



The Provincial Hip & Knee Replacement Project

Tracy Wasylak, Co-chair of the Provincial
Arthroplasty Working Committee

“Most delays in the health system are not due to lack of resources.”

Author, Michael M. Rachlis MD
MSc FRCPC

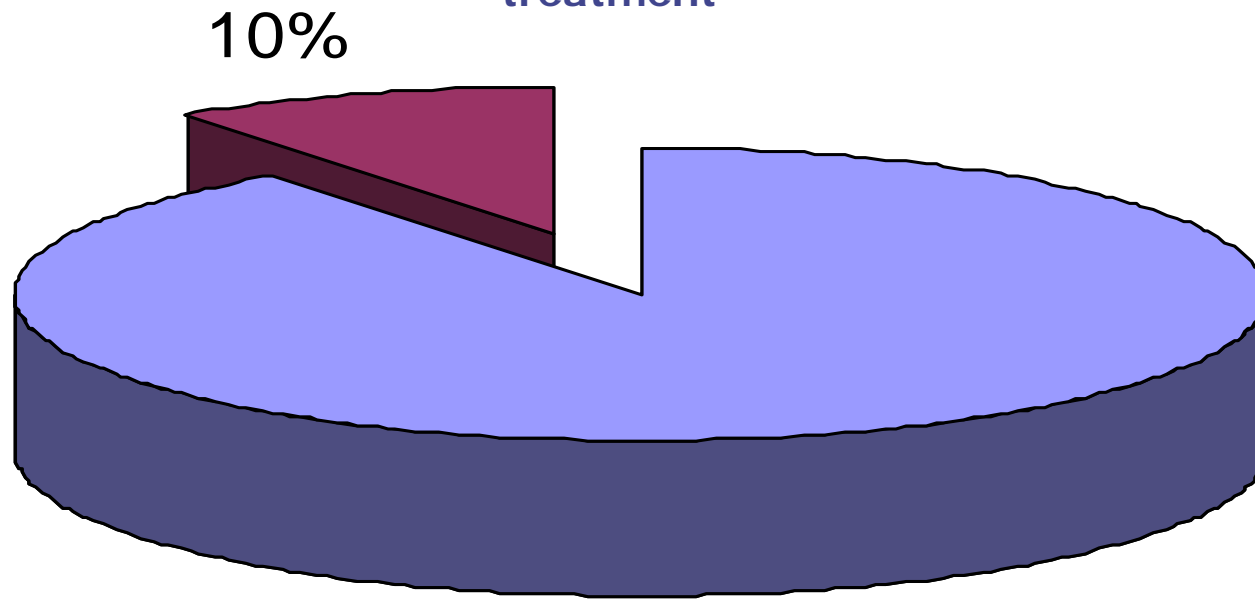
We need to change the way we deliver services

“Removing the financial barriers between the provider of health care and the recipient is a minor matter, a matter of law, a matter of taxation. The real problem is how do we reorganize the health delivery system. We have a health delivery system that is lamentably out of date.”

