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Memorandum

TO: Mississauga Halton LHIN Primary Care Providers
FROM: Bill MacLeod, Chief Executive Officer, Mississauga Halton LHIN
DATE: August 2, 2018
SUBJECT: Implementation of Central Intake and Rapid Access Clinics for hip and knee arthritis and low back pain

Dear Primary Care Providers,

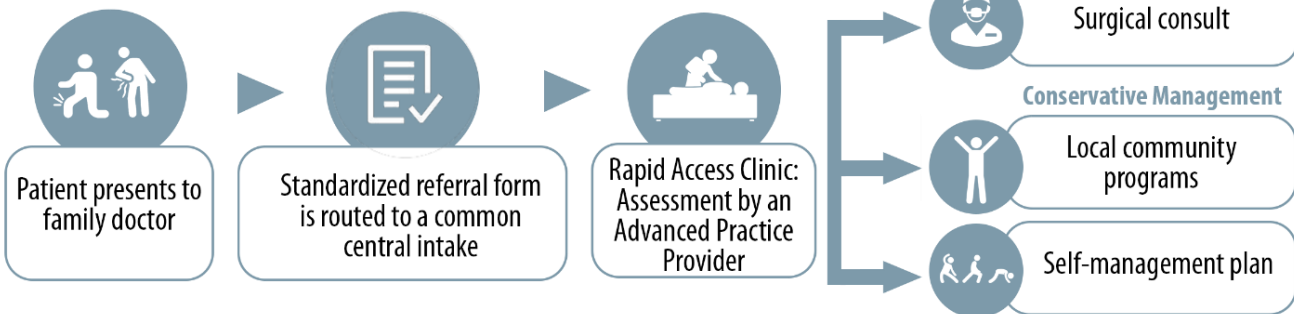
The Mississauga Halton LHIN in partnership with Halton Healthcare and Trillium Health Partners is looking forward to implementing Central Intake and Rapid Access Clinics for patients with **moderate to severe hip or knee arthritis and low back pain** as part of a provincial initiative to ensure equitable access to a high quality, integrated continuum of musculoskeletal care.

Rapid Access Clinic Model

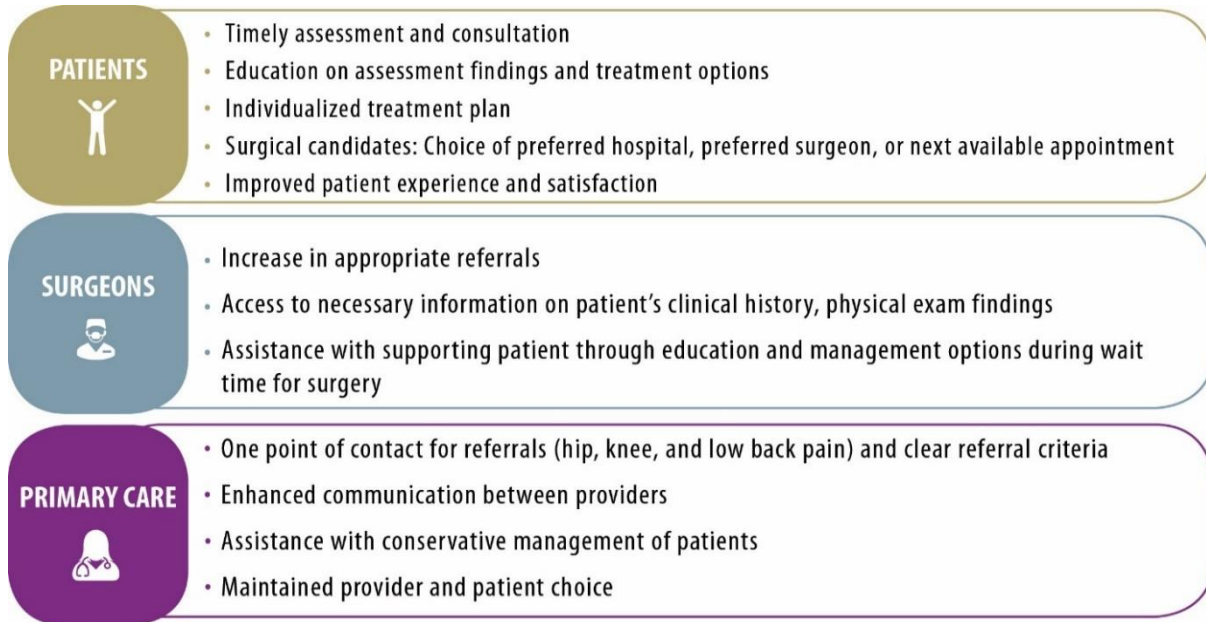
The following diagram illustrates the pathway for patients in the Rapid Access Clinic model:

The Patient's Pathway

Patient will be seen by an Advanced Practice Provider within 4 weeks



Benefits of the Model



Hip and Knee Rapid Access Clinics – November 1, 2018

- As of **November 1, 2018** a **new** regional referral form is to be used for all patients **18 years of age or older** experiencing **moderate to severe hip or knee arthritis**. Referrals are to be sent to the Central Intake Program in the Mississauga Halton LHIN instead of directly to surgeons' offices.
- The new regional referral form will be shared with you in October 2018.
- Urgent referrals will continue to be sent directly to a surgeon office or to the Emergency Department.
- The Mississauga Halton LHIN will have two Hip and Knee Rapid Access Clinics located at Halton Healthcare and Trillium Health Partners. At the Hip and Knee Rapid Access Clinic, patients will be assessed by an Advanced Practice Provider (see definition below).

Low Back Pain Rapid Access Clinics – Coming Soon

- The Low Back Rapid Access Clinics supports patients with persistent low back pain between 6 weeks and 12 months and patients with recurrent episodic unmanageable low back pain or related symptoms.
- Expansion of the Low Back Rapid Access Clinics (formerly known as ISAEC) in the Mississauga Halton LHIN is currently being planned. Further information on the program and timelines for expansion will be shared in the coming months.

Advanced Practice Providers

- An Advanced Practice Provider is a regulated healthcare professional such as a Physiotherapist or Chiropractor with additional training in hip and knee orthopedic care or low back care.
- The Advanced Practice Provider conducts a standardized assessment and based on results, refers patients for surgical consult or provides conservative management recommendations.
- Primary Care Providers receive the assessment results and summary of the recommendations.

Central Intake in the Mississauga Halton LHIN

- There will be one common Central Intake fax number for all eligible referrals to the Hip and Knee Rapid Access Clinics and Low Back Rapid Access Clinics.
- The Central Intake Program in the Mississauga Halton LHIN will ensure all referral information is complete and routed to the appropriate Rapid Access Clinic.

Please stay tuned for further information. If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Moonesar, Mississauga Halton LHIN at 905-337-7131 ext. 208 or at michelle.moonesar@lhins.on.ca or the Mississauga Halton Central Intake Program at 905-338-2983 or MHReferrals@mhcentralintake.com.

Sincerely,



Bill MacLeod
Chief Executive Officer
Mississauga Halton LHIN