

# Refugee and Asylum Seeker Cardiovascular Clinic (RASCC)

Mater offers a cardiology outpatient clinic for the management of primary and secondary cardiovascular treatment for people from a refugee background.

The RASCC service provides culturally-sensitive care with dedicated interpreter services and specialist refugee health nurses for each patient.

Streamlined cardiac investigations are performed by Mater Cardiovascular Investigation Unit (Mater CVI) e.g. echo, EST, holter monitor and BP monitor.

Refugee or asylum seeker patients with a previous cardiac history or have concerning cardiac symptoms that require further evaluation are sought for referral.

## **This includes:**

- Chest pain assessments
- Management of ischaemic heart disease
- Heart failure; diagnosis and medication management
- Arrhythmias e.g. atrial fibrillation, SVT
- Dyslipidaemias (markedly elevated cholesterol, triglycerides)
- Valvular problems e.g. Aortic Stenosis

**NO OUT OF POCKET COST  
TO ANY PATIENT**



## **Referrals**

- **Conditions:**
  - No catchment zone
  - Medicare eligibility **not** required
- **Criteria:**
  - LFT, FBC, fasting lipid profile (includes HDL, LDL), electrolytes
  - Exercise tolerance
  - Results of any recent cardiac investigations if available (ECG, ECHO, stress test, chest x-ray)
  - Medical history
  - Significant symptoms e.g. syncope, pre-syncope, palpitations, chest pain, shortness of breath
- **Instructions:**
  - Please name/tick "**Dr K Kostner**" on Mater OP Referral Form
  - Please specify "*Patient of Refugee Background*" in "*Clinical History*"

*GPs are encouraged to contact one of the Cardiology consultants if they require specific advice about their patients.*

*Please phone or email Patricia Smith to seek further information and access a consultant.*

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