

Auckland Regional Public Health Service

Rātonga Hauora ā Iwi o Tamaki Makaurau



Working with the people of Auckland, Counties Manukau and Waitemata

When your doctor refers you to a specialist at a hospital or clinic

Auckland Regional Public Health Service

Rātonga Hauora ā Iwi o Tamaki Makaurau



Working with the people of Auckland, Counties Manukau and Waitemata

English June 2011 The doctor has referred you to a specialist at the hospital or clinic. It is free and you will not be charged any money.

You will get a letter from the hospital or clinic with an appointment time. It usually takes at least three months to get an appointment.

Make sure that you read the letter when it arrives or ask someone to read it to you. You must follow the instructions to confirm that you will go to the appointment.

If required you can ask the hospital or clinic for an interpreter. You can request a male or female interpreter and a specific dialect of your language.

If you need to change or cancel your appointment you must ring the hospital or clinic.

If you don't go to your appointment it may take a long time to get a new appointment and you could be removed from the waiting list. The hospital will send a report to your General Practitioner (GP). If you have more than one GP the report will go to the doctor who referred you to the hospital or clinic.

Getting to a hospital or clinic appointment will need planning.

You will need to find transport that gets you to the hospital or clinic in plenty of time before your appointment. Allow half an hour to find the clinic if you haven't been there before. It is important to be on time so you don't miss your turn.

If you have children it will help to have a family member or friend care for them either at home or with you at the hospital. This is your responsibility to arrange.