

POAC CLINICAL POLICY

POAC funding of ECG

Principles of funding: POAC will fund a same day ECG where co-payment issues would otherwise mean the patient would require an ED referral AND there are no other funding streams available
POAC will fund urgent ECG under the following circumstances:

1. Investigation of current/recent chest pain with possibility of acute coronary syndrome (ACS) – low risk of ACS but diagnosis still under consideration
ECG must be accompanied by troponin testing, and with evidence of rapid (same day) follow up of ECG and blood results. See Auckland Regional HealthPathway: Acute Chest Pain <https://aucklandregion.healthpathways.org.nz/27916.htm>.
2. Investigation of current palpitations or irregular pulse where the patient has an irregular pulse on clinical exam on the day of presentation OR within the last few days AND a newly abnormal pulse now
3. New onset of symptoms such that a “silent” MI is under consideration but not obviously needing admission, would have to be accompanied by troponin.

NOT COVERED BY POAC:

1. Non-acute chest pain
2. Chest pain without cardiac features
3. History of palpitations but none currently present and pulse regular

Other funding streams for ECG where requires but not acute:

See HealthPathway for resting ECG Te Whatu Ora district criteria:

<https://aucklandregion.communityhealthpathways.org/57319.htm>

Discuss with PHO for other funding options, i.e. discretionary funding