

The Value of Improving Appropriate Diagnostic Testing, Treatments and Procedures

More is not necessarily better when it comes to health care treatment. Unnecessary tests, treatments and procedures take away from care by potentially exposing patients to harm, which could lead to more testing to investigate false positives and contribute to stress for patients. These unnecessary tests also put increased strain on the resources of our health care system.

Choosing Wisely Canada

Choosing Wisely Canada (CWC) is a national campaign to help physicians and patients engage in conversations about unnecessary tests, treatments and procedures so they can make informed choices that ensure high-quality care. The initiative is modeled after the Choosing Wisely® campaign in the United States that was launched by the ABIM Foundation in April 2012.

CWC focuses on areas where evidence overwhelmingly shows that a test, treatment or procedure provides no benefit to a patient and could even cause harm.

The physician community is leading this effort and CWC is also supported by a wide network of partners participating in the campaign, including numerous national specialty societies. ■

For More Information

Please visit chimb.ca/choosingwisely and choosingwiselycanada.org to learn more.

If you have an interest in becoming part of the conversation about improving the appropriate use of tests, treatments and procedures through focus groups or engagement sessions, please contact: Albert Mota at amota@wrha.mb.ca.

With Family Physicians in Manitoba

Choosing Wisely Manitoba is supported by the Manitoba College of Family Physicians.

Following the principles and goals of Choosing Wisely Canada, The Centre for Healthcare Innovation (CHI) is partnering with Diagnostic Services Manitoba (DSM) on a number of Choosing Wisely projects where there is an opportunity, specific to Manitoba, to improve the appropriate use of diagnostic testing in our province.

Choosing Wisely and You

As a key stakeholder and point of contact for patients, physicians like you play an important role in improving appropriate diagnostic testing and treatment. Together, we need to inspire a change in medical culture and patient perceptions to help physicians and patients engage in healthy conversations and make smart and effective choices to:

- Improve health outcomes
- Improve patient and provider experiences
- Improve health system efficiencies
- Improve health system sustainability

What's Next

Over the coming year you can look forward to receiving information and resources specific to Choosing Wisely Manitoba's priority initiatives – including Vitamin D Testing and Preoperative Testing – to help you in your practice. Together, we will ensure your patients receive the right care and create health system efficiencies that benefit Manitobans.

Executive Sponsors: Mr. Jim Slater - CEO, DSM • Dr. Brock Wright - Senior VP, Clinical Services and Chief Medical Officer, WRHA

Project Sponsor: Dr. Eric Bohm - Director, Health Systems Performance, Centre for Healthcare Innovation

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