

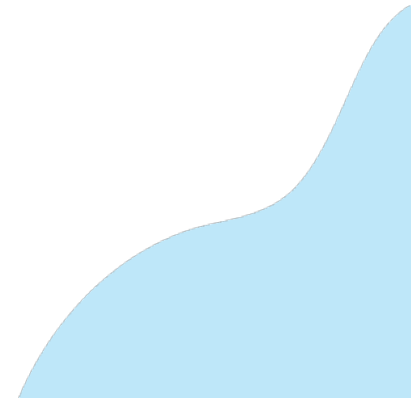


Gastroenterology Referral Pathway

To prioritize referrals according to clinical need and acuity, complete clinical information is required to allow us to optimize both patient care and outcome. The aim of this referral pathway is to promote consistent and complete information from referring providers.

This referral pathway is not intended to be a directive for clinical practice, rather its goal is to be a guideline or reference that allows for optimal triaging of referral requests.

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REASON FOR REFERRAL	CLINICAL INFORMATION	RECOMMENDED INVESTIGATIONS
Iron deficiency anemia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – GI symptoms – Family history of GI malignancy (colorectal cancer, gastric cancer), celiac disease, IBD – Response to iron therapy (if applicable) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – CBC, INR, creatinine – TSH – Ferritin – Anti-tissue transglutaminase (tTG) and IgA – REQUIRED: Previous endoscopy, pathology, or imaging reports
Abdominal pain Nausea and/or vomiting Weight loss	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Duration, frequency and severity – Associated symptoms – Alarm symptoms (weight loss, dysphagia, change in bowel habits, GI bleeding) – Attempted interventions & response to therapy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – CBC, INR, electrolytes, calcium, albumin, creatinine – TSH – Liver enzymes – ALT, ALP, GGT, Bilirubin – Lipase – Anti-tissue transglutaminase (tTG) and IgA – Abdominal U/S or consider abdominal CT advanced age with/without alarm symptoms – REQUIRED: Previous endoscopy, pathology, or imaging reports
Change in bowel habits Constipation Diarrhea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Duration and frequency of bowel movements – Nocturnal symptoms – Family history of GI malignancy (colorectal cancer, gastric cancer) – Attempted interventions and response to therapy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – CBC, INR, electrolytes, calcium, albumin, creatinine – TSH – CRP – Anti-tissue transglutaminase (tTG) and IgA – Stool cultures for: C&S, O&P and C. difficile (if applicable) – REQUIRED: Previous endoscopy, pathology, or imaging reports

REASON FOR REFERRAL	CLINICAL INFORMATION	RECOMMENDED INVESTIGATIONS
Inflammatory bowel disease – Active or suspected IBD – Inactive IBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Duration and frequency of bowel movements – Nocturnal symptoms – Associated symptoms (weight loss, abdominal pain, rectal bleeding or extraintestinal manifestations) – Family history of IBD or GI malignancy – Current medical treatment if any, and information on previous treatment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – CBC, INR, electrolytes, calcium, albumin, creatinine – TSH – Fecal calprotectin – Liver enzymes – ALT, ALP, GGT, Bilirubin – Anti-tissue transglutaminase (tTG) and IgA – Ferritin and vitamin B12 – Stool cultures for: C&S, O&P and C. difficile (if applicable) – REQUIRED: Previous endoscopy, pathology, or imaging reports – REQUIRED: CRP
Elevated liver enzymes Chronic liver disease Cirrhosis of liver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Medication history (illicit drugs, herbal supplementation, over-the-counter drugs, antibiotics) – Symptoms (jaundice, confusion, abdominal pain, pruritus, edema, ascites, GI bleeding) – Comorbidities (DM, dyslipidemia, coronary artery disease, thyroid disease) – Alcohol intake 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – CBC, INR, electrolytes, calcium, albumin, creatinine – Liver enzymes – ALT, ALP, GGT, Bilirubin – TSH – HbA1c and lipid profile – Hepatitis B and C serology – Ferritin and iron profile – Anti-tissue transglutaminase (tTG) and IgA – Previous endoscopy, pathology, or imaging reports – REQUIRED: Abdominal imaging (U/S with hepatic Doppler, CT or MRI)
Pancreatitis Pancreas abnormalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Previous hospitalization – discharge summary and relevant information – Alcohol intake – History of gallstones or cholecystectomy – Previous ERCP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – CBC, INR, electrolytes, calcium, albumin, creatinine – Liver enzymes – ALT, ALP, GGT, Bilirubin – Lipase – Lipid profile – REQUIRED: Abdominal imaging (U/S, CT or MRI)