

HOW DO I REFER?

The Disease Management Unit (DMU) office is open Monday to Friday during office hours and the care coordinators are happy to discuss any potential referrals or current DMU patients.

Referrals can be made by fax or mail and need to include:

- Current medical conditions
- Current plan of care
- Current medication list
- The issues that you would like the DMU to address and the urgency of review

The DMU will then contact the patient to organise a review and notify the GP of the planned review date.

CONTACT INFORMATION

The Disease Management Unit office is open Monday to Friday during business hours.

Please note that the office is often not staffed during clinic times but there is an answering machine and all messages are followed up promptly.

Mail: Disease Management Unit
C/- The Alfred Hospital
Commercial Road
Prahran
VIC 3181

Email: dmu@alfred.org.au

Ph. 9076 2375

AlfredHealth

**Information for G.P.'s
And Other Community
Care Providers**

Phone: 9076 2375

Fax: 9076 3812

**Hospital Admission Risk Program
(HARP)**

Specialised Chronic Disease Stream

WHAT IS THE DISEASE MANAGEMENT UNIT?

The Disease Management Unit (DMU) is staffed by medical specialists, nursing care coordinators and pharmacists. The medical specialties covered include: General Medicine, Renal, Respiratory, Rheumatology, Cardiology, I.D., Gerontology and Endocrinology. The DMU provides outpatient care to patients with **chronic and complex** medical conditions. This care is carried out in close partnership with the plan of care set out by the patient's General Practitioner.

The goal of the DMU is to improve medical outcomes for patients and enhance collaboration between Alfred Health, GPs and community care providers. Communication with GPs is facilitated by posting a copy of all assessments made by DMU the day after clinic reviews and through direct phone contact when required.

The DMU office serves as a **single point of contact** for both patients and GPs to assist in navigating the often challenging task of being an outpatient of a large hospital.

CLINICS

The DMU reviews patients medically on a regular 'as needs' basis in an outpatient clinic. In the DMU clinic, patients are assessed by:

- A medical specialist(s)
- A nursing care coordinator who is able to maximise a patient's level of functioning by identifying needs and linking patients in to community services and education programs
- A pharmacist is also available at some clinics to provide one-on-one consultations and home pharmacy reviews as required.

Who is Eligible to Attend the Disease Management Unit?

Admission Criteria

Patients with:

Complex chronic medical conditions

AND

Admitted to or at high risk of admission to an Alfred Health Hospital (The Alfred, Caulfield General or Sandringham)

CLINIC LOCATIONS

The Disease Management Unit (DMU) is flexible and responsive to patients' needs. GPs and patients are encouraged to contact DMU if there are any concerns and a review will be organised as quickly as possible.

Patient access is a priority, so to improve ease of access clinics are run at the following locations:

The Alfred Hospital 2nd floor, outpatients department

Caulfield Consulting Clinics

1st Floor, Gate 2
260 Kooyong Road,
Caulfield

Sandringham Hospital

Consulting Suites.

Inner South Community Health Centre

South Melbourne - 341 Coventry St.
St Kilda - 18 Mitford St.