

E-Bulletin

January 2006, Issue #7

The OHTAC E-bulletin is issued on a regular basis to provide you with updates on the latest committee recommendations. OHTAC has reviewed several health technologies and all its recommendations are available on the OHTAC Web site at http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/ohtac_recommend.html.

Should you have additional information about any of these technologies, please submit it to the Medical Advisory Secretariat (MAS) at the contact information found at the end of this bulletin.

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PHYSIOTHERAPY SERVICES AFTER PRIMARY TOTAL HIP OR KNEE REPLACEMENT

Issue

Total hip replacements (THR) and total knee replacements (TKR) are among the most commonly performed surgical procedures in Ontario. The issue is to determine, where, how, and when physiotherapy services are best delivered to optimize functional outcomes for patients after they undergo primary (first-time) total hip replacement or total knee replacement, and to determine the Ontario-specific economic impact of the best delivery strategy.

There is also a growing interest in whether physiotherapy should start before surgery. A variety of practices exist, and evidence regarding the optimal pre- and post-acute course of rehabilitation to obtain the best outcomes is needed.

Key Findings

- There is high-quality evidence to support the use of home-based physiotherapy instead of inpatient physiotherapy after primary THR or TKR surgery.
- There is low-to-moderate quality evidence to support the conclusion that receiving a monitoring phone call from a physiotherapist and practicing home exercises is comparable to receiving clinic-based physiotherapy and practicing home exercises for people who have had primary TKR surgery. However, results may not be generalizable to those who have had THR surgery.
- There is moderate evidence to support the effectiveness of an exercise program beginning 8 weeks before surgery to improve physical functioning 3 weeks after THR surgery

**OHTAC
Recommendations**

- The health care system should support the move toward home-based physiotherapy following discharge from the acute care setting after primary total knee or hip replacement surgery.
- Instead of attending outpatient clinic-based physiotherapy, consideration may be given to having patients follow an exercise program at home and receive monitoring phone calls from a physiotherapist.
- The full benefit of a preoperative exercise program for patients scheduled for primary total knee or hip replacement surgery is not as yet realized.

Implications

- The Toronto Joint Network Integrated Model of Care is a new clinical care pathway for managing patient physiotherapy needs after primary total knee or hip replacement surgery.
- The goal of the Integrated Model of Care is to decrease the number of days a patient stays in the acute care setting after primary total hip or knee replacement surgery from 16 days to 5 days.

The **OHTAC recommendation** for this technology can be found at the following link:

http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/tech/recommend/rec_tkr_061705.pdf

The full downloadable version of the **health technology and policy assessment (HTPA) report** by the Medical Advisory Secretariat can be found at:

http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/tech/reviews/pdf/rev_rehabtkr_061705.pdf

TECHNOLOGIES CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW

• Cardiac positron emission tomography	• Metal-on-metal Hip Resurfacing
• Endovascular repair for thoracic aortic aneurysm	• Breast Cancer Screening and Optimum Imaging Breast Technologies for Women 40-49 years of age
• Air filtration systems for infection control	• Photopheresis
• Electroanatomic cardiac mapping and ablative techniques	• Bladder Ultrasound
• Vascular ultrasound screening for abdominal aortic aneurysm	• Hydrophilic Catheters
• Automatic external defibrillator	• Mid-Urethral Slings
• Intravascular coronary ultrasound	
Integrated HTPAs	
• Cardiac imaging technologies	• Heart failure
• Osteoarthritis	
Updated HTPAs	
• Implantable cardioverter defibrillator	• Artificial discs—application to cervical and lumbar spinal surgery for degenerative disc disease
• Cardiac resynchronization therapy	• Enhanced external counterpulsation

OHTAC is envisaged as the first step in creating a single portal for providing advice to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care regarding the uptake, diffusion, and distribution for new health technologies. Find more about OHTAC, its application process, and its recommendations at the following Web site:

http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/ohtac_about.html.

