Saskatchewan Low Back Pain Pathway Primary Care Provider Treatment Algorithm



Pattern 5: Pain Disorder

| Objective of Assessment: |
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| To specify the environment or situations in which Pain Disorder occurs To identify precursor (antecedent) factors that influence behaviour To identify consequent factors that influence behaviour |
| Assessment |
| Complete history as per Primary Care Provider Assessment Tool |
| LIFESTYLE QUESTIONNAIRE identifies possible need to ask the following questions: |
| 1. Do you have pain that has lasted longer than three months? ☐ Yes ☐ No |
| 2. Does your pain keep you from doing the work, play or daily activities you want to do? ☐ Yes ☐ No |
| 3. Has your doctor ruled out surgery? ☐ Yes ☐ No |
| IF YES, THEN CONTINUE |
| Subjective History |
| ## A. Do you: Need assistance with personal care? Blame others for your situation?* Have constant pain? Demand a physical diagnosis? Have an expanding array of symptoms? Have a high perceived level of disability? Receive financial compensation? * ## Sought legal consultation (union, worker reps)?* Have multiple medical consultations? Had negative family/workplace/social situations? * Had poor medication response? Experienced sexual dysfunction? Had sleep disturbances? * |
| 6. Are you: ☐ Unemployed? ☐ Experiencing unexplained deterioration |
| The greater the number of positive responses, the higher the probability of a Pain Disorder. * If all five history points are present the risk of pain disorder is 99% (Treating the Patient with Pain Disorder, The CBI Method) |
| Physical Examination |
| Complete physical as per Primary Care Provider Assessment Tool |
| Check Waddell's Signs (More than three of four groups support a diagnosis of Pain Disorder): Superficial and widespread tenderness or nonanatomic tenderness. Stimulation tests: Axial loading and pain on simulated spinal rotation. Distracted straight leg raise and double straight leg raise lower than single straight leg raise. Non-anatomic or regional sensory changes. |

Diagnosis

If assessed as Pain Disorder, refer to Multi Disciplinary Clinic. Provide assessment results with referral.

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