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Allergy Department

Mastocytosis Center Consultation Acceptance Guidelines

SELF REFERRALS ARE NOT ACCEPTED

The following document details specific requirements for scheduling a consultation at the Brigham and Women's Hospital (BWH) Mastocytosis Center.

1. All patients must have a written referral letter from their local physician. This letter should be addressed to Dr. Mariana Castells or Dr. Matthew Giannetti and either faxed or mailed to the address as shown above. It must be received and reviewed before any appointments can be scheduled.
The records should include:
 - Recent office visit notes, complete blood count with differential, skin/bone marrow biopsy reports, hospital and emergency room visits
 - Mast cell mediators including serum tryptase and a 24-hour urine collection for n-methylhistamine and 11- beta prostaglandin F2. Mediators may be checked at baseline or during acute symptoms (acute is preferred). NSAIDs must be discontinued for 3 days prior to urine collection as these may cause false negative results.
2. Once the patient information is received, it will be reviewed by the BWH MD and the clinic will be in contact with you regarding whether an appointment can be scheduled. We are unable to provide medical advice or communicate directly with patients who are not established with our practice.
3. All patients must meet clinical criteria for a mast cell disorder (mastocytosis, monoclonal mast cell activation syndrome, idiopathic mast cell activation syndrome) in order to be scheduled. (Valent, et al. *Blood*, March 2017; Valent, et al. *JACI IP* April 2019)
4. Once the patient is notified of approval, the patient is required to call registration at 1-866-489-4056 to obtain a medical record number with the Brigham & Women's Hospital.
5. It is the patient's responsibility to verify appropriate insurance coverage and to obtain referrals, if necessary. Our front-desk staff members are not able to call insurance companies to verify insurance coverage or arrange referrals.
6. All patients should be medically stable to travel to the appointment. No emergency appointments can be scheduled.
7. If the patients had a bone marrow biopsy, the actual slide of the bone marrow may be requested for review by our pathologist. This may incur an additional charge from the Pathology department. The cost of the pathology review/consult varies depending on whether additional stains are needed and the number of slides. This may not be covered by insurance in all cases.
8. The patient must have a local doctor who will follow them when they return home to provide ongoing management and care. The primary purpose of the BWH Mastocytosis Center is assistance and guidance in the diagnosis and management of mast cell disorders.
9. The outpatient visits are typically 60 minutes. A bone marrow biopsy may be scheduled, if needed.
10. Routine medications (including antihistamines) should NOT be stopped prior to the appointment.
11. Information regarding hotel accommodations is available at the BWH website:
www.brighamandwomens.org , click Patient and Visitors > Visitors > Accommodations.