

# POAC CLINICAL POLICY

## Investigation of possible Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA)

**Please Note: This is not intended as a clinical guideline for management in Primary Care**

### Rationale:

A non-ruptured AAA typically will present as a pulsatile mass (usually painless) and requires urgent (not immediate) investigation.

A ruptured AAA typically will cause abdominal or back pain and requires immediate admission to hospital.

Upon clinical examination if there is:

- **Presence of pain and a pulsatile mass – Refer to hospital**
- A painless pulsatile mass – Arrange urgent (not acute) ultrasound through Access to Diagnostics, DHB radiology or private funding.

### POAC Policy:

**POAC will NOT fund cases of suspected AAA**