

When to refer patients to Minor Injuries Unit (WGH) or to A&E

Refer to MIU:

- Patient has the technology to enable VC
- Minor burns or scalds (not involving neck, face or genitals)
- Limb injuries (shoulder and below, knee and below)
- Patients with fracture that require review after receiving treatment out with NHS Lothian
- Patients who are shielding, self-isolating or are Covid positive
- All wounds
- Foreign body in nose or ear
- Minor head and facial injuries only that are not covered by the exclusion criteria
- Ring removal from fingers /toes
- Crush injury to digit without wound
- Animal bites

Refer to A&E:

- 11 years of age and under (12 – 16 SJH or RHSC only)
- Dangerous mechanism of injury e.g., fall from higher than patients own height or road accident with combined speed of 40 mph
- Obvious deformity / joint dislocation unless finger / toes (schedule to SJH or RIE only)
- Current intoxication or overdose
- Deliberate self-harm
- Minor burns and scalds to neck, face and genitals and chemical or circumferential burn
- Urgent eye injuries with visual disturbance or penetrating injury
- Injury or foreign body to abdomen, chest or back
- Head injuries with loss of consciousness, vomiting /disturbed vision/ altered behaviour. reduced GCS, underlying haematological conditions or patient on anticoagulants (SJH or RIE only)
- Human Bites
- Neurovascular impairment
- Traumatic back and neck injuries
- Unsafe environment/social circumstances for example the patient has no ability to attend Minor and get back from Minors without transport i.e., Ambulance and therefore would need to attend A&E or possible domestic abuse or child protection issue suspected