

Interventions to Improve Health Care Quality and Reduce Harm: Consolidated Items Relevant to Primary Care from the Choosing Wisely Campaign

This table is organized alphabetically by primary discipline. The sponsoring organizations are listed below each recommendation.

This list includes recommendations as of January 10, 2014 and will be updated periodically as more recommendations are released in the future.

Topic area(s)	Recommendation	Rationale and comments	References	Source
Allergy and immunologic	<p>Don't routinely do diagnostic testing in patients with chronic urticaria.</p> <p><i>American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology</i></p>	<p>In the overwhelming majority of patients with chronic urticaria, a definite etiology is not identified. Limited laboratory testing may be warranted to exclude underlying causes. Targeted laboratory testing based on clinical suspicion is appropriate. Routine extensive testing is neither cost-effective nor associated with improved clinical outcomes. Skin or serum-specific IgE testing for inhalants or foods is not indicated, unless there is a clear history implicating an allergen as a provoking or perpetuating factor for urticaria.</p>	<p>Wanderer AA, et al. The diagnosis and management of urticaria: a practice parameter. <i>Ann Allergy Asthma Immunol.</i> 2000;85:521-44.</p> <p>Tarbox JA, et al. Utility of routine laboratory testing in management of chronic urticaria/angioedema. <i>Ann Allergy Asthma Immunol.</i> 2011;107:239-43.</p> <p>Bernstein IL, et al. Allergy diagnostic testing: an updated practice parameter. <i>Ann Allergy Asthma Immunol.</i> 2008;100(3 suppl 3):S1-148.</p> <p>Kozel MM, et al. Laboratory tests and identified diagnoses in patients with physical and chronic urticaria and angioedema: A systematic review. <i>J Am Acad Dermatol.</i> 2003;48(3):409-16.</p>	<p>American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology guideline</p>

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Alternative medicine Preventive medicine	<p>Don't use homeopathic medications, non-vitamin dietary supplements or herbal supplements as treatments for disease or preventive health measures.</p> <p><i>American College of Medical Toxicology</i></p> <p><i>American Academy of Clinical Toxicology</i></p>	<p>Alternative therapies are often assumed safe and effective just because they are "natural." There is a lack of stringent quality control of the ingredients present in many herbal and dietary supplements. Reliable evidence that these products are effective is often lacking, but substantial evidence exists that they may produce harm. Indirect health risks also occur when these products delay or replace more effective forms of treatment or when they compromise the efficacy of conventional medicines.</p>	<p>Woodward KN. The potential impact of the use of the homeopathic and herbal medicines on monitoring the safety of prescription products. <i>Hum Exp Toxicol.</i> 2005;24:219-33.</p> <p>Thompson E, Barron S, Spence D. A preliminary audit investigating remedy reactions including adverse events in routine homeopathic practice. <i>Homeopathy.</i> 2004;93:203-9.</p> <p>De Smet PA. Health risks of herbal remedies. <i>Drug Saf.</i> 1995;13:81-93.</p> <p>Farah MH, Edwards R, Lindquist M, Leon C, Shaw D. International monitoring of adverse health effects associated with herbal medicines. <i>Pharmacoepidemiol Drug Saf.</i> 2000;9(2):105-12.</p> <p>Drew AK, Myers SP. Safety issues in herbal medicine: implications for the health professions. <i>Med J Aust.</i> 1997;166:538-41.</p>	<p>Expert consensus</p>
Alternative medicine	<p>Don't recommend chelation except for documented metal intoxication, which has been diagnosed using validated tests in appropriate biological samples.</p>	<p>Chelation does not improve objective outcomes in autism, cardiovascular disease, or neurodegenerative conditions like Alzheimer's disease. Edetate disodium is not U.S. Food and Drug Administration-approved for any condition. Even when used for appropriately diagnosed metal intoxication, chelating drugs may have significant side effects, including</p>	<p>Nonstandard uses of chelation therapy. <i>Med Lett Drugs Ther.</i> 2010 Sep 20;52(1347):75-6.</p> <p>Kosnett MJ. Chelation for heavy metals (arsenic, lead, and mercury): protective or perilous? <i>Clin Pharmacol Ther.</i> 2010 Sep;88(3):412-5.</p> <p>Nissen SE. Concerns about reliability in the Trial to Assess Chelation Therapy (TACT). <i>JAMA.</i> 2013 Mar 27;309(12):1293-4.</p> <p>Risher JF, Amler SN. Mercury exposure: evaluation and intervention</p>	<p>Expert consensus</p>

