

Referral to a Medical Specialist in Queensland

After your GP writes a referral to see a Specialist at a public hospital, you should get a letter to say that you are now on the **waiting list**.



Your appointment to see a Specialist will be a period from 1 to 12 months (or sometimes longer), depending on the medical needs.



During the waiting time the hospital will send you letters or text messages about your appointment and they may also call you from a private phone number.

You must respond to these messages.

If you do not respond, you may lose your place on the wait list. You will need to wait longer for your appointment and you will need to ask your GP to send a new referral.



When the hospital sends you an appointment date and time, it is important to respond.

If you cannot attend the appointment, you must call the hospital at least 1 day before to reschedule and you may need to wait longer for a new appointment.

If you miss your appointment, you may need to go back on the waiting list again for 1-12 months (or longer).



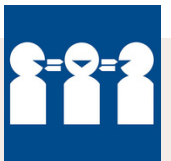
If you do not understand the messages, **ask someone for help**.

If your condition gets worse while you are on the waiting list:

- Book an appointment with your GP OR
- Visit your Emergency Department at your local public hospital OR
- Find an Urgent Care Clinic



Ask for an interpreter when calling the GP or Specialist, if you need one. It is free for you.



This resource was developed by the Refugee Health Network Qld (2025)

www.refugeehealthnetworkqld.org.au