

DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING APPROPRIATENESS TOOLS IN PRIMARY CARE

Background

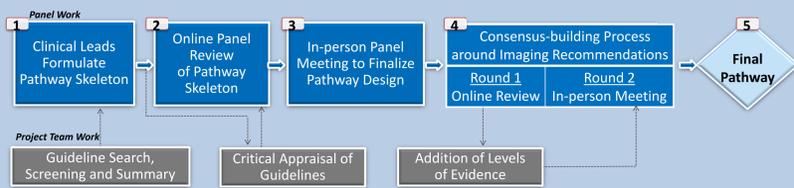
- **Variability in images requested** for common clinical scenarios^{1,2}
- **Uncertainty** about what imaging is needed and when
- **Opportunity to avoid unnecessary** duplicate imaging and procedures
- **Improve patient experience** by avoiding unnecessary waits and testing

Goals

1. Develop evidence-based diagnostic imaging pathways developed in partnership with primary care, radiologists, specialist physicians
2. Conduct feasibility analysis to understand barriers to adoption
3. Outline recommendations for dissemination and adoption amongst primary care providers, radiologists and specialist physicians
4. Build sustainability plan to continuously review and update the pathways and ensure reliability

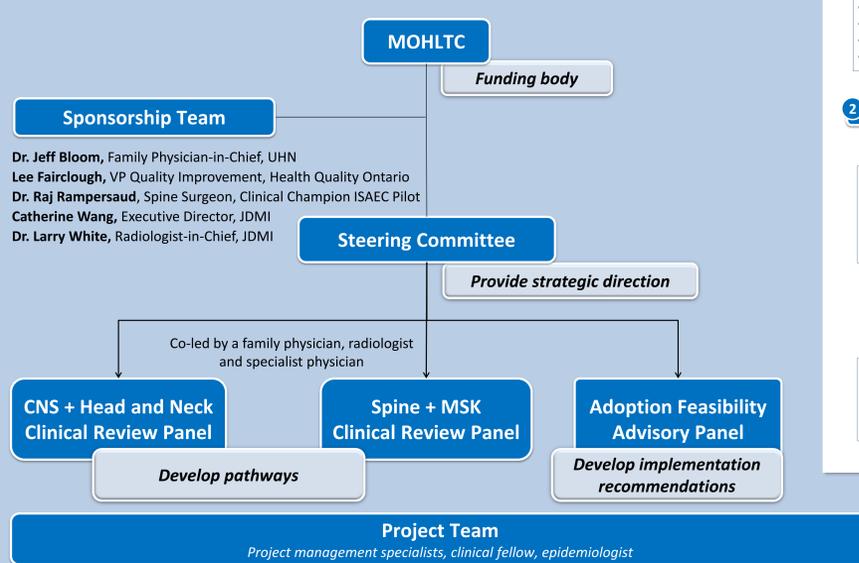
Pathway Development Methodology

The pathway development methodology leveraged elements of the CAN-IMPLEMENT* framework, a streamlined version of the ADAPTE guideline adaptation methodology



*M.B. Harrison, RN, PhD and J. van den Hoek, BNSc for the Canadian Guideline Adaptation Study Group, CAN-IMPLEMENT Guideline Adaptation and Implementation Planning Resource, 2012

Building Provincial Partnerships



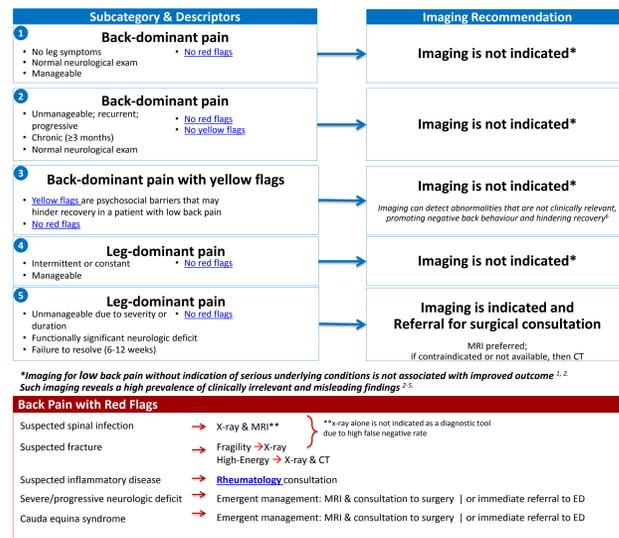
Composition of Key Stakeholder Groups

Steering Committee	CNS + Head and Neck Clinical Review Panel	Spine + MSK Clinical Review Panel	Adoption Feasibility Advisory Panel
• Total members: 21	• Total members: 20	• Total members: 25	• Total members: 14
• 10 system leaders	• 7 primary care providers	• 9 primary care providers	• 10 system leaders
• 5 primary care providers	• 8 radiologists	• 7 radiologists	• 3 primary care providers
• 6 specialists, including surgeons and radiologists	• 5 neurologists and 3 otolaryngologists	• 9 specialists, including orthopedic surgeons and sports medicine specialists	• Patient representative from Owen Sound