	<p><i>American College of Medical Toxicology</i></p> <p><i>American Academy of Clinical Toxicology</i></p>	<p>dehydration, hypocalcemia, kidney injury, liver enzyme elevations, hypotension, allergic reactions, and essential mineral deficiencies. Inappropriate chelation, which may cost hundreds to thousands of dollars, risks these harms, as well as neurodevelopmental toxicity, teratogenicity, and death.</p>	<p>the inappropriate use of chelating agents in the diagnosis and treatment of putative mercury poisoning. <i>Neurotoxicology</i>. 2005 Aug;26(4):691-9.</p> <p>U.S. Food and Drug Administration. FDA warns marketers of unapproved ‘chelation’ drugs. FDA Consumer Health Information. 2010 October;1.</p>	
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<p>Cardio-vascular</p> <p>Preventive medicine</p>	<p>Don't order annual electrocardiography or any other cardiac screening for asymptomatic, low-risk patients.</p> <p><i>American Academy of Family Physicians</i></p> <p><i>American College of Physicians</i></p>	<p>There is little evidence that detection of coronary artery stenosis improves health outcomes in asymptomatic patients at low risk of coronary heart disease. False-positive test results are likely to lead to harm through unnecessary invasive procedures, overtreatment, and misdiagnosis. Potential harms of routine annual screening exceed the potential benefit.</p>	<p>U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. Screening for coronary heart disease with electrocardiography. http://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/uspsacad.htm.</p>	<p>USPSTF</p>
<p>Cardio-vascular</p>	<p>Don't perform stress cardiac imaging or advanced noninvasive imaging in the initial evaluation of patients without cardiac symptoms unless high-risk markers are present.</p> <p><i>American College of Cardiology</i></p>	<p>Asymptomatic, low-risk patients account for up to 45% of unnecessary “screening.” Testing should be performed only when the following findings are present: diabetes in patients older than 40 years; peripheral arterial disease; or greater than 2% yearly risk of coronary heart disease events.</p>	<p>Hendel RC, et al. ACCF/ASNC/ACR/AHA/ASE/SCCT/SCMR/SNM 2009 appropriate use criteria for cardiac radionuclide imaging. <i>J Am Coll Cardiol</i>. 2009;53:2201-29.</p> <p>Taylor AJ, et al. ACCF/SCCT/ACR/AHA/ASE/ASNC/SCAI/SCMR 2010 appropriate use criteria for cardiac computed tomography. <i>J Am Coll Cardiol</i>. 2010;56:1864-94.</p> <p>Douglas PS, et al. ACCF/ASE/AHA/ASNC/HFSA/HRS/SCAI/SCCM/SCCT/SCMR 2011 appropriate use criteria for echocardiography. <i>J Am Coll Cardiol</i>. 2011;57(9):1126-66.</p> <p>Hendel RC, et al. Role of radionuclide myocardial perfusion imaging for asymptomatic individuals. <i>J Nucl Cardiol</i>. 2011;18:3-15.</p>	<p>ACC/AHA guidelines</p>
<p>Cardio-vascular</p> <p>Preventive medicine</p>	<p>Don't order coronary artery calcium scoring for screening purposes on low-risk asymptomatic individuals except for those with a family history of premature CAD.</p>	<p>Net reclassification of risk by coronary artery calcium scoring, when added to clinical risk scoring, is least effective in low-risk individuals.</p>	<p>Budoff MJ, et al. Assessment of coronary artery disease by cardiac computed tomography. <i>Circulation</i>. 2006;114(16): 1761-91.</p> <p>Shaw LJ, et al. Prognostic value of cardiac risk factors and coronary artery calcium screening for all-cause mortality. <i>Radiology</i>. 2003;228(3):826–33.</p>	<p>AHA guideline</p>

