

## WHAT IS 'DIRECT ACCESS' COLONOSCOPY?

**Direct access colonoscopy allows GP's to refer patients requiring Colonoscopy directly to Newcastle Endoscopy Centre thus reducing the cost & extended waiting period for an appointment with a specialist.**

**Referred patients are phoned by our trained nursing staff, at this time they are:**

- Assessed for suitability for the service
- Informed about the preparation & the procedure
- Provided with information regarding risks & benefits of the bowel preparation & procedure
- Informed about costs
- Booked for the procedure with one of the reputable NEC participating gastroenterologists or surgeons
- Emailed an information package containing the above information

**Referrals are accepted for privately insured or self-funded patients who:**

- Have a positive faecal occult blood test result
- Have a family history of colorectal cancer (1st degree relative, diagnosed under the age of 55 years)
- Have had previous colorectal polyps, cancer, Lynch Syndrome & procedure is within timeframe as per proceduralist

### AND

- Are between 24 & 74 years of age, in good health with no significant co-morbidities
- ASA 1-3 (stable)
- Have a BMI not greater than 38 & weight not greater than 125kg
- Have a support person to stay with them post procedure

**Patients not suitable for Direct Access Colonoscopy:**

- Present with obvious rectal bleeding
- Have had cardiac surgery or stent in past 12 months
- Have dementia, intellectual disability, major psychiatric comorbidity, or language barrier
- Are frail, symptomatic, or unwell
- Have major chronic medical issues
- Have poor mobility



**All proceduralists at NEC have Gastroenterological Society of Australia (GESA) Colonoscopy Certification.**

Participating Specialists:

- |                         |                             |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Dr Hasitha Balasuriya | • Dr Michelle Chen          |
| • Dr Louise Clarke      | • Dr Shannon Cooper         |
| • Dr Brian Draganic     | • Dr Robert Foster          |
| • Dr Merran Holmes      | • Dr Anil Koshy             |
| • Dr Brendan McManus    | • Dr Owen Morris            |
| • Dr Marie Ooi          | • Dr Marisol Perez Cerdeira |
| • Dr Peter Pockney      | • Dr Michael Potter         |
| • A/Prof Stephen Smith  | • Dr Yamini Yadav           |
| • Dr Alkesh Zala        |                             |

(NEC is a private centre- patients may self-fund – VMO choices may be limited as not all VMO accept self-funding patients – please select 'any doctor' or phone VMO direct to check, if you select a VMO who will not accept self-funding patients- the patient will be referred to a VMO who does accept self-funding patients).

**Level 2, 20-22 Smith Street  
Charlestown NSW 2290  
Phone: (02) 4947 6000  
HealthLink ID No: newcencd**

# 4 SIMPLE REFERRAL STEPS VIA HEALTHLINK

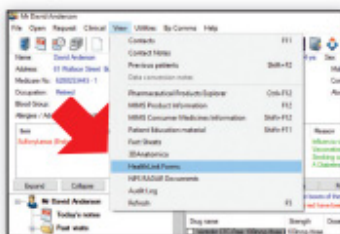
Make E-Referrals to Newcastle Endoscopy Centre Easy

- + Quick & Simple
- + Professional
- + Loved by GPs
- + Healthlink ID: newcencd

## Your Quick Guide

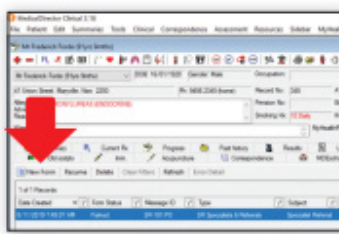
Access SR in your EMR via HealthLink Forms

To open in Best Practice



Open SR: View > HealthLink Forms  
Or from HL icon in your Letter Writer

To open in Medical Director



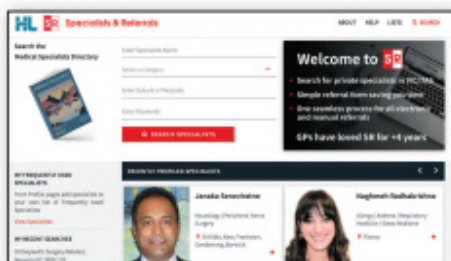
From your HealthLink tab click the  
New Form icon



Click on SR logo

## 4 Simple Referral Steps

- 1 Search** by Name or by category and suburb/postcode.
- 2 Select** specialist and preferred location. You can choose from both e-refer and manual refer (fax) locations.



- 3 Complete** easy pre-populated form – enter reason for referral, select consult notes, add attachments ...
- 4 Submit** form, see e-refer delivery status immediately or print manual referral. The referral will be stored in the letters tab (MD) or correspondence out section (BP). Print referral and hand to patient.



**Give it a go!**  
You can send a  
test referral to the  
specialist  
Mickey Mouse

Making easy  
E-referrals:



Quick guide to  
E-referrals:

