

Western Health Cognitive, Dementia and Memory Service (CDAMS) – Footscray Hospital Referral Guidelines

CDAMS is a specialist **diagnostic** clinic for people with memory or cognitive changes who **do not have a diagnosis**.

Please review these guidelines before referring to CDAMS to ensure the referral meets eligibility criteria. Referrals with insufficient information will be returned with a request for additional information which may delay access to this service. **If you have any questions please contact 8345 7865.**

Services Provided	Eligibility Criteria – symptoms must have been present for a minimum of 6 months.	Referral Requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expert clinical diagnosis. Information on appropriate treatments. Education, support and information. Direction in future planning. Information/advice on dealing with day to day issues. Referrals for clients/family/carers to service providers or community supports. <p>An initial assessment is completed by allied health or nursing staff.</p> <p>This is followed at a later date, by an assessment with medical or other allied health staff.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patients over the age of 60 with early symptoms of cognitive impairment who do <u>not</u> have a diagnosis of dementia. Have an early diagnosis but are seeking second opinion. NB. Persons with long standing ABI/Intellectual impairment are not eligible unless there has been an unrelated deterioration in cognitive functioning which might indicate a neurodegenerative process. <p>Reside in LGA's of: Brimbank, Hobson's Bay, Maribyrnong, Wyndham and Melton.</p> <hr/> <p>Exclusion Criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recent onset of cognitive decline (days/weeks) - need to consider delirium/stroke which requires urgent medical assessment – refer to ED or GP. People under the age of 60 with early symptoms of cognitive impairment – refer to Younger Onset Dementia Service at RMH Neuropsychiatry Service. People with chronic psychiatric conditions who develop cognitive changes. Refer to Neuropsychiatry Dept. RMH. Current heavy alcohol intake. Referrals accepted if client alcohol free 4 months. People complaining of memory problems in context of untreated anxiety or depression. GP to review/treat or refer for psychiatry opinion to exclude these factors as cause. Referrals will be accepted <u>once</u> these factors have been excluded by relevant specialist. Diagnosis already confirmed. E.g. Dementia, Huntington's ABI, Parkinson's Disease, Stroke, etc. and under care of private neurologist or psychiatrist for these conditions. Diagnosis known but needs community supports /counselling. Refer to Dementia Australia and/or My Aged Care. Dementia diagnosis known but has behavioural or psychological disturbance. Refer to Dementia Support Australia for 24 hour support and advice from dementia behaviour specialists. Neuropsychological or capacity assessment only – refer to private provider In Residential Care – refer to private provider. Physically unable to attend clinic based assessments. 	<p>Please fax referrals to 8345 6394.</p> <p>Referrals must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Client demographics. Relevant medical and surgical history. Current medications. Relevant investigations. Other services/specialists involved in care. Interpreter requirements. Referral reason. Investigation results as below. Family / carer contact name and number. <p>Required investigations:</p> <p>The following must be completed and results attached to referral. Referrals cannot be accepted otherwise.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Radiology – CT or MRI brain Pathology – FBE, ESR, Urea, Creatinine, Electrolytes, Vitamin B12, Liver Function Tests, Folate, Thyroid Function Tests, Random Blood Glucose, Calcium, Cholesterol, Syphilis Serology, HIV status. MSU. ECG. <p>Key contact information:</p> <p>Dementia Aust Vic – 1800 100 500. My Aged Care – 1800 200 422. Neuropsychiatry Dept, RMH – 9342 8750. Aged Psychiatry Assessment & Treatment Team (APATT) – 1300 874 243. Adult Mental Health Services (Under 65 yrs of age) – 1300 859 764. Dementia Support Australia – 1800 699 799 (24 Hour/day)</p>