



# Direct Access Endoscopy Service

## WHAT IS DIRECT ACCESS ENDOSCOPY?

Our service allows eligible patients to be referred directly for a colonoscopy and/or gastroscopy without prior consultation with a gastroenterologist.

It is ideal for streamlined care in cases where the indication is clear and the patient is otherwise medically fit.

### WHO IS SUITABLE FOR DIRECT ACCESS?

Patients may be suitable if they have:

- ☒ Iron deficiency
- ☒ PR bleeding (minor) or positive FOBT
- ☒ Change in bowel habit
- ☒ Family history of colorectal cancer
- ☒ Polyp or IBD surveillance
- ☒ Dyspepsia or dysphagia
- ☒ Abnormal imaging or bloods indicating need for scope

### HOW TO REFER

1. Complete the Direct Access Referral Form.
2. Attach recent bloods and relevant imaging.
3. Email to: [gastroenterology@mqhealth.org.au](mailto:gastroenterology@mqhealth.org.au)

### NEXT STEPS

- Our team will review the referral against eligibility criteria.
- We will contact the patient directly for scheduling.
- You will receive a procedure report post-procedure.
- Follow-up is arranged if clinically indicated.

### NEED HELP OR HAVE QUESTIONS?

Please reach out to our team if you are unsure about a referral. We're happy to discuss individual cases or arrange a callback with one of our specialists.

### EXCLUSION CRITERIA

#### (REFER FOR SPECIALIST REVIEW FIRST)

Please refer the patient for a consultation prior to procedure if any of the following apply:

- ☐ Known or suspected complex active IBD not under control
- ☐ Angina/cardiac procedure within 12 months
- ☐ Pacemaker/defibrillator
- ☐ Congestive heart failure
- ☐ Active respiratory disease
- ☐ Diabetes
- ☐ Previous anaesthetic concerns
- ☐ Advanced liver disease
- ☐ Advanced renal disease
- ☐ GLP-1/GIP use (eg Ozempic)
- ☐ Age over 70
- ☐ High anaesthetic risk (ASA 3 or above)
- ☐ Active cancer
- ☐ Pregnant
- ☐ Severe sleep apnoea