

Radiology Department Guidelines for X-Ray Referrals July 2018 – Next review July 2020		
	Acceptable Clinical Indications	Indications NOT Acceptable
Sinuses	By Specialist referral Only	Headache Sinus disease
Knee	Knee pain with locking Painful prosthesis Trauma ? Osgood Schlatter's Disease	Knee pain without locking or restriction of movement
Chest	Hypertension Specific Chest Pain SOB Pre-employment	? Rib Fractures ? URTI Non-specific Chest pain Screening Smoker, no adverse clinical features
Cervical spine	Trauma Osteoporotic collapse Osteomyelitis Primary bone tumour Myeloma Metabolic bone disease Osteomalacia Degenerative Changes with "red flag" signs	Neck Pain Brachialgia Simple degenerative Changes
Thoracic spine		Back pain Simple degenerative changes
Lumbar spine		Chronic back pain with no pointers to infection or neoplasm. Disk herniation Sciatica with no adverse features.
Sacrum SIJ	Not indicated ? sacroiliitis	
Coccyx	Acute trauma (lateral only). Persistent pain	
Shoulder	Trauma ? calcific tendonitis "Frozen" shoulder symptoms	Pain, localised or referred from neck Simple degenerative changes
Hip	Trauma Orthopaedic Referral Complex history Pain & OA	
Calcaneum	Trauma ? Stress fracture	? Spur (ultrasound) ? Plantar fasciitis (ultrasound)
Hands/wrists/elbows Feet/ankles/knees	Chronic pain – more than 6 weeks. Physiotherapy, NSAID'S already tried. "Red Flag" signs	Acute pain with no known trauma – for less than 6 weeks No "Red Flag" signs