	<i>Society of Cardiovascular Computed Tomography</i>			
Cardio-vascular Preventive medicine	Don't routinely order coronary CT angiography for screening asymptomatic individuals. <i>Society of Cardiovascular Computed Tomography</i>	Coronary CT angiography findings of CAD stenosis severity rarely offer incremental discrimination over coronary artery calcium scoring in asymptomatic individuals.	Choi EK, et al. Coronary computed tomography angiography as a screening tool for the detection of occult coronary artery disease in asymptomatic individuals. <i>J Am Coll Cardiol.</i> 2008;52:357-65. Taylor AJ, et al. ACCF/SCCT/ACR/AHA/ASE/ASNC/NASCI/SCAI/SCMR 2010 appropriate use criteria for cardiac computed tomography. <i>J Amer Coll Cardiol.</i> 2010;56(22): 1864-94. USPSTF. Using nontraditional risk factors in coronary heart disease assessment. October 2009. http://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/uspstfcoronaryhd.htm .	USPSTF, ACC/AHA guideline
Cardio-vascular	Don't use coronary artery calcium scoring for patients with known CAD (including stents and bypass grafts). <i>Society of Cardiovascular Computed Tomography</i>	Coronary artery calcium scoring is used for evaluation of individuals without known CAD and offers limited incremental prognostic value for individuals with known CAD, such as those with stents and bypass grafts.	Budoff MJ, et al. Assessment of coronary artery disease by cardiac computed tomography. <i>Circulation.</i> 2006;114(16): 1761-91. Greenland P, et al. ACCF/AHA 2007 clinical expert consensus document on coronary artery calcium scoring by computed tomography in global cardiovascular risk assessment and in evaluation of patients with chest pain. <i>J Amer Coll Cardiol.</i> 2007;49(3):378-402.	ACC/AHA guidelines
Cardio-vascular	Avoid using stress echocardiograms on asymptomatic patients who meet "low-risk" scoring criteria for coronary disease. <i>American Society of Echocardiography</i>	Stress echocardiography is mostly used in symptomatic patients to assist in the diagnosis of obstructive CAD. There is very little information on using stress echocardiography in asymptomatic individuals for the purposes of cardiovascular risk assessment, as a stand-alone test or in addition to conventional risk factors.	Douglas PS, et al. ACCF/ASE/AHA/ASNC/HFSA/HRS/SCAI/SCCM/SCCT/SCMR 2011 appropriate use criteria for echocardiography. <i>J Am Soc Echocardiogr.</i> 2011;24:229-67. Gibbons RJ, et al. ACC/AHA 2002 guideline update for the management of patients with chronic stable angina. 2002. http://www.cardiosource.org/~media/Images/ACC/Science%20and%20Quality/Practice%20Guidelines/s/stable_clean.ashx Greenland P, et al. 2010 ACCF/AHA guideline for assessment of cardiovascular risk in asymptomatic adults. <i>J Am Coll Cardiol.</i> 2010;56:e50-103.	ACC/AHA guidelines
Cardio-vascular	Don't repeat echocardiograms in stable, asymptomatic patients with a murmur/click, where a previous exam revealed no significant pathology. <i>American Society of Echocardiography</i>	Repeat imaging to address the same question, when no pathology has been previously found and there has been no clinical change in the patient's condition, is not indicated.	Douglas PS, et al. ACCF/ASE/AHA/ASNC/HFSA/HRS/SCAI/SCCM/SCCT/SCMR 2011 appropriate use criteria for echocardiography. <i>J Am Soc Echocardiogr.</i> 2011;24:229-67.	ACC/AHA guideline

