

Marfan Syndrome & Aortopathy Clinic

The Prince Charles Hospital

Introduction

This clinic provides multidisciplinary specialist services for people who are suspected of having Marfan syndrome or other diseases associated with the aorta and its major branches.

Marfan syndrome is a rare condition that affects the connective tissues in the body. It can cause a variety of problems; most commonly involving the heart, blood vessels, bones, joints and eyes, but can also affect the lungs, skin and nervous system.

Our team

We are the primary centre in Queensland for Marfan syndrome and diseases causing aortic aneurysms, having provided the service for over 20 years. Based at The Prince Charles Hospital in Brisbane, we offer a full range of advanced specialist inpatient and outpatient services. We also run outreach clinics, currently to Charleville, Townsville and Rockhampton.

Specialists

Cardiologists – Dr Yong Wee, Dr Vishva Wijesekera, Dr Chris Whight (paediatric)

Specialists in aortic disease and inherited heart disease with advanced knowledge and experience in the diagnosis and management of a variety of different heart conditions.

Clinical Geneticist – Dr Jim McGill

An expert doctor who diagnoses and manages various types of genetic diseases like Marfan syndrome that can commonly affect the heart and blood vessels.

Ophthalmologist and Optometrist – Dr Kevin Vandeleur, Mr Bill Watson

Specialists who diagnose and manage eye disorders.

Genetic Counsellor – Dr Alison Rutstein

A health care professional who takes your family history and provides information about the condition and its inheritance, and help patients and families understand the medical, psychological and reproductive implications of the disease.

Specialist Nurses – Mr Michael Reye Baldini, Ms Angela Hedge

Senior nurses with sub-specialist knowledge in inherited heart disease and aortic disease who coordinate clinical care, provide education and support.

Vascular Surgeon – Dr Jason Jenkins, Dr Nigel Pinto

Surgeons specialising in the management of diseases of the blood vessels.

Cardiac Scientists

Health care professional who perform tests relating to your heart (for instance, electrocardiogram and echocardiogram).

Psychologist and **Social Worker** support is also available through our Adult Congenital Heart Disease service.

When are our clinics

We offer a weekly clinic for patients with Marfan syndrome and other conditions causing aortic aneurysms. Additionally, there is a Marfan Diagnostic Clinic once every two months.

The advantage of our clinic is that the individual and family (both adults and children), with the appropriate referrals, can have all their investigations and consultations together on the same day.

Referral information

To be seen in our clinic, please ask for a referral from your GP or specialist doctor to:

Dr Yong Wee
Vascular Physician and Cardiologist
Marfan and Aortopathy Clinic
The Prince Charles Hospital
627 Rode Road,
Chermside, Brisbane, QLD 4032

Referrals can be sent through the Central Patient Intake (CPI) website:
www.metronorth.health.qld.gov.au/specialist_service/refer-your-patient
or alternatively by fax: **1300 364 952**

Further information

Email contact: TPCHMarfanAortopathy@health.qld.gov.au

Or call our Marfan Clinic Specialist Nurses:

Mr Michael Reye Baldini (CNC) - (07) 3139 7207
Ms Angela Hedge (CN) - (07) 3139 7252

Further support

We work closely with the **Marfan Association Queensland Inc.** This is a family support group for persons with Marfan syndrome and similar conditions, that additionally promotes research and awareness.

www.marfanqld.org.au

www.facebook.com/MarfanAssocQLD