



Ear, Nose and Throat – Paediatrics Only

Outpatient Referral Guideline WBHHS

Please use this guide to complete the appropriate tests to support an accurate triage process within the ENT Outpatient Clinic. Referral should include complete patient/family history relevant to the patients' condition or complaint.

Eligibility criteria for access to ENT Outpatient services and Elective Surgery in WBHHS include:

- **Paediatric service only aged 2 -12 years** old, please refer to Tertiary facility for other age groups
- Adults service is unavailable at WBHHS, please send referral to Tertiary facility
- For tonsillectomy, adenoidectomy, grommet insertion, CLA, CIT and/or EUA only
- Must reside within the Wide Bay Hospital and Health Service Catchment Area (Bundaberg, Hervey Bay, Maryborough and all surrounding Wide Bay Hospital and Health Service Rural areas).

Please provide a BMI for your patient when referring

Tonsillitis	
Initial Workup	Refer when
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History and physical examination • Clinical important pathogen – group Aβ-haemolytic streptococcus (GABHS) • GABHS is likely if the following are present – tender and enlarged cervical lymph nodes, inflammation of the tonsils and the rest of the pharynx, or a generalised erythematous rash 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4-6 infections in 1 year • 4 infection/year for 2 consecutive years • 3 infections/year for 3 consecutive years • >2 weeks missed school
Obstructive adenotonsillar hyperplasia	
Initial Workup	Refer when
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History – parental observations and description of sleep patterns • Physical examination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Witnessed sleep apnoea • Sleep disturbance ≥ 3 months • Chronic snoring • Mouth breathing all the time • Tonsils meeting in the midline +/- trouble swallowing from large tonsils • Excessive daytime sleepiness
Otitis media +/- effusion	
Initial Workup	Initial Workup
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History and physical examination * A single perforation of the ear drum as part of acute otitis media does not need referral unless there are ongoing concerns after 6 weeks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater than 5 periods of acute otitis media in 12 month period • Child is symptomatic due to hearing loss • Child has middle ear effusion persisting longer than 3 months or earlier if there is speech delay * If hearing tests have been performed – please send with referral to support triage and categorisation

Enquiries	Monday to Friday, 9am to 4pm
Phone:	(07) 4303 8266 Bundaberg Hospital

Send referrals to	
Email:	BBH-SOPD@health.qld.gov.au