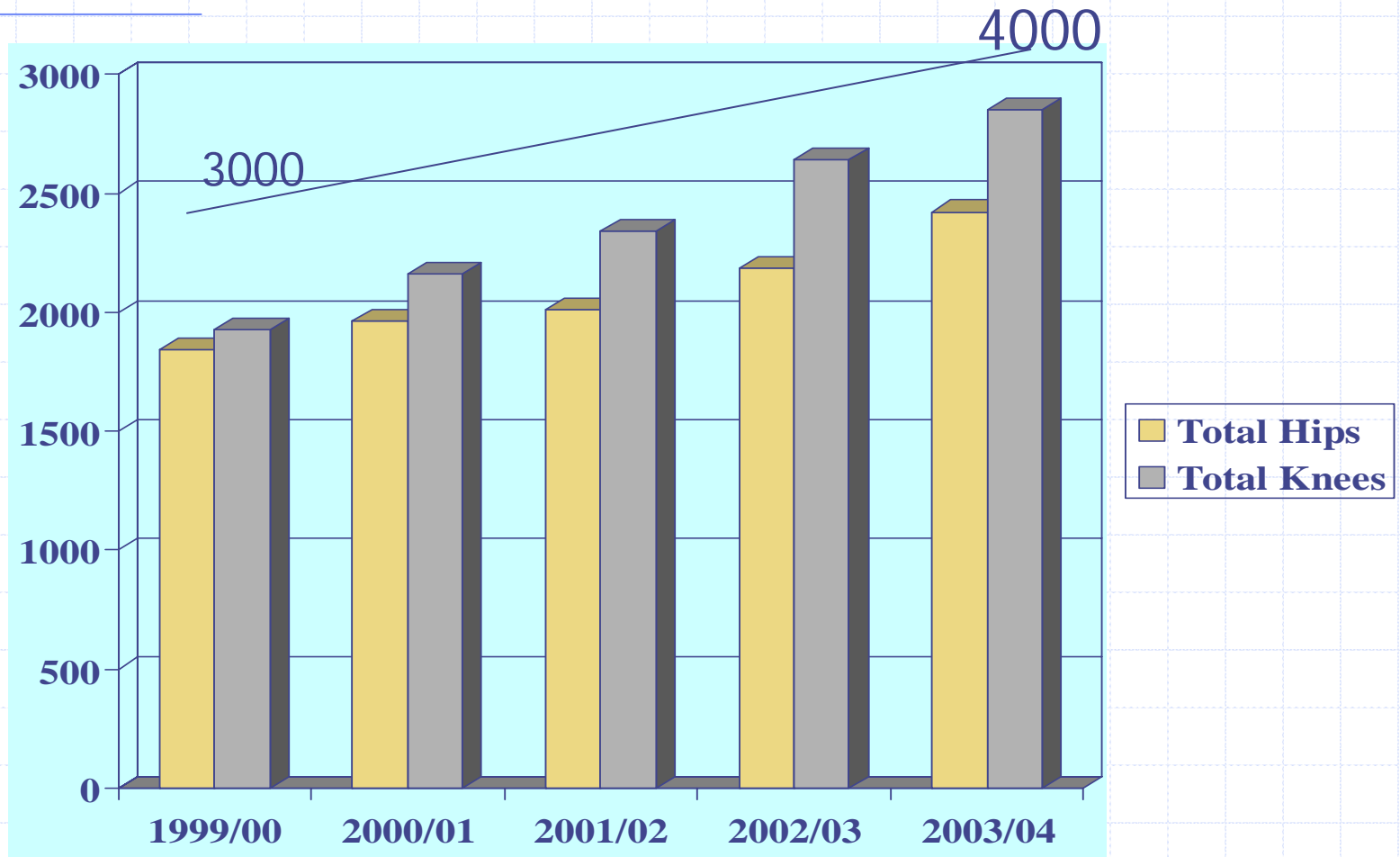
Tommy Douglas

Degenerative joint disease

- Albertans affected by degenerative joint disease
- Total joint replacements most effective surgical treatment



Alberta Hip & Knee Volumes



Provincial Volumes



Our strategy

Re-design the way we
organize and deliver the
entire continuum of care for
the patient.

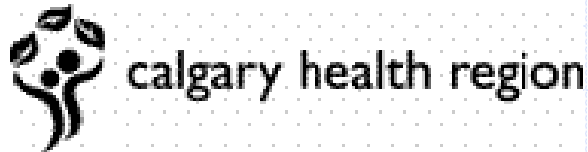
Our goal

- Reduce waiting times
- Improve quality of care
- Better patient health outcomes

