REFERRAL SYSTEM FOR SUSPECTED / CONFIRMED NASAL FRACTURES

For ED / GP use – when assessing patients with suspected or confirmed nasal bone fractures

Assessment & Referral Pathway

Findings	Action
Obvious deformity requiring correction	Request ENT MAU F/U within 10 days (ideally 7–10 days post-injury).
Significant swelling causing difficulty assessing extent of deformity	Book ENT Emergency phone follow-up in 5 days for reassessment once swelling settles.
No deformity / airway issues / haematoma	Provide routine advice only; no ENT referral required. Give safety-net advice.

Information to Include in Referral / Notes

Patient name		MRN/NHS No.	
Date of Birth		Contact number	
Mechanism of injury		Date of injury	
Referring Clinician			

Patient Advice

- You will receive phone appointment (day 5-7) or face-to-face appointment (day 7-10) as per request
- Avoid nose blowing, keep head elevated, use simple analgesia.

⚠ Red Flags – Immediate ENT Review Required

- Septal hematoma / abscess
- Uncontrolled epistaxis despite nasal packing