

## Shoulder & Upper Limb Surgery

# FAQ'S - MY APPOINTMENT

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### Why have I been referred to Dr McLean?

Dr McLean is a bone and joint doctor who has a special interest in shoulder, elbow, wrist and hand problems. He has advanced, sub-specialty training in shoulder, upper limb and hand surgery. Dr McLean performs key-hole and minimally invasive surgery when possible.

For more information about Dr McLean's practice, see [www.jmclean.com.au](http://www.jmclean.com.au)

### Where does Dr McLean consult?

Dr McLean consults at Orthopaedics SA's metropolitan offices located at the Ashford Specialist Centre, the Memorial Specialist Centre and Flinders Private Hospital. His personal assistant will be able to help you find a suitable location. For all patient appointments and enquiries please contact our office via one of the following:

**Phone:** (08) 8267 8292. **Fax:** (08) 8351 4501.

### How do I get referred?

Dr McLean is happy to receive referrals from your GP or another doctor. You can ask your doctor to fax or email a referral on your behalf, or you can bring a referral with you.

Medicare Australia requires a referral for a specialist consultation. If you wish to make an appointment online, visit the website: [www.jmclean.com.au](http://www.jmclean.com.au)

### Will I have to wait to be seen?

Waiting times can vary, but normally do not exceed two weeks for routine, non-emergency private referrals.

Emergency injuries and elite sports persons are offered a same-day service but this usually incurs additional "out-of-hours" costs.

### What do I need to bring to my first appointment?

A referral letter from a doctor is required. If you prefer, this can be sent directly to Dr McLean at Orthopaedics SA by:

**Fax:** (08) 8267 2007 or

**Email:** [mcleanadmin@orthosa.com.au](mailto:mcleanadmin@orthosa.com.au).

To avoid disappointment, please ensure you bring your health insurance details and any x-ray and/or scans (ultrasound, CT and MRI) with you on the day of your appointment.

### How long will the appointment last?

The standard new patient consultation lasts up to 20 minutes. Some conditions are very simple and a thorough explanation, including demonstrations with anatomical models can take only 10 minutes. Some complex conditions can take much longer and Dr McLean has usually identified these patients and made allowances for extra time.

Follow-up appointments normally last up to 10 minutes. Regardless of the time required, Dr McLean hopes that at the end of the consultation enough time has been given to fully explain the issues involved and answer any questions you may have.

## How much does a consultation cost?

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A new patient consultation costs \$150. This cost is usually covered by your insurance company, as it is within the AMA-recommended guidelines. Please discuss matters further with our administrative staff if you have any queries regarding this. There may be additional costs if “out-of-hours” emergency care is specifically requested, or if a second opinion has been requested. Second opinion consultations will have additional time scheduled as required.

## Will I need an x-ray or a scan?

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Conditions that affect bone such as fractures and arthritis often need x-rays. An x-ray can be performed quickly and can be done on the same day at the hospital. Dr McLean can discuss the results with you.

Scans (MRI, CT, and ultrasound) may be required and normally need to be booked in advance. Scans are usually performed on a separate day and a follow-up appointment is required to discuss the results. Scans often require special equipment for interpretation and are looked at by an x-ray specialist (a Radiologist).

Scans can take time to be reported and we therefore recommend patients make a follow-up appointment a week later, by which time the x-ray doctor will have had time to review the images and write a report. If you are unsure, when you are having your scan, ask the technician how long it will take to do the report.



### Dr James McLean

MS, MBBS, FRACS (ORTHO), FA ORTH A

Orthopaedic Surgeon

APPOINTMENTS AND ENQUIRIES

P 08 8267 8292 E [mcleanadmin@orthosa.com.au](mailto:mcleanadmin@orthosa.com.au)

Ask **Dr McLean** to clarify your restrictions prior to surgery to avoid disappointment.

For more information, please see our FAQ link at [www.jmclean.com.au/FAQs/](http://www.jmclean.com.au/FAQs/)