Cardio-vascular	Don't order follow-up or serial echocardiograms for surveillance after a finding of trace valvular regurgitation on an initial echocardiogram. <i>American Society of Echocardiography</i>	Trace mitral, tricuspid, and pulmonic regurgitation can be detected in 70% to 90% of normal individuals and has no adverse clinical implications. The clinical significance of a small amount of aortic regurgitation with an otherwise normal echocardiographic study is unknown.	Douglas PS, et al. ACCF/ASE/AHA/ASNC/HFSA/HRS/SCAI/SCCM/SCCT/SCMR 2011 appropriate use criteria for echocardiography. <i>J Am Soc Echocardiogr.</i> 2011;24:229-67. Bonow RO, et al. 2008 focused update incorporated into the ACC/AHA 2006 guidelines for the management of patients with valvular heart disease. <i>J Am Coll Cardiol.</i> 2008;52:e1-142.	ACC/AHA guidelines
Cardio-vascular	Avoid transesophageal echocardiography to detect cardiac sources of embolization if a source has been identified and patient management will not change. <i>American Society of Echocardiography</i>	Tests whose results will not alter management should not be ordered. Protocol-driven testing can be useful if it serves as a reminder not to omit a test or procedure, but should always be individualized to the particular patient. While transesophageal echocardiography is safe, even the small degree of risk associated with a procedure is not justified if there is no expected clinical benefit.	Douglas PS, et al. ACCF/ASE/AHA/ASNC/HFSA/HRS/SCAI/SCCM/SCCT/SCMR 2011 appropriate use criteria for echocardiography. <i>J Am Soc Echocardiogr.</i> 2011;24:229-67.	ACC/AHA guideline
Cardio-vascular	Don't order continuous telemetry monitoring outside of the intensive care unit without using a protocol that governs continuation. <i>Society of Hospital Medicine (Adult)</i>	Telemetric monitoring is of limited utility or measurable benefit in low-risk cardiac chest pain patients with normal electrocardiogram. Published guidelines provide clear indications for the use of telemetric monitoring in patients, which are contingent upon frequency, severity, duration, and conditions under which the symptoms occur. Inappropriate use of telemetric monitoring is likely to increase cost of care and produce false positives potentially resulting in errors in patient management.	Drew BJ, et al. Practice standards for electrocardiographic monitoring in hospital settings. <i>Circulation.</i> 2004;110:2721-46. Crawford MH, et al. ACC/AHA guidelines for ambulatory electrocardiography. <i>Circulation.</i> 1999;100:886-93. Snider A, et al. Is telemetry monitoring necessary in low-risk suspected acute chest pain syndromes? <i>Chest.</i> 2002;122:517-23. Marshaleen N, et al. Is telemetry overused? Is it as helpful as thought? <i>Cleve Clin J Med.</i> 2009;368-72. Adams HP Jr, et al. Guidelines for the early management of adults with ischemic stroke. <i>Stroke.</i> 2007;38(5):1655-711.	ACC/AHA guidelines
Cardio-vascular	Don't perform routine annual stress testing after coronary artery revascularization. <i>Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging</i>	Routine annual stress testing in patients without symptoms does not usually change management. This practice may lead to unnecessary testing without any proven impact on patient management.	Hendel RC, et al. ACCF/ASNC/ACR/AHA/ASE/SCCT/SCMR/SNM 2009 appropriate use criteria for cardiac radionuclide imaging. <i>J Am Coll Cardiol.</i> 2009;53:2201-29.	ACC/AHA/ACR guideline
Cardio-vascular Geriatric	Don't leave an implantable cardioverter-defibrillator activated	In about a quarter of patients with implantable cardioverter-defibrillators, the defibrillator fires within weeks preceding death. For patients with advanced irreversible diseases, defibrillator	Berger JT. The ethics of deactivating implanted cardioverter defibrillators. <i>Ann Intern Med.</i> 2005;142:631-34. Goldstein N, et al. Brief communication: management of implantable	Expert consensus

