

CURRENT WAITING TIMES Bay of Plenty District Health Board:

- A threshold for FSA referral acceptance has been set to assist with MOH waiting time compliance. Referrals graded priority 2B or 3 will be returned to GP care at point of referral.
- A threshold has been set for the treatment list where priority B will not be accepted.
- At present, **medical** gastroenterology is offered at Tauranga Hospital only.
- From GP Missive 7/12/09 –

Colonoscopy referrals in WBOP

You will be aware that two separate services in the WBOP receive requests from GPs for patients with symptoms that suggest a colonoscopy may be the best investigation. These are general surgery and gastroenterology. From now on, referrals *for colonoscopy*, for both services will be graded together and the requests will be pooled. This means that your patient may be seen by either service for their colonoscopy, depending on service staffing and the urgency apparent in the GP referral letter. To help with grading it is most helpful to be as explicit as possible *about presenting symptoms, any family history or relevant past medical history and examination findings*. In addition FBC, ferritin level, CRP and for those with diarrhoea, a faecal calprotectin are recommended investigations prior to referral.

GASTROENTEROLOGY

FIRST SPECIALIST ASSESSMENTS	Wait Times
Waiting priority 1	Up to 3 months
Waiting priority 2A	Up to 6 months
Waiting priority 2B	Not accepted
Waiting priority 3	Not accepted
TREATMENT LIST	
Waiting priority NL	Up to 6 months
Waiting priority A	Up to 6 months
Waiting priority AB	Up to 6 months
Waiting priority B	Not accepted