

Head and Neck Disorders

- This clinic is a specialised clinic for patients with suspected or confirmed malignant head and neck masses (category 1); Benign head and neck masses (category 2). Patients who are assessed in this clinic and found to have non head and neck issues are discharged from the clinic and returned to the care of the patients GP
- Symptoms include a mass/lump in the mouth, throat, neck, parotid or thyroid, non healing ulcer (> 1 month) in the mouth or throat, persistent daily sore throat > 2 months

Information Required

- Presence of red flags
- Duration of symptoms
- Smoking history (pack years), current or ex-smoker
- History of previous head and neck cutaneous cancers and pathology report(s) of previous excision(s)
- FNA report of suspected mass
- Imaging report (CT preferred for neck or parotid masses; Ultrasound for thyroid masses)
- Thyroid function tests (for thyroid masses)

Investigations Required

- FNA, ultrasound guided if mass difficult to palpate
- Ultrasound report for thyroid masses
- CT neck and chest for FNA positive scc

Approved by Prof Eng Ooi

Date:

Fax Referrals to

- ENT Clinic Fax: 8374 4928

Red Flags

- ❗ FNA report of being suspicious for or positive for malignancy
- ❗ Abnormal imaging with suspected malignancy reported
- ❗ Non healing ulcer (>1 month) in a current or previous smoker

Suggested GP Management

- Antibiotics if suspected inflammatory or infectious mass
- Trial of Kenalog in orobase for oral ulcers
- FNA +/- ultrasound guided
- Imaging: CT and/or ultrasound

Clinical Resources

- National Comprehensive Cancer Network Guidelines: Head and Neck cancers
- National Institute for Health and Care Excellence: Guidance on Cancer Services – Improving Outcomes in Head and Neck Cancers

Patient Information

- <http://www.cancer.org.au/about-cancer/types-of-cancer/head-and-neck-cancer.html>
- <http://canceraustralia.gov.au/affected-cancer/cancer-types/head-neck-cancers>

General Information to assist with referrals and the and Referral templates for FMC and RGH are available to download from the SALHN Outpatient Services website www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/SALHNOutpatients

Version	Date from	Date to	Amendment
1.0	Sept 2014	Sept 2016	Original
1.1	Nov 2016	Nov 2018	Review Nov 16