

Satellite Hospitals

Minor Injury and Illness Clinic

Information for General Practitioners

Current December 2023

Service inclusions and exclusions, investigations, and interventions

Service inclusions

The following list of conditions are examples of potential cases that may be appropriate to be treated in the Minor Injury and Illness Clinic (but not limited to):

- minor allergies
- simple closed fractures (minimally displaced, noncomminuted)
- dislocation of fingers, toes, pulled elbows, uncomplicated shoulders
- sprains or strains of upper and lower limbs
- toothache with or without abscess
- minor burns
- marine stings
- insect or animal bites
- acute wound care (excludes stoma care)
- rashes and simple skin conditions (non-purpuric in nature, clinically well)
- cellulitis (in patients who are systemically well without multiple comorbidities)
- upper and lower respiratory tract infections (without evidence of generalised sepsis)
- sore throat
- fever without evidence of sepsis (but not in infants under 3 months of age)
- abrasions and lacerations requiring wound closure (such as simple sutures, staples or glue) where there are no internal structures such as tendons or bones involved
- earache and ear infections
- minor eye injuries, foreign bodies, and infections
- minor nose injuries (foreign body removal, packs, and cauterisation)
- urinary tract infections
- occupational blood and fluid exposure with subsequent onwards referral for follow up (follow up excluded)
- gastroenteritis without severe metabolic disorder
- minor head injury without 'red flags' in individuals aged between 2 and 75 years of age
- low back pain without 'red flags'
- superficial skin foreign body (such as fishhook)
- uncomplicated abscess incision and drainage
- male and female catheter replacement including IDC and SPC
- selected gynaecology conditions.

Service exclusions

The Minor Injury and Illness Clinic will not:

- provide complex and/or emergency care including chest pain, major trauma, or falls from greater than 1 metre
- provide ongoing or continuous care for a condition (a return presentation to the Minor Injury and Illness Clinic may be appropriate for removal of stitches or replacement of burns dressings)
- treat infants less than 3 months of age
- treat trauma in children under 12 years of age where sedation is required (except if child over 4 years of age and sedation of intranasal fentanyl and nitrous oxide blender is acceptable)
- provide therapeutic mental health services or drug and other alcohol services
- provide health care services unrelated to a minor injury or illness (e.g. vaccinations except for tetanus, scripts for chronic conditions requiring continuity of care, counselling for lifestyle risk factors, requests for referrals)
- dispense medications
- conduct COVID testing
- provide stoma care.

Investigations and interventions

Examples of clinical investigations and interventions provided at satellite hospitals include:

- physical examination
- medical imaging
 - plain film
 - OPG
- urine analysis
- blood glucose and ketone analysis
- point of care testing (iStat blood analysis, VBG analysis, BhcG testing)
- electrocardiograms (requires offsite analysis by appropriately trained clinician via MN VED)
- uncomplicated plastering and immobilisation devices
- wound closure
- venepuncture and PIVC
- wound care
- advanced life support.

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