Principles to optimize services

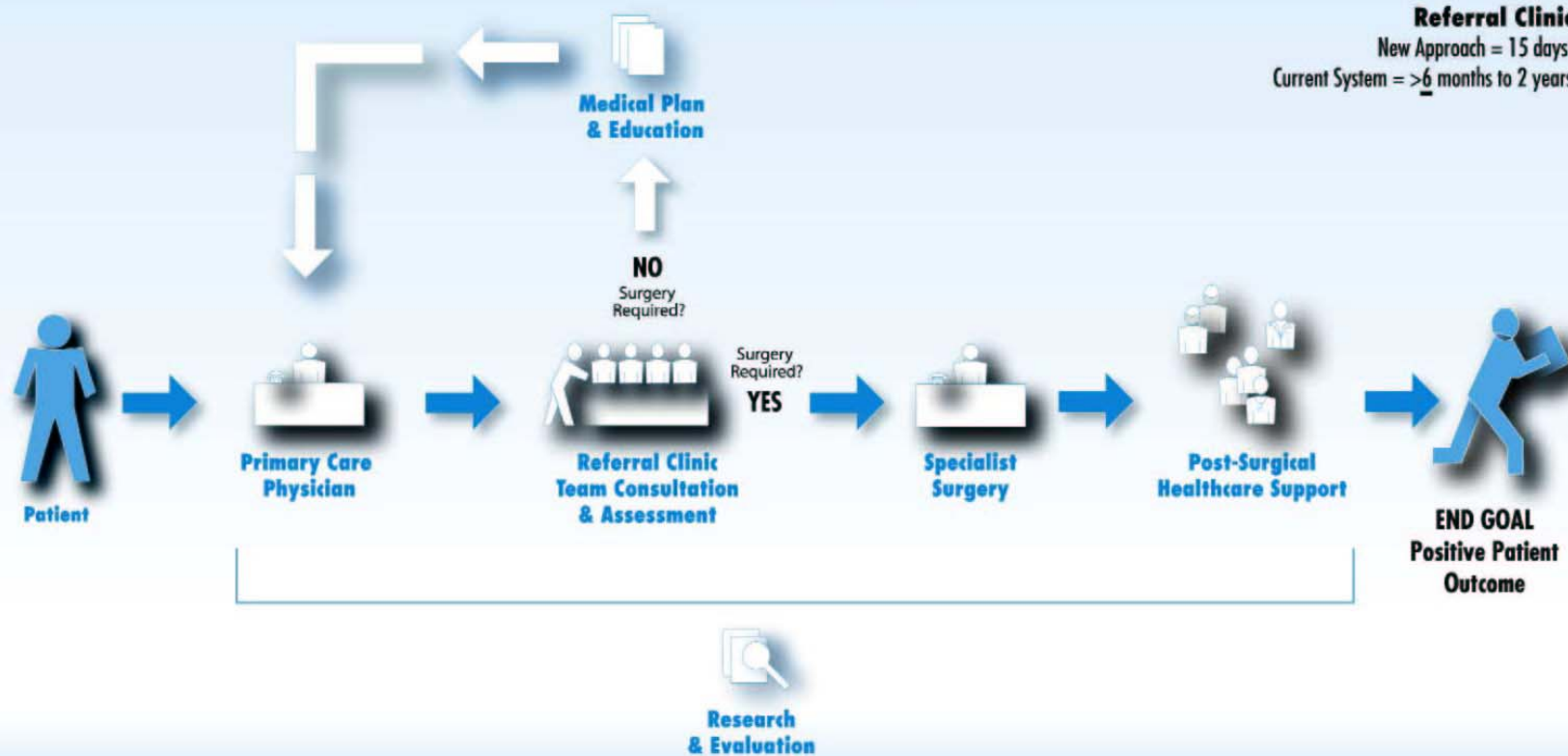
- Quality-focused
- Patient-centred
- Evidenced-based
- Publicly accountable
- Stakeholder-led