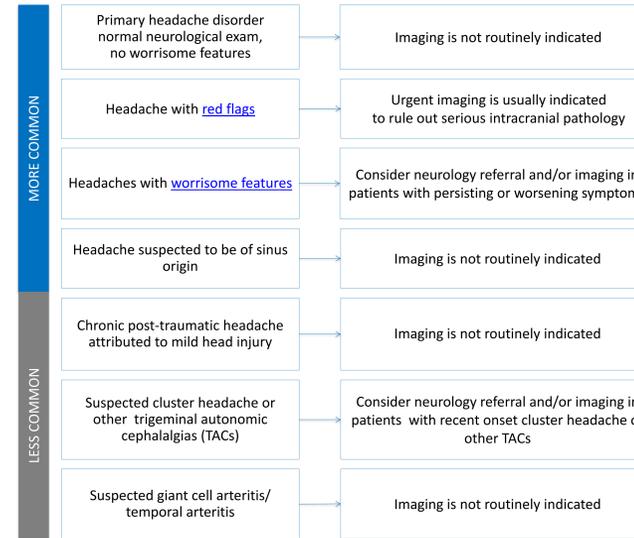
Imaging Pathways

Purpose: Build imaging pathways outlining if, when and what imaging is needed for primary care presentations of common clinical scenarios

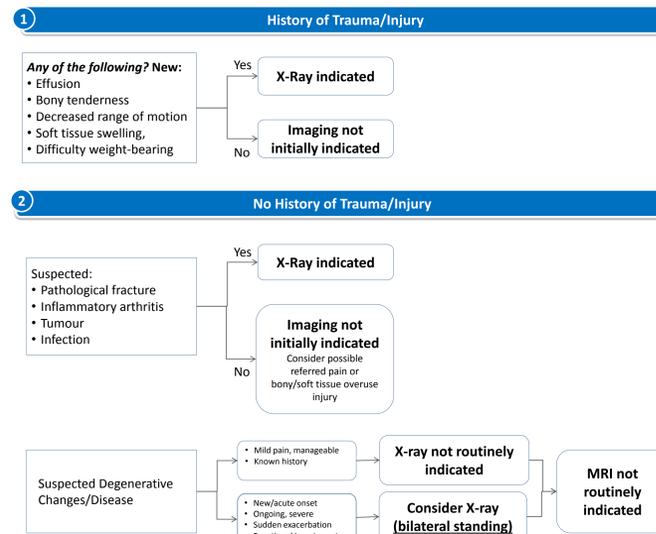
Low Back Pain Imaging Pathway: Summary



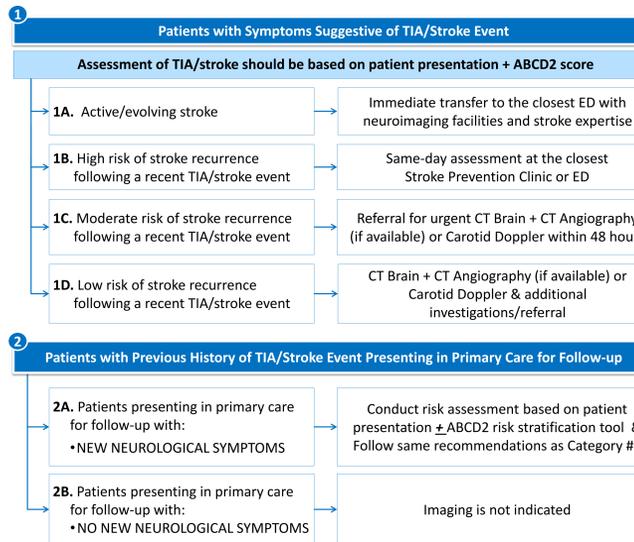
Headache Imaging Pathway: Summary



Knee Pain Imaging Pathway: Summary



TIA/Stroke Imaging Pathway: Summary



Primary Care Provider Assessment of the Pathways

- Primary care providers who were not involved in pathway development were surveyed to assess face validity (n=61)
 - 44 practicing in urban settings
 - 15 in rural settings
 - 2 in suburban settings

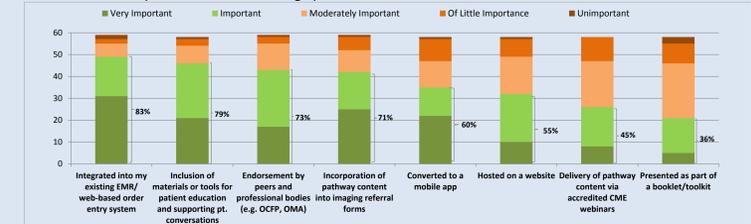
93% Agree or strongly agree that the pathways were developed using an acceptable methodology

91% Agree or strongly agree that the pathway development teams' multidisciplinary representation is acceptable

Q: Based on your review of the full pathway, please rate your agreement with the following statements:



Q: What factors would help you and your primary care colleagues use these pathways? Please rate the importance of the following options:



Key Implementation and Sustainability Recommendations

- IT Integration** → Pursue integration of pathways with Ontario's major EMRs to support primary care providers' workflow.
- Integrated Implementation** → Investigate alignment of pathways with existing primary care best practice implementations: HQO Communities of Practice, Choosing Wisely Canada recommendations, Quality-Based Procedures, etc.
- Data to Support Practice Change** → Create imaging indicators to give clinicians insight into their imaging referral patterns relative to peer groups. Leverage existing tools like the HQO Primary Care Practice Reports.
- Tools for Patient Conversations** → Develop tools to support the imaging-decision conversations between primary care providers and their patients.
- Communication and Dissemination** → Pursue incorporation of pathways into OCFP courses and distribution via Chiefs of family medicine, radiology and the other specialties at academic hospitals.

Next Steps

- Investigating development of an IT tool that can integrate with Ontario's major EMRs
- Featuring the pathways, in partnership with OCFP, in the *Don't Just Do Something, Stand There* course manual and OCFP website
- Conducting educational rounds with primary care
- Publishing in peer-reviewed journals

Critical Success Factors

