



INFORMATION FOR GENERAL PRACTITIONERS

WACHS Goldfields public outpatient specialist medical services are coming into scope for the Central Referral Service (CRS) in 2026

WHEN: mid-2026 - updates to follow

The CRS has been in place since 2014 to improve access to PUBLIC outpatient specialist medical care in the metropolitan public health system. As part of statewide WA Health reform, regional residents, referrers and WACHS services will soon also benefit from the CRS.



What does this mean for GPs?

At CRS “Go Live”, non-immediate referrals to **public** outpatient specialist medical services provided by WACHS Goldfields must be sent to CRS:

- General Medicine
- General Surgery
- Gerontology
- Gynaecology
- Haematology
- Medical Oncology
- Neurology
- Orthopaedics
- Paediatrics (Medical & Developmental)
- Paediatric Endocrinology
- Paediatric Surgery
- Renal Medicine
- Rheumatology
- Urology
- Vascular Surgery



What will CRS do?

- ✓ Check referrals for minimum required clinical and demographic information so the first specialist appointment can be optimised.
- ✓ Allocate referrals to the most appropriate hospital (regional or metropolitan), supporting care closer to home where possible.
- ✓ Notify referrers and patients when their referral has been accepted and by which hospital site.
- ✗ CRS does not triage referrals or book appointments. This will still be managed by WACHS sites.

What's next?

The WACHS Outpatient Reform team will be in touch with your practice to:

- Provide further information about the project and confirm a “Go Live” date.
- Help GPs and practice managers prepare for the transition.
- Offer Q&A sessions and one-to-one support.

In the meantime, please contact us if you have any queries:

Kate Jones, WACHS Outpatient Reform
katie.jones@health.wa.gov.au
(08) 9842 7509