

Ref. No: 147210622
From: NHS
Date: 21/06/22
Subject: Orthopaedic Follow up

REQUEST

BACKGROUND

This request is made to try to gather information regarding the referral process for patients with orthopaedic injuries sustained whilst staying away from home to their local hospital for ongoing care.

REQUEST

1. An adult patient (who usually lives in your catchment area) sustains an injury, whilst out of area, that requires Orthopaedic follow up as an outpatient. They have attended the Emergency Department nearest to where they are staying and received initial management and are now able to be discharged for outpatient follow up. They would like to have this managed at their local hospital (your NHS Trust).

What mechanism would the referral hospital need to go through to ensure this follow up and timely review occurs. Please include as much detail as possible, imagining that you are the clinician at the referring hospital.

2. A paediatric patient, aged 16 and under, (who usually lives in your catchment area) sustains an injury, whilst out of area, that requires Orthopaedic follow up as an outpatient. They have attended the Emergency Department nearest to where they are staying and received initial management and are now able to be discharged for outpatient follow up. They would like to have this managed at their local hospital (your NHS Trust).

What mechanism would the referral hospital need to go through to ensure this follow up and timely review occurs. Please include as much detail as possible, imagining that you are the clinician at the referring hospital.

RESPONSE

The majority of the time the patients GP will send a letter to our Patient Booking Services net account, and they will book the patient into the appropriate fracture clinic or elective clinic from that referral. These referrals are excluded from the paper switch-off as fractures are classed as a rapid access service.

On occasion we may have the external Trusts A&E Department send the information to our Patient Booking Services via the same route as above, however, this rarely happens and referral by the GP is generally the process. Paediatric patients may however be referred to Alder Hey hospital for their follow up, as this is the specialist children's hospital within our region.