

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