

My Initial Haematology Appointment: Patient Information

Where do I go?

The Blood Unit's Haematology Consultants have Consulting Suites in Level 2, Cabrini Haematology and Medical Oncology Centre, 183 Wattletree Rd Malvern 3144. Dr Kenealy also has a consulting session at Cabrini Brighton.

When you ring to make your booking, our Reception Staff will inform you of the best way to find these rooms.

Who will I meet?

At your first Haematology Appointment, you will meet your Haematologist. If you come with family or a support person they will be welcome to attend the meeting if you wish them to. We often advise that you bring someone along so that you can discuss the meeting afterwards and check your understanding of what was said.

You will often meet our Specialist Practice Nurse either at your first or subsequent appointment. Our Nurse is a highly qualified Haematology Nurse with many years' experience in Haematology. She is there to assist with patient education and support, and often forms a key part of your ongoing follow up and treatment.

You will meet our administrative staff who will help with bookings and appointments

What do I need to bring?

Bring along a list of all your current medications and any allergies. If you have not sent in your referral from your referring doctor, please bring this in with you.

Bring your current medicare number, and medical insurance details.

Bring an address and contact details for your local doctor and any other specialists involved in your care.

Any relevant information from prior medical episodes will be very helpful.

What will happen at my appointment?

The doctor will check your understanding of why you are here, and will discuss the issue that has brought you to see a Haematologist. A history of this issue, as well as details of any past medical and surgical history will be taken, plus some details on your medications, allergies, and where relevant, your home situation and work/occupational and travel history may be taken.



Dr Kirsten Herbert
MBBS (Hons) BSc(Med) FRACP PhD

Assoc Prof Melita Kenealy
MBBS (Hons) FRACP FRCPA

Dr Michael Dickinson
MBBS (Hons) DMed Sci FRACP FRCPA

Assoc Prof Max Wolf
MBBS FRACP FRCPA

The doctor will examine you. A haematological examination often involves a general inspection of overall wellness, plus examination for skin colour, lymph nodes in the neck, underarms and groins, an abdominal examination. Further examinations of your lungs, heart, nervous system, arms and legs may also be undertaken depending on your presenting complaint.

The doctor will then discuss what they want to do next, which may entail some further tests such as blood tests, xrays or scans. Treatment may be recommended, or a further follow up visit to discuss test results and formulate a plan for treatment or management may be recommended.

Do I have to pay for my appointment?

Your outpatient visits to the Haematologists' rooms are partly covered by medicare, but not by your Private Health Insurance. An out of pocket charge is usually invoiced by our Reception Staff. We keep our charges at (and usually less than) the Australian Medical Association's recommended rates. Charges are aimed at meeting the costs of your consultation, and are tailored to take into account any additional workup and professional service that is required before and after your consultation, bookings and treatment scheduling, nurse input (where used), etc.

Will my local doctor be informed of my visit?

We prioritise communication with your primary General Practitioner, and with your permission will communicate in writing regarding the outcome of your visit, plus ongoing follow ups. Please let us know if there are other doctors to whom you would like correspondence sent.