	<p>when it is inconsistent with the patient/family goals of care.</p> <p><i>American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine</i></p>	<p>shocks rarely prevent death, may be painful to patients, and are distressing to caregivers/family members. Currently there are no formal practice protocols to address deactivation; fewer than 10% of hospices have official policies. Advance care planning discussions should include the option of deactivating the implantable cardioverter-defibrillator when it no longer supports the patient's goals.</p>	<p>cardioverter-defibrillators in hospice: A nationwide survey. <i>Ann Intern Med.</i> 2010;152(5):296-9.</p> <p>Goldstein NE, et al. Management of implantable cardioverter defibrillators in end-of-life care. <i>Ann Intern Med.</i> 2004;141(11):835-8.</p> <p>Russo, J. Deactivation of ICDs at the end of life: A systematic review of clinical practices and provider and patient attitudes. <i>Am J Nurs.</i> 2011;111(10):26-35.</p>	
<p>Cardio-vascular</p> <p>Geriatric</p>	<p>Don't routinely prescribe lipid-lowering medications in individuals with a limited life expectancy.</p> <p><i>American Medical Directors Association</i></p>	<p>There is no evidence that hypercholesterolemia, or low high-density lipoprotein cholesterol is an important risk factor for all-cause mortality, coronary heart disease mortality, or hospitalization for myocardial infarction or unstable angina in persons older than 70 years. In fact, studies show that elderly patients with the lowest cholesterol have the highest mortality after adjusting other risk factors. In addition, a less favorable risk-benefit ratio may be seen for patients older than 85, where benefits may be more diminished and risks from statin drugs more increased (cognitive impairment, falls, neuropathy and muscle damage).</p>	<p>Dalleur O, Spinewine A, Henrard S, Losseau C, Speybroeck N, Boland B. Inappropriate prescribing and related hospital admissions in frail older persons according to the STOPP and START criteria. <i>Drugs Aging.</i> 2012 Oct;29(10):829-37.</p> <p>Schiattarella GG, Perrino C, Magliulo F, Ilardi F, Serino F, Trimarco V, Izzo R, Amato B, Terranova C, Cardin F, Militello C, Leosco D, Trimarco B, Esposito G. Statins and the elderly: recent evidence and current indications. <i>Aging Clin Exp Res.</i> 2012 Jun;24(3 Suppl):47-55.</p> <p>Maraldi C, Lattanzio F, Onder G, Gallerani M, Bustacchini S, De Tommaso G, Volpato S. Variability in the prescription of cardiovascular medications in older patients: correlates and potential explanations. <i>Drugs Aging.</i> 2009 Dec;26 Suppl 1:41-51.</p> <p>Schatz IJ, Masaki K, Yano K, Chen R, Rodriguez BL, Curb JD. Cholesterol and all-cause mortality in elderly people from the Honolulu Heart Program: a cohort study. <i>Lancet.</i> 2001 Aug 4;358(9279):351-5.</p> <p>Weverling-Rijnsburger AW, Blauw GJ, Lagaay AM, Knook DL, Meinders AE, Westendorp RG. Total cholesterol and risk of mortality in the oldest old. <i>Lancet.</i> 1997 Oct 18;3 (9085):1119-23.</p> <p>Krumholz HM, Seeman TE, Merrill SS, Mendes de Leon CF, Vaccarino V, Silverman DI, Tsukahara R, Ostfeld AM, Berkman LF. Lack of association between cholesterol and coronary heart disease mortality and morbidity and all-cause mortality in persons older than 70 years. <i>JAMA.</i> 1994 Nov 2;272(17):1335-40.</p>	<p>Expert consensus</p>
<p>Cardio-vascular</p>	<p>Don't perform stress cardiac imaging or coronary angiography in patients without cardiac symptoms unless high-risk markers are present.</p>	<p>Asymptomatic, low-risk patients account for up to 45% of inappropriate stress testing. Testing should be performed only when the following findings are present: diabetes in patients older than 40 years, peripheral arterial disease, and greater than 2% yearly coronary heart disease event rate.</p>	<p>Hendel RC, Berman DS, Di Carli MF, Heidenreich PA, Henkin RE, Pellikka PA, Pohost GM, Williams KA. ACCF/ASNC/ACR/AHA/ASE/SCCT/SCMR/SNM 2009 appropriate use criteria for cardiac radionuclide imaging: a report of the American College of Cardiology Foundation Appropriate Use Criteria Task Force, the American Society of Nuclear Cardiology, the American College of Radiology, the American Heart Association, the American Society of Echocardiography, the Society of Cardiovascular</p>	<p>ACC/AHA guideline</p>

