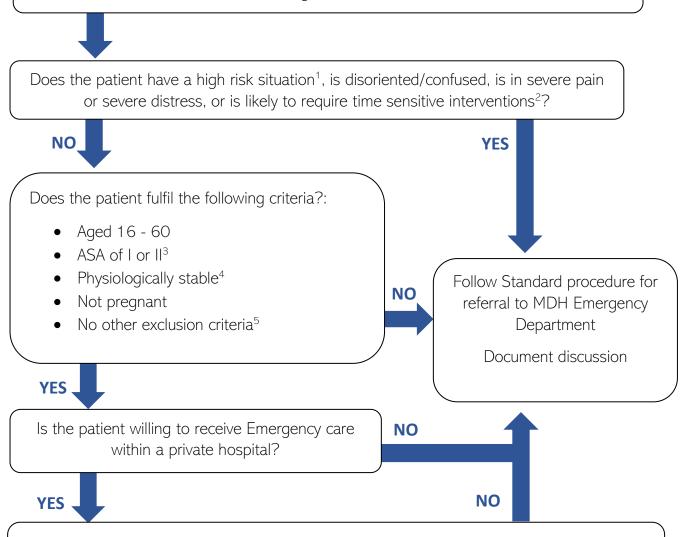
Appendix 1: Algorithm for direction of patients to private hospitals.

Patient undergoes assessment by a medical doctor within the community, registered with the Permanent Medical Register of the Malta Medical Council



Call 1400 and inform patient with the selected private hospital

Does the patient confirm that s/he is willing to receive further care within the selected

¹High risk situation refers to a clinical situation which has a high risk of deterioration or exhibit newly altered mental status

²Time sensitive management refers to urgent medical intervention for potentially life or limb threatening clinical scenarios such as Acute Coronary syndrome, CVA, airway management, ventilatory support, resuscitation in shocked patient, suspected acute aortic pathology, acute limb ischaemia,



Inform patient that s/he needs to attend the private hospital within 2 hours

Provide referral ticket

Document discussion

³ASA score

Category	Physical Status
ASA 1	Normal healthy patient
ASA 2	Patient with mild systemic disease
ASA 3	Patient with severe systemic disease that is not a constant threat to life
ASA 4	Patient with severe systemic disease that is a constant threat to life
ASA 5	Moribund patient not expected to survive with or without

⁴Physioloigcal stability – for the purpose of the SOP regarding direction of patients to a private hospital, physiological stability shall be defined as:

- 1. Respiratory rate 12 bpm 20 bpm
- 2. Pulse 51 bpm 90 bpm
- 3. Systolic BP 100 mmHG 210 mmHg
- 4. Saturation of ≥ 96% on with no Oxygen therapy
- 5. Alert with no recent onset neurological deficits, GCS 15
- 6. Temperature of $> 36^{\circ}\text{C} < 38^{\circ}\text{C}$

⁵ Exclusion criteria — Emergency Care within a private hospital <u>shall not be considered for</u>:

- Patients potentially having time sensitive diagnoses.
- Patients with abnormal parameters as
- Patients with primary Gynae, ENT and Ophthalmic complaints
- Patients with conditions that can lead to loss of limbs, including ulcers
- Patients whose pain is not controlled by oral analgesia
- Patients presenting with complications of procedures/interventions carried out at MDH
- Patients presenting to PHC with the same condition within 30 days of discharge from MDH
- Patients unable to give consent.
- Patients who require the use of a stretcher for transport/transfer
- Police cases including domestic violence and sexual assault
- Patients presenting with psychiatric complaints
- Patients being assessed for poisoning
- Patient with potential infections of high consequences or who require isolation.