

South Island Integrated Breast Cancer Program - Centralized Referral

SOUTH ISLAND BREAST CANCER SURGEON GROUP

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What is the South Island Integrated Breast Cancer Program's Centralized Referral?

As part of the new Integrated Breast Cancer Program, the South Island breast cancer general surgeon group has committed to a centralized intake, pooled referral process where all referrals come into a central intake centre and where patients have the opportunity to be connected to the first available surgeon.

Why the change?

A centralized pooled referral process and first available surgeon option will reduce wait times and improve timely access to quality care. Central intake will also help streamline the system for referring primary care providers.

How can primary care providers support the success of this initiative and reduce wait time for patients?

Beginning April 1, 2021, primary care providers are being asked to use the new **South Island Integrated Breast Cancer Program Referral Form FOR BREAST CANCER REFERRALS**. Referrals will be submitted to a centralized intake for the South Island Breast Cancer Surgeon Group. Breast cancer referrals will no longer be accepted at these individual surgeons' offices.

Primary care providers are encouraged to inform patients of the benefits of receiving care from the first available surgeon. Although choosing the first available surgeon is recommended, the importance of honoring patient choice is recognized and patients will still be able to select specific providers if desired, with the understanding that this may entail a longer wait.

Thank you!

We are confident that the quality improvements being implemented will reduce patient wait times and appreciate your efforts to support our new central intake and pooled referral process and improving care for patients.

