GASTROENTEROLOGY

National Clinical Priority Access Criteria for ERCP (CPAC)

Category Definitions : These are recommended guidelines for HHS specialists prioritizing referrals from primary care.

Acute	- AH	- *after hours*
	- NL	- *next list*
Elective	- A	- *within 7 days*
	- A/B	- *between 7 to 14 days*
	- B	- *between 14 to 28 days*
	- C	- *after 28 days*

Immediate and Urgent cases must be discussed with the Specialist or Registrar in order to get appropriate prioritisation and then a referral letter sent with the patient, faxed or e-mailed. The times to assessment may vary depending on size and staffing of the hospital department.

Indication	Priority					
	Acute		Elective			
	AH	NL	A	A/B	B	C
Acute cholangitis						
With septicaemia / not responding to therapy	●	●				
With septicaemia / responding to therapy		●				
Without septicaemia / responding to therapy		○	●			
- Good, non invasive imaging of liver and bile ducts essential prior to ERCP - These criteria are also applicable to cholangitis due to blocked stents						
Acute -presumed biliary- pancreatitis						
> 3 Ransom (or equivalent) criteria	○	●	○			
settling / > 60 years of age and / or poor surgical risk		○	●			
- Indication and timing of ERCP based on clinical presentation – consider early ERCP if suspected cholangitis associated with pancreatitis.						
Post cholecystectomy complications						
Bile leak/suspected bile duct injury/patient unwell	○	●	○			
Bile leak/suspected bile duct injury/patient well		●	○			
Retained stone / symptomatic			●	○		
Retained stone / asymptomatic					●	
Jaundice						
Progressive / painless / dilated ducts		○	●			
Fluctuating or settling				●	○	
Pain – suspected biliary origin						
Suspected or proven choledocholithiasis					●	
Suspected or known chronic pancreatitis					○	●
Suspected biliary dyskinesia						●
Abnormal liver function tests						
Suspected sclerosing cholangitis						●
Suspected choledocholithiasis / no pain						●

● *- Preferred priority for investigation* ○ *- Alternative priority for investigation*