

Appendix J: Alternative Text Description of Algorithm

Algorithm: Management and Treatment of Osteoarthritis of the Hip and/or the Knee

The following outline narratively describes [Algorithm: Management and Treatment of Osteoarthritis of the Hip and/or the Knee](#). An explanation of the purpose of the algorithm and description of the various shapes used within the algorithm can be found in the [Algorithm](#) section. The sidebars referenced within this outline can also be found in the [Algorithm](#) section.

1. The algorithm begins with Box 1, in the shape of a rounded rectangle: “Patient diagnosed with OA of the hip and/or knee”
2. Box 1 connects to Box 2, in the shape of a rectangle: “Assess pain, severity, and functional limitations”
3. Box 2 connects to Box 3, in the shape of a rectangle: “Develop individualized treatment plan with core non-surgical management approaches (see Sidebar 1)”
4. Box 3 connects to Box 4, in the shape of a hexagon, and asks the question: “Has the patient’s pain or functional limitation improved on re-evaluation?”
 - a. If the answer is “Yes” to Box 4, then continue to Box 5, in the shape of a rectangle: “Continue long-term management of OA and reassess annually or as needed”
 - b. If the answer is “No” to Box 4, then continue to Box 6, in the shape of a rectangle: “Offer referral to physical therapy and/or combination pharmacotherapy (see Sidebars 2 and 3)”
5. Box 6 connects to Box 7, in the shape of a hexagon, and asks the question: “Has the patient’s pain or functional limitation improved on re-evaluation?”
 - a. If the answer is “Yes” to Box 7, then continue to Box 5, in the shape of a rectangle: “Continue long-term management of OA and reassess annually or as needed”
 - b. If the answer is “No” to Box 7, then continue to Box 8, in the shape of a rectangle: “Referral for additional physical therapy”
6. Box 8 connects to Box 9, in the shape of a hexagon, and asks the question: “Has the patient’s pain or functional limitation improved on re-evaluation?”
 - a. If the answer is “Yes” to Box 9, then continue to Box 5, in the shape of a rectangle: “Continue long-term management of OA and reassess annually or as needed”
 - b. If the answer is “No” to Box 9, then continue to Box 10, in the shape of a rectangle: “Obtain weight-bearing plain radiographs prior to referral for surgical consultation (see Appendix K)”
7. Box 10 connects to Box 11, in the shape of a rectangle: “Refer for surgical consultation”