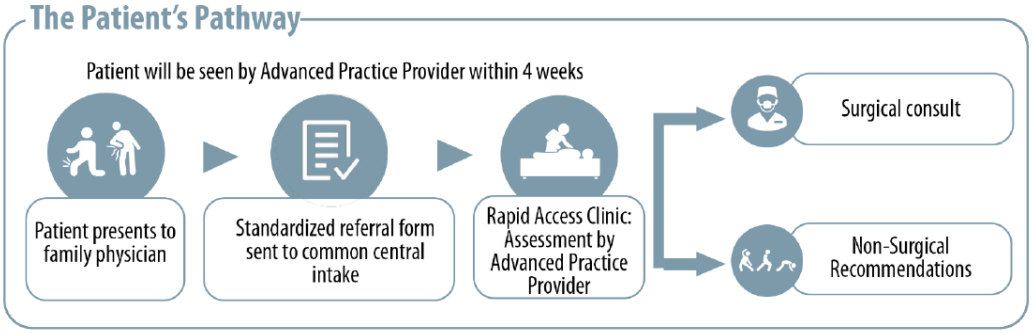
Frequently Asked Questions - Hip and Knee Rapid Access Clinic

1. What are the changes to the referral processes as of November 1, 2018?

- All referrals for patients with moderate to severe hip or knee arthritis for consideration of hip or knee replacement are to be routed through the Mississauga Halton Central Intake Program for assessment at the Hip and Knee Rapid Access Clinic.
  - Please use the new standardized referral form (see attached or visit www.mhcentralintake.com/HipsKnees)
- Please fax all hip and knee referrals to: **1-833-230-6623**
- For referral inquiry, please contact call 905-338-2983 ext. 4912
- All information on the referral form is required in addition to x-rays completed within the last three months are required. The x-ray report must be attached to the referral form. Required views are as follows:
  - Hip: AP pelvis, AP and lateral of affected hip
  - Knee: AP weight bearing bilateral knees, lateral of knee flexed at 30° bilateral knees, skyline view bilateral knees, PA standing flexion
  - **An MRI is not required**

2. What is the Hip and Knee Rapid Access Clinic?

In the Mississauga Halton LHIN, there will be a Hip and Rapid Access Clinic located at Halton Healthcare and Trillium Health Partners. At the Hip and Knee Rapid Access Clinics patients will be assessed by an Advanced Practice Provider who is a regulated health professional (ie. Physiotherapist, Chiropractor etc.) with additional training in orthopedic care. The Advanced Practice Provider will conduct a comprehensive standardized assessment and provide patients with education and recommendations including surgical consultation and/or non-surgical treatment options.



3. What is the referral criteria for the Hip and Knee Rapid Access Clinics (RAC)?

Inclusions: 18 years of age or older with moderate to severe hip or knee arthritis

Exclusions: Urgent referrals (prior arthroplasty with peri-prosthetic fracture, infection, recurrent dislocation or an immediate threat potentially requiring hospitalization within 4 weeks). Urgent referrals should follow the current process of sending to a surgeon's office or Emergency Department.

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4. Will I be informed of assessment results?

Yes, you will receive a copy of assessment results and recommendations made to the patient.

5. Will the Hip and Knee Rapid Access Clinic contact patients with their appointment date?

Yes, the Hip and Knee Rapid Access Clinic will contact the patient directly to book their appointment.

6. What will patients need to bring with them to their Hip or Knee Rapid Access Clinic appointment?

Patients will be required to bring their OHIP card, list of current medications, a copy of their **x-ray on a CD**, and a comfortable pair of shorts and shoes with them to their appointment.

7. What happens to referrals sent directly to an orthopedic surgeon?

Referrals sent directly to surgeon clinics for patients that meet the Hip and Knee Rapid Access Clinic criteria will be returned to the Primary Care Provider's office with instructions on the new referral process.

8. What about patients I have recently referred directly to a hip or knee orthopedic surgeon?

As of November 1, 2018, Providers have the option to re-refer patients who are waiting for surgical consultation to the Hip and Knee Rapid Access Clinic program.

9. Have other LHINs implemented this model of care?

Yes, by March 31, 2019, all LHINs will have this model implemented.

10. What if patients want to be seen in another region?

Patients have the choice to go to any Hip or Knee Rapid Access Clinic or surgeon in the province. Providers may indicate a patient's preference for a Rapid Access Clinic and surgeon, hospital or next available surgeon on the referral form.

Whether a patient chooses to be seen locally or in another LHIN, please send the referral form to Central Intake in the Mississauga Halton LHIN and it will be routed accordingly.

11. Who do I contact for more information?

Please contact:

Michelle Moonesar
Mississauga Halton LHIN
905-337-7131 ext. 208
michelle.moonesar@lhins.on.ca

OR

Mississauga Halton Central Intake Program
905-338-2983 ext. 4912
MHReferrals@mhcentralintake.com

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