Field Evaluations	Expected dates of web posting
Drug Eluting Stent	Interim report: Fall 2005 Final report: Summer 2006
Autologous bone marrow grafting	Tbd
64-slice CT angiography	Final Report::Late 2006/Early 2007
Primary angioplasty	Tbd
Endovascular repair of abdominal aortic aneurysms	Final report: Late 2006
Usability Lab Studies	Expected dates of web posting
Increased use of 64-Slice CT Scanners: Radiation Dose Issues	Winter 2006
Magnetic Resonance Imaging Suites: Patient and Staff Safety	Winter 2006
Automatic External Defibrillators	Spring 2006

PREVIOUS OHTAC RECOMMENDATIONS

- Athroscopic Lavage and Debridement September 2005
http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/tech/recommend/rec_lavdeb_061705.pdf
- Intrathecal Baclofen Pump for Spasticity August 2005
http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/tech/reviews/pdf/rev_pump_081605.pdf
- Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy for Non-Healing Ulcers in Diabetes Mellitus August 2005
http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/tech/reviews/pdf/rev_hypox_081105.pdf
- Interim Report on Endovascular Repair of Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (EVAR) July 2005
http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/reviews/docs/ohtac_report_evar_051705.pdf
- Intra-Articular Viscosupplementation With Hylan G-F 20 To Treat Osteoarthritis of the Knee June 2005
http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/tech/reviews/sum_hylan_061705.html
- Total Knee Replacement June 2005
http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/tech/reviews/pdf/rev_tkr_061705.pdf
- Osteogenic Protein-1 April 2005
http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/reviews/docs/ohtac_rec_op1_051705.pdf
- Multi-detector Computed Tomography Angiography for Coronary Artery Disease April 2005
http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/reviews/docs/recommend_multi_050805.pdf
- Spinal Cord Stimulation for Neuropathic Pain March 2005
http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/reviews/docs/scs_0305.pdf
- Sacral Nerve Stimulation for Urinary Incontinence, Urgency-Frequency, Urinary Retention, and Fecal Incontinence March 2005
http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/reviews/docs/sns_0305.pdf
- Deep Brain Stimulation in Parkinson's Disease and Other Movement Disorders March 2005
http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/reviews/docs/dbs_0305.pdf
- Bariatric Surgery January 2005
http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/reviews/docs/recommend_baria_012105.pdf
- Vacuum Assisted Closure Therapy for Chronic Wounds December 2004
http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/reviews/docs/recommend_vac_121604.pdf
- Balloon Kyphoplasty December 2004
http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/reviews/docs/recommend_kypho_121604.pdf
- Thermal Balloon Endometrial Ablation for Dysfunctional Uterine Bleeding October 2004
http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/reviews/docs/recommend_tbea_091504.pdf

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• Primary Angioplasty http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/reviews/docs/recommend_pri_angio_110804.pdf	September 2004
• Bispectral Index Monitor http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/reviews/docs/recommend_bis_081304.pdf	August 2004
• Radio Frequency Ablation for Primary Liver Cancer http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/reviews/docs/recommend_rfa_061704.pdf	June 2004
• Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation for Major Depressive Disorder http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/reviews/docs/recommend_rtms_061704.pdf	June 2004
• Coil Embolization For Intracranial Aneurysms http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/reviews/docs/recommend_ece_0304.pdf	March 2004
• Pyrocarbon Finger Joint Implant http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/reviews/docs/recommend_pyrocarb_0304.pdf	March 2004
• Video Laryngoscopy for Tracheal Intubation http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/reviews/docs/recommend_vic_laryng_0304.pdf	March 2004
• Bone Morphogenetic Proteins and Spinal Surgery for Degenerative Disc Disease http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/reviews/docs/recommend_bmp_ddd_0304.pdf	March 2004
• Artificial Discs for Cervical and Lumbar Spinal Surgery for Degenerative Disease http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/reviews/docs/recommend_bmp_ddd_0304.pdf	March 2004
• Computer-Assisted Hip and Knee Arthroplasty: Navigation and Robotic Systems http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/reviews/docs/recommend_arthro_0304.pdf	March 2004
• Computer-Assisted Surgery Using Telemanipulators http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/reviews/docs/recommend_teleman_0304.pdf	March 2004
• Tension-free Vaginal Tape for Stress Urinary Incontinence http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/reviews/docs/recommend_tvt_050204.pdf	February 2004
• Patient Monitoring System for MRI http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/reviews/docs/recommend_pmri_050204.pdf	February 2004

For any comments related to this E-bulletin, please contact the Medical Advisory Secretariat at:

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