

## Chronic Respiratory Infection including Bronchiectasis

- Bronchiectasis is defined as
  - Abnormal permanent dilatation of bronchi
  - Often associated with recurrent infection, chronic cough or sputum retention

### Note:

Cystic Fibrosis (CF) is not treated at RGH, FMC or NH. Referrals for CF should be directed to Women's and Children's Hospital or Royal Adelaide Hospital.

### Information Required

- Duration of symptoms
- Other co-morbidities
- Any ICU/HDU admissions
- Medication list
- Smoking status
- History if childhood infections
- Recurrent respiratory infections
- Haemoptysis

### Investigations Required

- Sputum MCS
- Sputum Acid Fast Bacilli (AFB)
- Chest X-ray
- CBP
- LFT, ELU, glucose




### Fax Referrals to

FMC Outpatient Clinic    Fax: (08) 8204 6105 (Clinic B)

Noarlunga GP Plus        Fax: (08) 8384 9711

## Red Flags

### Red flags should prompt immediate referral to **Emergency Department**

-  Acute exacerbation with respiratory failure
-  Features of acute intercurrent infection (e.g fever, pulmonary infiltrate)
-  Large volume haemoptysis

### Suggested GP Management

- Chest physiotherapy and sputum clearance techniques ( use of devices like acapella)
- Antibiotic treatment guided by sputum culture

### Clinical Resources

- British Thoracic Society. Guideline for non-CF Bronchiectasis July 2010. Vol 65. Supplement 1  
<https://www.brit-thoracic.org.uk/document-library/clinical-information/bronchiectasis/bts-guideline-for-non-cf-bronchiectasis/>

General Information to assist with referrals and the Referral templates for FMC and Noarlunga GP Plus are available to download from the SALHN Outpatient Services website [www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/SALHNoutpatients](http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/SALHNoutpatients).

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2.0	August 2017	August 2019	Original