

Guidelines for Determining Acuity of IBD Referrals

Triage Category	Description	Process	Goal Wait Time
Emergent	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Acute Severe Ulcerative Colitis >8 BM/day, AND CRP>45; <u>OR</u> Hb<105; <u>OR</u> temperature >37.8 Crohn's – rectal abscess – pt unable to sit due to painful rectum Crohn's – obstruction – nausea, vomiting 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> IBD physician notified; urgent assessment by IBD fellow arranged. If no IBD physician available, contact C1/C2 physician for emergent assessment (<i>patient may be instructed to go to ER</i>) 	< 2 days
Urgent	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Flare of known IBD (UofA follow-up <u>OR</u> not previously followed by a local GI) Recent-onset bloody diarrhea, persisting >1 week Recent-onset non-bloody diarrhea, persisting >3 weeks Symptoms of IBD: Diarrhea, or abdominal pain or >5kg weight loss <u>with</u> anemia (Hb<110) or CRP>20 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> IBD Labs & stools ordered If known to UofA, pt's MD is notified If new referral, referral to be triaged by IBD physician and assigned to MD for assessment 	< 2 weeks
Semi-Urgent	<p>Known History of IBD</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Complex IBD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newly diagnosed IBD (not on maintenance therapy) requiring follow-up Patients recently admitted to hospital, requiring follow-up Pediatric Transition (may be triaged later if referral letter indicates this); pts on biologics need to be seen soon Transition from outside Alberta – pts on biologic therapy Referral from another <u>GI</u> requesting possible study medications or 2nd opinion <p>Suspected IBD</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Symptoms of IBD: diarrhea or abdominal pain <u>with</u> family history Symptoms of IBD: diarrhea or abdominal pain with iron deficiency, CRP<20, Hb>110 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> IBD Labs & stools ordered Referral triaged by IBD physician 	2 – 8 weeks
Routine	<p>Known History of IBD</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Stable known IBD requiring follow-up (UofA follow-up <u>OR</u> not previously followed by a local GI) <p>Suspected IBD</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Symptoms of IBD: diarrhea or abdominal pain with normal CBC,CRP and without weight loss 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> IBD Labs & stools ordered Referral triaged by IBD physician 	2 – 6 months