New approach developed in partnership



Alberta Hip and Knee Replacement Project

A new approach

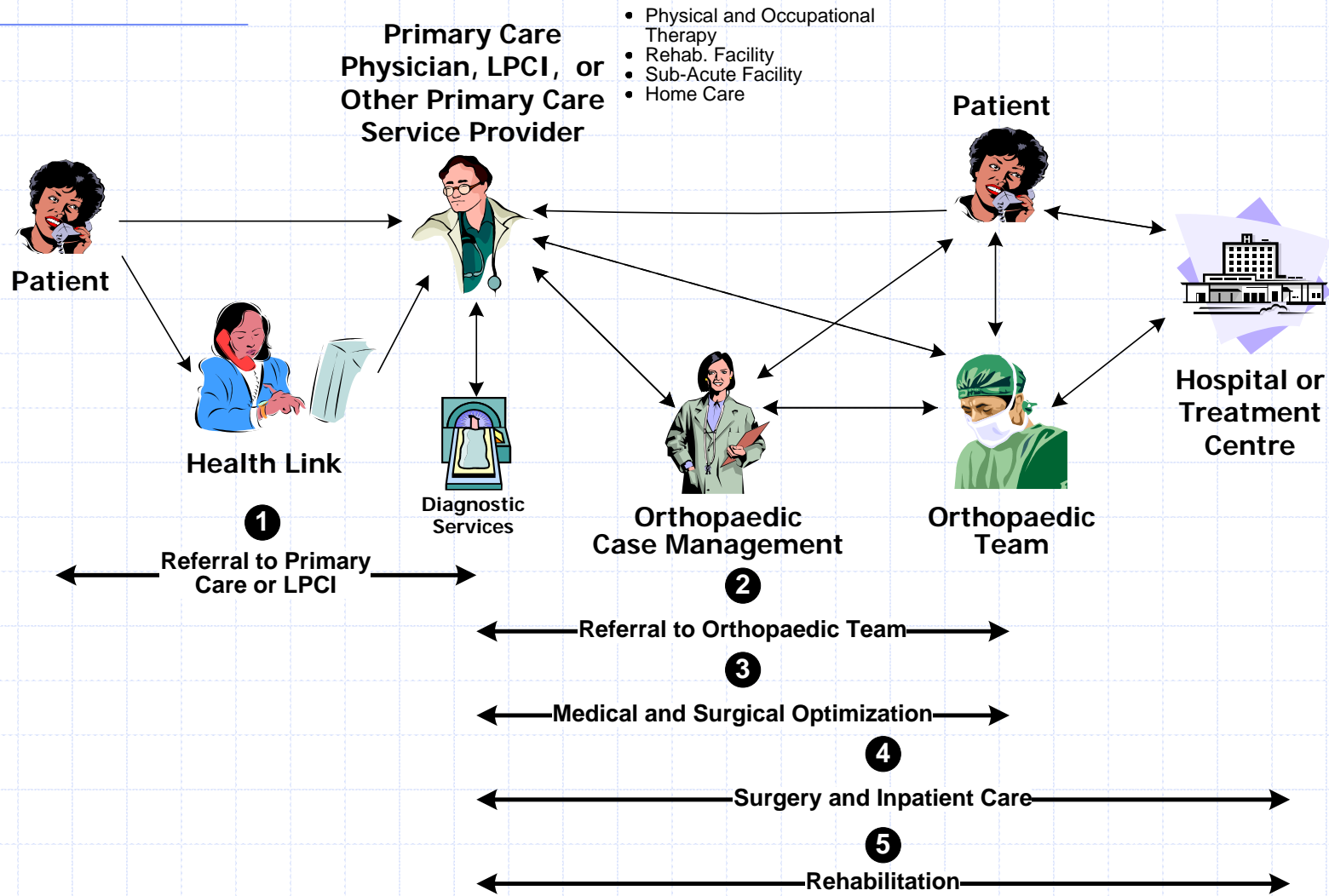


Referral Clinic
 New Approach = 15 days
 Current System = >6 months to 2 years

All Health Partners



The new approach includes five major processes



The patient experience



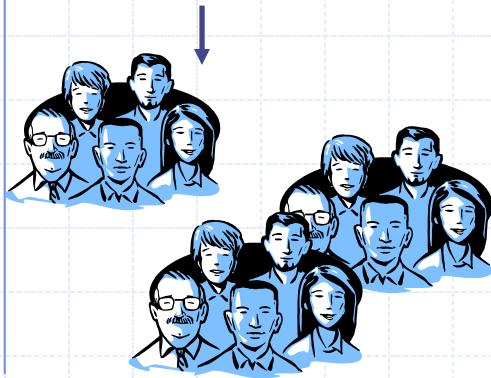
- Wait for surgeon 17 days – *reduced from 1 year*
- Multidisciplinary team care
- Prepared for surgery and recovery
- More surgeries performed
- Shorter stays in hospital
- Faster recovery at home
- Enhanced follow-up & better outcomes

The pilot details

- Cost: \$20 million
- 1,200 additional surgeries performed
- 3 health regions participating – David Thompson, Capital & Calgary
- 13 orthopedic surgeons participating
- Assessment clinics open
- First surgeries in new approach -- May, 2005
- Post-project evaluations will assess health system and patient health outcome improvements

Patient selection process

All Arthroplasty Patients



4800 patients

1. Patients that have seen specialist and are waiting for OR date
2. Patients that are waiting to see specialist
3. New referrals



Randomization

Group 2 - Benchmark

- **Current** care pathway
- Analyze existing aggregate information

Group 1 - Intervention

- **New** care pathway
- More data collection

Group 3 - Control

- **Current** care pathway
- More data collection

The project has received ethics approval and has completed a Privacy Impact Assessment regarding the analyzing of patient information.

Impact on Wait Time Projections

	Consultation with specialist	Time to Surgery - Urgent	Time to Surgery non - urgent
Western Canada Wait List Project Recommendations	Utilize referral criteria to improve timelines & appropriateness	Within one month	Within 4 months
Wait Time Alliance Recommendations	3 months	30 – 90 days	6 months
Alberta Hip & Knee Recommendations	Within 17 working days of referral	As soon as patient is healthy enough for surgery (expect between 2 – 4 weeks)	Within 4 months – depending on patient optimization plan



Technical questions