	<i>American Society of Nuclear Cardiology</i>		<p>Computed Tomography, the Society for Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance, and the Society of Nuclear Medicine. <i>J Am Coll Cardiol.</i> 2009;53:2201-29.</p> <p>Hendel RC, Abbott BG, Bateman TM, et al. Role of radionuclide myocardial perfusion imaging for asymptomatic individuals. <i>J Nucl Cardiol.</i> 2011;18:3-15.</p>	
Cardio-vascular	<p>Don't perform cardiac imaging for patients who are at low risk.</p> <p><i>American Society of Nuclear Cardiology</i></p>	<p>Chest pain patients at low risk of cardiac death and myocardial infarction (based on history, physical exam, electrocardiograms, and cardiac biomarkers) do not merit stress radionuclide myocardial perfusion imaging or stress echocardiography as an initial testing strategy if they have a normal electrocardiogram (without baseline ST-abnormalities, left ventricular hypertrophy, pre-excitation, bundle branch block, intraventricular conduction delay, paced rhythm or on digoxin therapy) and are able to exercise.</p>	<p>Hendel RC, Berman DS, Di Carli MF, Heidenreich PA, Henkin RE, Pellikka PA, Pohost GM, Williams KA. ACCF/ASNC/ACR/AHA/ASE/SCCT/SCMR/SNM 2009 appropriate use criteria for cardiac radionuclide imaging: a report of the American College of Cardiology Foundation Appropriate Use Criteria Task Force, the American Society of Nuclear Cardiology, the American College of Radiology, the American Heart Association, the American Society of Echocardiography, the Society of Cardiovascular Computed Tomography, the Society for Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance, and the Society of Nuclear Medicine. <i>J Am Coll Cardiol.</i> 2009;53:2201-29.</p> <p>Taylor AJ, Cerqueira M, Hodgson JM, Mark D, Min J, O'Gara P, Rubin GD. ACCF/SCCT/ACR/AHA/ASE/ASNC/SCAI/SCMR 2010 appropriate use criteria for cardiac computed tomography: a report of the American College of Cardiology Foundation Appropriate Use Criteria Task Force, the Society of Cardiovascular Computed Tomography, the American College of Radiology, the American Heart Association, the American Society of Echocardiography, the American Society of Nuclear Cardiology, the Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions, and the Society for Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance. <i>J Am Coll Cardiol.</i> 2010;56:1864-94.</p> <p>Anderson JL, Adams CD, Antman EM, Bridges CR, Califf RM, Casey DE Jr, Chavey WE II, Fesmire FM, Hochman JS, Levin TN, Lincoff AM, Peterson ED, Theroux P, Wenger NK, Wright RS. ACC/AHA 2007 guidelines for the management of patients with unstable angina/non-ST-elevation myocardial infarction: a report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Task Force on Practice Guidelines (Writing Committee to Revise the 2002 Guidelines for the Management of Patients with Unstable Angina/Non-ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction): developed in collaboration with the American College of Emergency Physicians, American College of Physicians, Society for Academic Emergency Medicine, Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions, and Society of Thoracic Surgeons. <i>J Am Coll Cardiol.</i> 2007;50:e1-157.</p>	ACC/AHA guidelines

Cardio-vascular	<p>Use methods to reduce radiation exposure in cardiac imaging, whenever possible, including not performing such tests when limited benefits are likely.</p> <p><i>American Society of Nuclear Cardiology</i></p>	<p>The key step to reduce or eliminate radiation exposure is appropriate selection of any test or procedure for a specific person, in keeping with medical society recommendations, such as appropriate use criteria. Health care providers should incorporate new methodologies in cardiac imaging to reduce patient exposure to radiation while maintaining high-quality test results.</p>	<p>Hendel RC, Berman DS, Di Carli MF, Heidenreich PA, Henkin RE, Pellikka PA, Pohost GM, Williams KA. ACCF/ASNC/ACR/AHA/ASE/SCCT/SCMR/SNM 2009 appropriate use criteria for cardiac radionuclide imaging: a report of the American College of Cardiology Foundation Appropriate Use Criteria Task Force, the American Society of Nuclear Cardiology, the American College of Radiology, the American Heart Association, the American Society of Echocardiography, the Society of Cardiovascular Computed Tomography, the Society for Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance, and the Society of Nuclear Medicine. <i>J Am Coll Cardiol.</i> 2009;53:2201-29.</p> <p>Taylor AJ, Cerqueira M, Hodgson JM, Mark D, Min J, O’Gara P, Rubin GD. ACCF/SCCT/ACR/AHA/ASE/ASNC/SCAI/SCMR 2010 appropriate use criteria for cardiac computed tomography: a report of the American College of Cardiology Foundation Appropriate Use Criteria Task Force, the Society of Cardiovascular Computed Tomography, the American College of Radiology, the American Heart Association, the American Society of Echocardiography, the American Society of Nuclear Cardiology, the Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions, and the Society for Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance. <i>J Am Coll Cardiol.</i> 2010;56:1864-94.</p> <p>Cerqueira MD, Allman KC, Ficaro EP, Hansen CL, Nichols KJ, Thompson RC, Van Decker WA, Yakovlevitch M. ASNC information statement: Recommendations for reducing radiation exposure in myocardial perfusion imaging. <i>J Nucl Cardiol.</i> 2010;17:709-18.</p> <p>Douglas PS, Carr JJ, Cerqueira MD, Cummings JE, Gerber TC, Mukherjee D, Taylor AJ. Developing an action plan for patient radiation safety in adult cardiovascular medicine: proceedings from the Duke University Clinical Research Institute/American College of Cardiology Foundation/American Heart Association Think Tank held on February 28, 2011. <i>J Am Coll Cardiol.</i> 2012;59:In Press. (Published online March 22, 2012.)</p>	ACC/AHA guidelines
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Dermatologic	Don’t prescribe oral antifungal therapy for suspected nail fungus without confirmation of fungal infection.	About half of nails with suspected fungus do not have a fungal infection. Because other nail conditions, such as nail dystrophies, may look similar in appearance, it is important to ensure accurate diagnosis of nail disease before beginning treatment. By confirming a fungal infection, patients are not inappropriately at	<p>Roberts DT, Taylor WD, Boyle J; British Association of Dermatologists. Guidelines for treatment of onychomycosis. <i>Br J Dermatol.</i> 2003 Mar;148(3):402-10.</p> <p>Mehregan DR, Gee SL. The cost effectiveness of testing for onychomycosis versus empiric treatment of onychodystrophies with oral antifungal agents. <i>Cutis.</i> 1999 Dec;64(6):407-10.</p>	Expert consensus

