

Prince of Wales Hospital CAU Rapid Access Cardiac Clinic



The Prince of Wales Hospital (POWH) Rapid Access Cardiac Clinic (RACC) is a medically led outpatient clinic located in the Community Assessment Unit (CAU), which provides timely access to high-quality cardiology care for low to intermediate risk cardiac patients. The primary objective of the clinic is to reduce unnecessary admissions to the Emergency Department (ED) and provide an accelerated pathway for cardiac patients amenable to outpatient care.

For all new referrals to the CAU Rapid Access Cardiac Clinic, the preferred method is to be submitted electronically via HealthLink. Service can be found under **SESLHD > Cardiology > CAU Rapid Access Cardiac clinic**.

Patient cohort

The RACC service has been implemented to accommodate low to intermediate risk cardiac patients with the following conditions:

- Undifferentiated chest pain without high-risk features.
- New or recurrent atrial fibrillation, atrial flutter and/or palpitations without significant haemodynamic compromise
- Heart failure without haemodynamic compromise or an oxygen requirement
- New or recurrent syncope without high-risk features
- Perioperative outpatients requiring semi-urgent cardiac clearance for surgery

All other cardiac patients should be sent directly to the ED for immediate management.

Within this patient cohort, the following inclusion and exclusion criteria exists:

✓ Inclusion Criteria	✗ Exclusion Criteria
Age 16+	Aged care facility resident
Resides within the SESLHD catchment area or known to a POWH cardiologist	Existing cardiology appointment within 7 days
	Moderate to severe breathlessness at rest
	Any chest pain with high-risk features
	Febrile illness
	Acute behavioural disturbance

Business hours: Monday – Friday 8:30am – 5:00pm

Direct contact number: 0499 421 734 (during business hours)

After hours process: Contact on-call Cardiologist/AT via POWH Switchboard

RACC Fax: (02) 9382 9633