

Now Online: New Referral Guidelines and Tools for Referring Providers

Visit the Endocrinology and Diabetes "[Refer a Patient](#)" webpage at Seattlechildrens.org.

Contact Us:

To speak with one of our providers about:

- Diagnosis and treatment options: please call 206-987-7777 (Provider-to-Provider Line)
- Referrals, including clinical questions, locating or expediting a referral: please call 206-987-2080 (Clinical Intake Nurses)

Send Referrals To:

Online: Use eReferral, an alternative method to submit a referral and track its status

Fax: 206-985-3121 or toll free 866-985-3121

Phone:
Clinical Intake Nurses at 206-987-2080 or toll free 866-987-2080

Endocrinology

updated 9-2019

Open to New Referrals: Yes

Access situation: Long wait times

We currently receive more than 200 new referrals each month and have limited to no openings for the next 60 days. Limited schedule availability is driven in part by our impending move to a new building, which has temporarily reduced our scheduling window from six months to three months. Wait times are also affected by the number of patients referred to Endocrinology who can be well managed in the primary care setting.

Changes we are making to improve specialty care access

The Endocrinology outpatient clinic will move into the remodeled Sand Point Clinic building on the main campus in January 2020. We will return to having six months of scheduling availability starting in October 2019.

In addition:

- **New scheduling processes** will improve efficiency and access.
- **A redesigned internal triage process** identifies those patients who need specialty services most urgently. Our team is reviewing referrals daily.
- **Recruitment and hiring:** Dr. Alyssa Huang and Gwyn Recupero, NP, are joining our practice this fall, and we are actively recruiting additional physicians and advanced practice providers.

New referral guidelines

- **We are seeing new patients through age 17 only, with exceptions for special circumstances** (e.g. young adults with delayed puberty/hypogonadism and medically complex young adults who are being seen by other specialists here). If your patient is 18 or older, we ask that you refer them to an adult endocrinology provider.
- **We are redirecting patients to primary care** when their condition does not require specialty care. Conditions we may redirect to primary care:

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Abnormal TSH levels | Short stature |
| Goiter | Vitamin D deficiency |
| Obesity | |

Please submit as complete a referral as possible, with all relevant documentation and chart notes, to help us assess your patient's need for a specialist. If a patient is redirected to primary care, we will provide advice for managing their condition.

Tools to help referring providers

We plan to share clinical algorithms and guidelines to help our primary care community make referral decisions while also supporting them to care for patients in their medical homes. You will find these on the Endocrinology and Diabetes website's "[Refer a Patient](#)" page in the near future. Please check back soon.