

**Document facilitator:** Nurse Manager Gastroenterology

**Senior document owner:** Clinical Leader Gastroenterology

**Document number:** 1.105201 **Issue Date** 15 February 2021 **Review Date** 15 February 2022

---

**Level**      **Service Gastroenterology**

---

**Type:**      **Policy**

---

**Name:**      **Process for private CCDHB domiciled patients to access  
Infliximab Therapy within the CCDHB area**

---

### **Purpose**

Patients electing to pay for specialist Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) medical consultations in the private sector have the right to access Infliximab therapy within the public health sector.

This document outlines the process for arranging access via private specialists. The same process will apply to any IV medications funded under special authority in future.

### **Background**

When Infliximab was funded from the hospital budget private patients were first reviewed in public outpatient clinics, and generally ongoing care was taken over by the public hospital. Infliximab is now available on special authority from the community budget and therefore CCDHB provider services is no longer the gatekeeper. Infliximab is only administered in a hospital setting and currently the Kenepuru Medical Day Ward is the only available option in the CCDHB region.

### **Scope**

**Includes:**      This policy applies to specialists in private practice referring patients to CCDHB Kenepuru Medical day ward for Infliximab infusions, and nursing staff working in the Kenepuru medical day ward. While this policy was written by the Gastroenterology service the same process could be used for patients with other indications.

**Excludes:**      Public patients and patients ineligible for publically funded health care in New Zealand.

---

**Document facilitator:** Nurse Manager Gastroenterology

**Senior document owner:** Clinical Leader Gastroenterology

**Document number:** 1.105201 **Issue Date** 15 February 2021 **Review Date** 15 February 2022

## Policy content and guidelines

1. The private specialist applies for the special authority and ensures a recent clinic letter which includes a detailed clinical summary and biologic pre-screening results is emailed to CCDHB for uploading ([RES-MedRecElecFiling@ccdhb.org.nz](mailto:RES-MedRecElecFiling@ccdhb.org.nz)).
  - a. **Please note infliximab will not be administered unless the nursing staff have access to a clinical summary and the biologic pre-screening results**
2. The private specialist emails the following paperwork to the Kenepuru Medical Day Unit [RES-MedicalDayWard@ccdhb.org.nz](mailto:RES-MedicalDayWard@ccdhb.org.nz); ph (04) 9182228. Fax is no longer an option
  - a. Completed referral form including the specialist's contact information. This should include (1) a direct telephone number for the specialist (2) a number for their administration staff, (3) an indication which day the specialist is best to be contacted on (patients will be preferentially booked for that day if possible) and (4) an email address that correspondence can be sent to e.g. if the special authority has expired.
  - b. Prescription for infliximab and prn medication for infusion reactions on CCDHB drug chart (CCDHB Infliximab infusion protocol must be followed).
  - c. A signed CCDHB consent form
3. The status as a private patient should be identifiable in the booking system. Patients will be admitted under the HCP "Private Doctor" (HCP code 19473). The patient will not be charged for the admission.
4. Any blood tests taken in the day ward are to be submitted against a private lab form with the results to be sent to the private specialist. Patients cannot have a blood test taken at the time of the infusion unless they provide a private lab form.
5. **If there is an infusion reaction this will be managed as per protocol by the day ward, but the nursing staff may call the private specialist for advice and the hospital service for additional support. There is no medical cover in the day ward, this is a nurse led unit.**
6. The private specialist will be emailed a copy of the treatment summary after each presentation.
7. If patients report symptoms or request a medical review (other than in an emergency), they will be directed to make contact with their private specialist or GP.
8. If the special authority expires, the specialist will be notified and no further infusions will be arranged until the renewal is completed.
9. The referral form, this policy, consent form, medication chart and CCDHB infliximab policy will be available on the Gastroenterology CCDHB external website.
10. **CCDHB IBD nurses are not involved in the care of private patients.**

**Document facilitator:** Nurse Manager Gastroenterology

**Senior document owner:** Clinical Leader Gastroenterology

**Document number:** 1.105201 **Issue Date** 15 February 2021 **Review Date** 15 February 2022

### **Associated Guideline:**

[Safe administration of infliximab \(including desensitisation\)](#) CapitalDocs ID 1.103002

---

### **Appendix:**

[CCDHB Referral form for Private Provider - Infliximab infusion at Kenepuru Day Ward](#)

CapitalDocs ID 1.105202

*Disclaimer: This document has been developed by Capital & Coast District Health Board (CCDHB) specifically for its own use. Use of this document and any reliance on the information contained therein by any third party is at their own risk and CCDHB assumes no responsibility whatsoever.*