health, secondary rehabilitation, planned surgery and specialist medical services.

As a specialist hospital, some key services transitioned to other hospitals in late 2014 and early 2015 including paediatric services, the emergency department, cardiothoracic surgery and hyperbaric medicine.

This update aims to provide you with an overview of Fremantle Hospital services to help you refer patients to the most appropriate service. It is available online at fhhs.health.wa.gov.au in the news and events section.

Inpatient and outpatient services

Inpatient and outpatient services available include:

- Adult elective surgical including general, orthopaedic, hand surgery, vascular and ophthalmology.
- The new hand service started on April 13 and the ophthalmology service will open in D5 in April/May.
- Adult general medical including gastroenterology procedures, endocrinology, diabetes education, infectious diseases including sexual health, and our continence service.
- Community and geriatric medicine and rehabilitation medicine. The Moss Street Centre is scheduled to move to the old paediatric ward (D4) in June.
- Adult mental health at the Fremantle Hospital Mental Health Service's Alma St Centre. The Marmion St Older Adult Mental Health Unit will move from Palmyra to Fremantle Hospital in May/June.
- The new 50-bed Day Admission Centre (DAC) which will admit and discharge patients from hospital needing day surgery or procedures. The DAC is taking the place of the former Emergency Department, with entry off South Terrace. It is due to open in June.

Pathwest

The PathWest collection centre remains on site with adjusted hours to reflect the new hospital configuration. The Fremantle Hospital service is supported by the laboratory at Fiona Stanley Hospital.

Radiology

The Radiology department accepts adult radiology referrals from general practitioners for the following services which are bulk billed:

- General x-ray by appointment or walk-in 9am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday.
- Ultrasound including general, musculoskeletal, vascular, breast, obstetric (including nuchal translucency for first trimester screening, early pregnancy scans for dating/viability and anatomy scans at 18 to 20 weeks).
- CT
- Bone Mineral Density (BMD) test.
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)– where a Medicare rebate applies.
- Orthopantomogram (OPG)

Appointments are needed for all services except for patients needing general x-rays. Referrals can be faxed to 9431 2663 and an appointment will be sent to the patient. For urgent cases and general enquiries, call 9431 2664.

Patients referred to Fremantle Hospital radiology can benefit from tertiary level reporting and easy access to the images on internal systems for clinicians caring for patients attending public hospitals.

Reports will be faxed to the referrer or transmitted electronically via Healthlink (the same system used for sending discharge summaries).

Gastroenterology

Gastroenterology procedures are being performed with anaesthetist support at both Fremantle Hospital and Fiona Stanley Hospital. Patients are triaged and allocated according to urgency and any co-morbidities. A dedicated referral form is now required and available at fhhs.health.wa.gov.au and fsh.health.wa.gov.au. A downloadable version is also available for Medical Director and work is being done for other GP software types. We appreciate the level of work involved in completing, printing and scanning these forms before sending the referrals. The information provided helps to ensure safe and accurate procedures.

Mental Health

The Fremantle Hospital Mental Health Service (FHMHS) provides inpatient and community mental health services for adults and older adults. Emergency mental health services are provided at Fiona Stanley Hospital.

The new FHMHS Assessment and Treatment Team (ATT) provides emergency mental health services at both in the community and for persons presenting for triage at FHMHS between 8am and 10pm, seven days a week and can be contacted via telephone on 9431 3555.

The Mental Health Emergency Response Line (MHERL) is available 24 hours a day to metro callers on 1300 555 788 (local call) and Peel callers on 1800 676 822 (free call).

Assessment and Treatment Team (ATT)

The new Assessment and Treatment team (ATT) is an amalgamation of the old triage and Community Assessment and Treatment Team (CATT). The team started at the Alma Street Centre (ASC) in February.

The role of the ATT is to:

- Provide the first point of access to mental health services at FHMHS.
- Offer both triaging and intervention to manage a consumer's presenting problem.
- Provide a mental health service to all persons with acute needs in the Fremantle Hospital catchment area.
- Deliver acute care services through the multi-disciplinary team (MDT).
- Provide both a triage and care coordination role with treatment lasting a maximum of 10 weeks.

The ATT provides emergency mental health services, both in the community and for persons presenting for triage at FHMHS between 8am and 10pm, seven days a week and can be contacted via telephone on 9431 3555.

Following triaging and initial assessment of a consumer, the ATT will facilitate the most appropriate pathway of care (for example– inpatient, discharge to GP, crisis intervention) ensuring the needs and rights of the consumer are met regarding safety, clinical and individual needs.

The referral pathway for GPs remains unchanged. All referrals should be sent/faxed to ASC ATT on 9431 3479. You will be kept informed of your consumers care and the intervention they receive.

Mental Health GP Liaison Service

Fremantle Hospital Mental Health Service (FHMHS) provides a GP Liaison Service coordinated by GP Liaison Nurses. The role of the GP Liaison Nurse includes the promotion of communication channels between GPs and FHMHS and the collaborative development of protocols for the referral, consultation, admission and discharge of adult and older adult mental health patients. The aim is to improve patient outcomes by enhancing communication and promoting partnership between GPs and FHMHS.

You can contact the GP Liaison Nurse with new ideas, compliments or complaints.

GP Liaison Nurse (Wednesday to Friday)

Lynn Moore

Phone: 9431 3400

Mobile: 0404890131

Mental Health GP Liaison Clinic

THE FHMHS ASC runs a GP Liaison Clinic for adult patients where the GP retains the overall management of the patient. Patients can be referred for services such as when a medication review, a second opinion or diagnostic clarity is being sought.

A consultant psychiatrist or senior psychiatric registrar will provide full psychiatric assessment (in the surgery if required) and formulate a management plan. Patients are then returned to their GP for ongoing care.

GPs are able to refer to the clinic by completing the standard referral form for FHMHS. All GP liaison clinic referrals must be faxed to ASC Triage on 9431 3479. Please do not post referrals directly to the GP liaison clinic.

GP liaison nurse visit

The FHMHS GP liaison nurse and consultant psychiatrist are able to visit GP practices at lunchtimes to discuss clinical issues. These visits facilitate the development of effective, sustainable and collaborative ways of working between practitioners and ASC. GPs can use the visits to meet the staff and discuss challenging cases for advice on management.

If you are interested in organising a visit, contact the GP Liaison Nurse on 9431 3400.

Wellness Clinic

The Wellness Clinic, which started in 2014, is primarily a physical screening and referral service for community mental health consumers under the care of FHMHS. It is staffed by a general practitioner, nurse practitioner and clinical nurse.

Consumers who are not effectively linked into community primary care are our main targets for this clinic. The overall aim of the service is to re-engage consumers into community-based primary care.

The clinic provides the following services:

- cardio-metabolic screening
- respiratory testing
- sexual health assessment including Pap smears and screening
- Electrocardiogram
- Assistance with minor complaints and chronic disease management.

The clinic is open 9am to 4pm, Monday to Friday and is located on Level 5, W Block, Alma Street Centre. For more information, call 9431 3421.

Further information

For more information about Fremantle Hospital and Health Service, please call the GP Liaison on 9431 2939 or email Monica.Lacey@health.wa.gov.au.



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