

To: Primary Care Providers
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Re: **Orthopedic Central Intake Process**
Number of pages including this page: 1

Orthopedic Central Intake has been accepting referrals for all types of routine orthopedic consults since May 2016. Having one referral form and one place to send referrals ensures a streamlined process for referrers and referral recipients across Waterloo-Wellington. Referrals continue to be accepted by fax and eReferral, and sent to all surgeons and assessment centres across the region and beyond.

Some Friendly Reminders

- All referrals must be sent using the regional Orthopedic Referral Form
- Be sure to complete all applicable sections on the referral form and attach:
 - ⇒ recent imaging reports (within 6 months)
 - Referrals for knees and hips—avoid advanced imaging (MRI) in arthritic joints, the following x-ray views are recommended:
 - Knee: Bilateral PA standing, Lateral, Skyline, Tunnel
 - Hip: AP pelvis, AP of affected hip and lateral of affected hip
 - ⇒ any clinical information
 - ⇒ relevant patient history
- As per the provincial mandate, all moderate to severe knee osteoarthritis referrals will be sent to an Orthopedic Assessment Clinic in Cambridge, Guelph or Kitchener, for an assessment by an Advanced Practice Clinician
- For emergency referrals, including but not limited to fractures, tumors, lesions, or infections, please contact the on-call surgeon

If you have any questions, please contact the Regional Coordination Centre

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