



Royal Perth Hospital Orthopaedic Service

Condition specific referral criteria

Hallux Valgus / Bunions

Criteria for specialist referral via CRS

- One of the following:
 - Bunion deformity +/- pain over the bunion; or
 - Deformity of lesser toes +/- corns and callosities; or
 - Limitation in daily / recreational activities; or
 - Difficulty in wearing closed shoes.
- Unsuccessful trial of "Required GP management" (see below).

Please note that cosmesis alone is not an indication for surgical management.

Information required for referral

All referrals must include comprehensive medical history, relevant test results and a detailed summary of treatment to date.

Diabetic control with a targeted HbA1C of < 7.5% (or 58 mmol/mol) and documentation of weight loss management for patients with a BMI > 40.

Also required:

- Detailed history of the pain, deformity and swelling (location, severity, type, aggravating and relieving factors).
- Functional limitations.
- Any previous treatments (e.g. Orthotics).
- Any previous surgery.
- Associated medical conditions.
- Problems with footwear.

Investigations required for referral

- Full weight bearing foot x-rays.

Required GP Management prior to referral

- Referral to community podiatry.
- Appropriate footwear.
- Orthotics, footwear with rigid soles, medial heel wedge.
- Analgesia / Anti-inflammatory medicines (unless contra-indicated).