

Dear Patient,

St Andrew's War Memorial Hospital is committed to improving services to our regional referring clinicians and patients. We have listened to the needs of our regional patients and have introduced a new service called, "St Andrew's Rural Health Connect". We invite you to use this service and hope that you find it helpful. Please see the below information about the service.

Purpose

***To improve access to specialist appointments for regional and remote patients.***

Why?

Many referring clinicians and patients find it difficult to coordinate appointments for regional patients when more than one specialist consultation is required. Patients often drive from hospital to hospital for various appointments and consequently need to stay in Brisbane longer than necessary. This service will ease the burden by ensuring that patients will be seen as a priority in the shortest possible time.

How?

1. We have created one central phone number and appointed a dedicated co-ordinator who will assist you in making appointments with St Andrew's specialists.
2. We have gained a commitment from our St Andrew's specialists that they will prioritise patients who make their appointments via the Rural Health Connect co-ordinator after being referred by your GP.
3. Our co-ordinator can assist you with recommended travel and accommodation advice, including discounted hotel rates close by.

## Contact details to make your St Andrew's appointments

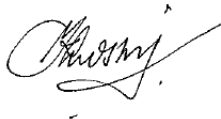
The Rural Health Connect phone number is: **07 3834 4348**

Fax: 07 3834 4325

Co-ordinator: Josey Hourigan. Email: [Josey.Hourigan@uhealth.com.au](mailto:Josey.Hourigan@uhealth.com.au)

We appreciate your involvement and testing of this service and hope that you find this service to be both useful and user friendly.

Best Regards,



***Dr Yogesh Mistry***

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