



## Appropriateness Criteria for MRI Knee and Hip

Information for Referring Family Physicians and Nurse Practitioners

Island Health Medical Imaging has adopted appropriateness criteria for MRI Knee and Hip exams. These criteria are consistent with the Choosing Wisely Canada recommendations.

### How will the appropriateness criteria be implemented?

An appropriateness checklist has been developed to accompany MRI Knee and Hip referrals. The checklist must be completed by all Family Physician and Nurse Practitioners and attached to the MRI requisition.

### Why introduce appropriateness criteria?

The appropriateness criteria and checklist provide decision making support to referring Family Physicians and Nurse Practitioners and support our commitment to quality improvement.

### What does mean for referring Family Physicians and Nurse Practitioners?

- Referring Family Physicians and Nurse Practitioners must complete and attach the knee and hip checklist to the MRI requisition.
- The requisition and checklist must be submitted to the Booking Office together.
- Any MRI Knee and Hip requisitions received without the appropriateness checklist attached will be sent back to the referring Family Physician or Nurse Practitioner as an incomplete requisition.
- The referring Family Physician or Nurse Practitioners will have to resubmit the MRI Knee and Hip requisition with the appropriateness checklist attached in order for the MRI Knee and Hip to be scheduled.

### What are the appropriateness criteria for MRI Knee and Hip?

One or more of the following criteria must apply for your patient to be eligible for an MRI Knee and Hip:

- Pain and Patient has had weight-bearing x-ray within the past 6 months and referring clinician has confirmed mild or no evidence of osteoarthritis in the knee or hip
- MRI was recommended on a previous imaging report
- Acute/subacute trauma
- Fixed locked knee
- Suspected tumour
- Osteonecrosis
- Previous surgery

### Additional Resources?

Appropriateness criteria are consistent with the Choosing Wisely Canada recommendations. For more information, visit <https://choosingwiselycanada.org>

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Issuing Authority:	MRI MET/MIQC				
Last Revised:	2023-09-05	Last Reviewed:	2023-09-05	First Issued:	2023-09-05