



**CANTERBURY
CHARITY HOSPITAL
TRUST**

By the community - for the community
'Nā te hapori, mā te hapori'

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GP UPDATE March 2016:

Please distribute to all Doctors, Managers and Practice Nurses

New oral surgery service and unit for 2016. Two new oral surgeons have joined the hospital team to support our dentists with more complex procedures. This now includes wisdom teeth extraction under general anaesthetic. Later this year we plan to open an increased size oral surgery unit alongside the existing hospital. This will also cater for hygienists and technicians.

2016 service changes. There are some changes to our services in 2016. The current list includes: Vascular surgery, general day surgery, gynaecology procedures and women's health, upper limb orthopaedics, colonoscopy, cataract surgery, dentistry, counselling and oral surgery.

Varicose vein surgery. This service is for declined DHB patients scoring severity level 4+ / disability level 2+ as per DHB health pathways. Please let us know this score within your referral to the hospital.

Cataract surgery. Our points threshold is significantly less than that of the public service. The current score required for referral is now **18+** for clinically and financially eligible patients. It is essential to **include the CPH score sheet** when referring patients.

Women's health and family planning. Wait times for gynaecology patients is currently only 4 weeks, including various surgical sterilisation techniques and some investigative laparoscopy (endometriosis etc) and Mirena for qualifying women. To find out more visit the Canterbury Charity Hospital's website www.charityhospital.org.nz.

Colonoscopy. All clinically and financially qualifying patients for colonoscopy are now being seen within 6 weeks of referral. We currently accept three types of referral:

- Symptomatic patients with unexplained overt rectal bleeding for six weeks or more AND/OR scores 11 or more points as per CPH colonoscopy diagnostic request form.
- CRC Screening (visit the website for more information)
- Post CRC Surveillance (visit the website for more information)

Orthopaedics. Qualifying patients can currently be seen within 8 weeks for Dupuytren's, carpal tunnel, trigger finger, elbow and some shoulder conditions.

All referrals are subject to your patients meeting both the clinical and financial thresholds set up by the Canterbury Charity Hospital Trust

For more information: Please visit our website at www.charityhospital.org.nz, telephone 03 360 2266, fax 03 360 2616 or email us at reception@charityhospital.org.nz.

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