



Eastern Health

MEMORANDUM

TO: *Family Practice Clinicians*

FROM: *Julie Larouz – Regional Director Medical Imaging
Dr. Angela Pickles – Clinical Chief Medical Imaging*

RE: *Outpatient Walk-In X-Ray*

Memo to Family Practice Clinicians concerning Outpatient Walk-In X-rays.

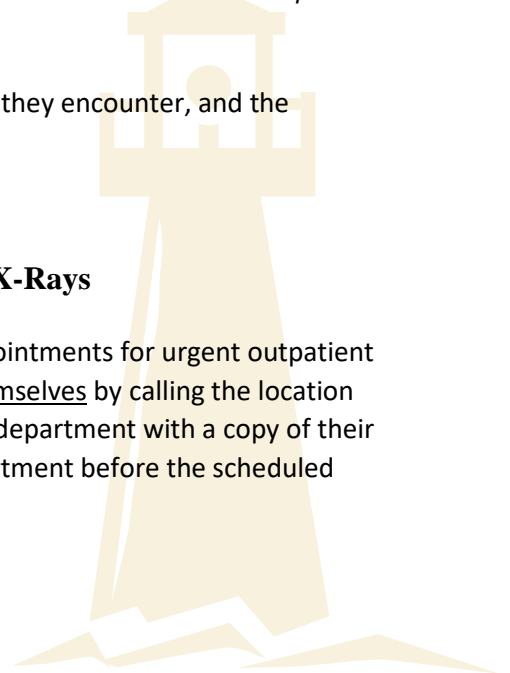
Please pay close attention to the direction given below for your URGENT out-patient X-ray requests. The main objective is to reduce unnecessary risks to patients by limiting X-ray imaging.

The **RATIONALE** for this issue is:

- Patients will be in crowded waiting rooms, at less than recommended two-meter distance
- Performing X-rays is a high-risk activity for COVID-19 transmission since *the distance between patient and technologist is less than one foot and constitutes considerable patient handling.*
- Personal protective equipment is in short supply
- **ALL** of these **INCREASE** the risk to patients, staff and those they encounter, and the community at large.

Kindly keep these potential risks in mind BEFORE ordering X-Rays
PLEASE NOTE:

1. Outpatient walk-in X-rays will occur by appointment only. Appointments for urgent outpatient X-rays can be arranged by physician offices or the patients themselves by calling the location preferred. The patients **MUST** present to the Medical Imaging department with a copy of their requisition or the requisition can be faxed directly to the department before the scheduled appointment. The contact information listed below.



2. ALL outpatient X-ray requests **MUST** be indicated on a **Medical Imaging Requisition**, with clearly typewritten or legible handwritten text, fully completed and the rationale for the urgent request clearly indicated.
3. Requisitions completed before March 16, 2020, will **NOT** be considered urgent.
4. If a patient presents to the hospital for an X-ray- who upon screening has symptoms of COVID-19- these patients will be sent away and asked to contact 811.

Thank you for understanding and your kind cooperation.

Medical Imaging Requisition and site contact & fax numbers and times attached.

April 11, 2020