

WAIKATO DHB REFERRAL GUIDELINE

Imaging Guidelines for Orthopaedic Fast Track

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In order to aid general practitioner management of patients with orthopaedic problems in the community, Waikato Hospital Radiology Department will “fast –track” radiology requests for patients when orthopaedic review/intervention is being considered. Please ensure

- The patient is willing to accept orthopaedic intervention.
- The patient has sufficient incapacity to warrant orthopaedic review.
- The patient has not been imaged within the previous six months.
- The BMI is <35 if considering joint replacement.
- The appropriate clinical information such as side, joint, extent of incapacity, relevant past history such as previous surgery and history of malignancy is given on the request. Only the site of clinical concern and the relevant adjacent joint will be imaged
- “Orthopaedic fast-track” is written on the form.

Thank you for using this limited resource wisely for patients who will most benefit. Use will be audited to determine the effectiveness of providing orthopaedic fast-track imaging in the care of your patients.

Please provide the x-ray report or information from previous imaging when sending referrals to orthopaedic outpatient clinic.

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Dr Kim McAnulty	Radiology	September 2009	September 2011	Orthopaedic Fast Track Imaging