# Orthopaedic Choice Referral Guidance - Spinal

***Orthopaedic Choice are unable to accept patients with (1) suspected cauda equina syndrome, please refer to A&E immediately or (2) suspected malignant disease, please refer to 2 week-wait or oncology or contact radiology directly for urgent imaging.***

Please include the following **MINIMUM CLINICAL DATA SET FOR ALL REFERRALS**. Referrals that do not contain this information are likely to be returned for completion:

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| --- | --- | --- |
| BMI | Effect on function (walking etc) | Effect on sleep |
| Duration | Effect on sleep | Occupational factors |
| Severity | Previous x-ray/imaging | PMH |
| Site | Previous treatment (injections, physio, podiatry etc. with details) | DH |
| Laterality | Effect on function (WALKING ETC) |  |

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Condition | Possible Primary Care treatments prior to referral | ESSENTIAL referral Information required from GP *plus* MINIMUM DATA SET |
| Non-radicular | Advice, Physio | **Not MRI**. X-ray only if any red flags. High severity, night pain and off work require urgent appointment.  If symptoms less severe, with no night pain and minimal functional restriction could be referred to physio initially (Do STarT Back score) |
| Radicular | Advice, Physio, Refer | **Not MRI**. X-ray only if any red flags  NB presence of compressive neuropathy (weakness, hypoaesthesia, reflex loss) or myelopathy indicates urgent appointment |
| Suspected CES | Do not refer to OC. Refer direct to A&E | |
| Suspected metastatic cancer | Do not refer to OC. Refer urgent imaging direct, 2ww or oncology | |

**General Guidance for all Spinal Orthopaedic Choice referrals**

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| --- | --- |
| Location of the Service | * Romsey * Hythe * Lymington * Fordingbridge * Avalon House, Winchester * Andover * Moorgreen |
| Exclusions | High index of suspicion for malignancy – primary or secondary  Acute injuries  Paediatrics <=16 yrs |
| Administration Requirements | To Complete the referral proforma including all the minimum data set and refer on Choose and Book  **Contact details for the booking office are:**  0300 003 0806  **Address:**  Lymington New Forest Hospital, Winchester Hill, Hampshire,  SO51 7ZA |