

Simple fractures do not need hospital care

A team of local GPs have been upskilled to treat simple fractures outside hospitals. This initiative, funded by Eastern Melbourne PHN (EMPHN), involves Northern, Austin, Box Hill, Maroondah and Angliss Hospitals.

If your patient has a simple fracture, it may be suitable for treatment by one of our specially trained local GPs. This group of GPs are from across the EMPHN catchment. Patients will be seen within 48 hours and GPs will provide ongoing care for their fracture. Patients can benefit from being bulk billed and seen closer to home.

Following completion of treatment they will be discharged back to their usual GP.

Process to follow at the ED

- 01** Confirm through radiology that it is a simple fracture.
- 02** Inform patients of the option to be seen by a GP in the community at a time convenient for the patient.
- 03** Administer first aid required, including pain relief, sling, back slab etc.
- 04** Provide the patient with the list of GPs and their contact details.
- 05** Provide a referral letter to the patient to take with them to the GP including information for the GP on where to find the radiology images.
- 06** Record each diversion as per instructions provided.
- 07** Please report any issues to the project officer Caroline Begg:
Caroline.Begg@easternhealth.org.au

Type of fractures to be diverted

Upper Limb

Shoulder	Clavicle	Middle third #
	Humerus	Surgical Neck (SNOH) Undisplaced Greater Tuberosity #
Elbow	Radius	Head #
Wrist	Radius	Distal radius including styloid #
	Radius / Ulna	Buckle, greenstick
	Carpals	Scaphoid & other carpal #

Lower Limb

Ankle	Fibula	Weber A, B1, Shaft #, Greenstick #
	Tibia	Stress #, Medical Malleolar #, Undisplaced Plateau #
Foot	Metatarsals	Base of 5th metatarsal including Jones #
		Shaft # (<3)
		Stress #
	Phalanges	All