

Primary Options *for* Acute Care

Communications to PHOs

POAC funding awaiting ambulance transfer

Background

Historically it has not been part of POAC's remit to fund unavoidable admission i.e. admissions where, from the initial community assessment, it is clear that hospital evaluation is required.

In the current environment, delays in ambulance services continue to increase. This is particularly concerning with winter pressures and places additional resource issues on primary care facilities.

What's changing?

The DHB funders have agreed to extend POAC funding to patients who are in a healthcare facility and:

- a delay occurs in the arrival of an ambulance to transfer acutely to hospital;
PLUS
- active monitoring is required.

Supporting documentation

POAC will accept claims where the wait for an ambulance has **exceeded 30 minutes**. Clinical documentation, including time stamps, demonstrates active monitoring beyond 30 minutes whilst awaiting ambulance arrival. All referrals will be assessed in the normal manner and additional information may be required on a case by case basis.