

Syrian Refugee Intake Clinic (notes for physicians)

1. History:

Where from in Syria

How long in receiving country and which one- Jordan, Turkey or Lebanon

Lived in camp or city/town?

Language(s) spoken, need for interpreter?

Supports (family here?), children, partner

Health history – current concerns, PMH including injuries from trauma, past surgeries & hospitalizations

Children: developmental delay, disabilities

LMP, pap and obstetrical history and any complications during pregnancy or delivery

Allergies, medications

Family history

SH - smoking/alcohol/drugs, education and work history

Screening - contraception including emergency contraception, dental pain

Gentle enquiry mental health:

“How are you feeling today?”

“What would you say is your main stressor/worry right now?”

“How are you dealing with the changes of arriving in Canada?”

“Who are your supports? (ie. Family, case worker etc)”

2. Physical exam:

Full physical

Ensure examine eyes (esp cataracts), skin, scalp, dental

Weight, length, head circumference in children

Pap – consider if appropriate; can be deferred to next visit

No rectal exam unless symptoms

3. Lab investigations(** please inform patients what blood tests being done, recommended for all refugees in Canada.**)

CBC, ferritin (Hgb electrophoresis at subsequent visit if low MCV and MCH if ferritin normal)

HIV serology

HBsAg

Hep C serology

VDRL

Strongyloides titre-(if positive, Dr. P. Duke or Dr. C Bassler are available for discussion about treatment)

G6PD – only for children

BUN, creatinine, LFTs (adults only)

HGBA1C (adults)

other labs if indicated

All immunizations (children and adults) will be done by public health.

4. Referrals:

Dentist – ANC will arrange

Optometry – Drs. Webb and Hounsell have been accepting refugee patients.

Others as needed

Consult letters- we suggest putting the following near top of referral letter “please contact my office with date/time appointment as patient does not speak english”, then your staff make arrangements/notify ANC. Otherwise, patients are sent letters in English about the appointment which they can not read.

5. Prescriptions:

Meds covered by IFH program- same coverage as NLPDP(we suggest writing note on script to pharmacy to contact you if meds not covered by IFH)

Tell patient to bring IFH document to pharmacy along with prescription

Contacts:

Barbara Albrechtsons , public health nurse at Association for New Canadians

752-4182

Michelle Corbett, Helena Vokey- social workers Association for New Canadians

722-9680

Heather Matthews, Health settlement ANC (contact for arranging appointments, and all other health related matters)

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