	<i>American Academy of Dermatology</i>	risk for the side effects of antifungal therapy, and nail disease is correctly treated.		
Dermatologic Allergy and immunologic	Don't use oral antibiotics for treatment of atopic dermatitis unless there is clinical evidence of infection. <i>American Academy of Dermatology</i>	The presence of high numbers of the <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> (staph) bacteria on the skin of children and adults with atopic dermatitis is common. It is widely believed that staph bacteria may play a role in causing skin inflammation, but the routine use of oral antibiotic therapy to decrease the amount of bacteria on the skin has not been definitively shown to reduce the signs, symptoms (e.g., redness, itch), or severity of atopic dermatitis. In addition, if oral antibiotics are used when there is not an infection, it may lead to the development of antibiotic resistance. The use of oral antibiotics also can cause side effects, including hypersensitivity reactions, including exaggerated immune responses such as allergic reactions. Although it can be difficult to determine the presence of a skin infection in atopic dermatitis patients, oral antibiotics should only be used to treat patients with evidence of bacterial infection in conjunction with other standard and appropriate treatments for atopic dermatitis.	Bath-Hextall JF, Birnie AJ, Ravenscroft JC, Williams JC. Interventions to reduce <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> in the management of atopic eczema: an updated Cochrane review. <i>Br J Dermatol.</i> 2010;163:12-26.	Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

Topic area(s)	Recommendation	Rationale and comments	References	Source
Emergency medicine Surgical Pediatric	Don't do CT for evaluation of suspected appendicitis in children until after ultrasound has been considered as an option. <i>American College of Radiology</i>	Although CT is accurate in the evaluation of suspected appendicitis in the pediatric population, ultrasound is nearly as good in experienced hands. Since ultrasound will reduce radiation exposure, ultrasound is the preferred initial consideration for imaging examination in children. If the results of the ultrasound exam are equivocal, it may be followed by CT. This approach is cost-effective, reduces potential radiation risks, and has excellent accuracy, with reported sensitivity and specificity of 94%.	Wan MJ, et al. Acute appendicitis in young children: cost-effectiveness of US versus CT in diagnosis—a Markov decision analytic model. <i>Radiology.</i> 2009;250:378-86. Doria AS, et al. US or CT for diagnosis of appendicitis in children? A meta-analysis. <i>Radiology.</i> 2006;241:83-94. Garcia K, et al. Suspected appendicitis in children: diagnostic importance of normal abdominopelvic CT findings with nonvisualized appendix. <i>Radiology.</i> 2009;250:531-7. Krishnamoorthi R, et al. Effectiveness of a staged US and CT protocol for the diagnosis of pediatric appendicitis: reducing radiation exposure in the age of ALARA. <i>Radiology.</i> 2011;259:231-9. American College of Radiology. ACR Appropriateness Criteria: right lower quadrant pain/suspected appendicitis. http://www.acr.org/SecondaryMainMenuCategories/quality_safety/app_criteria/pdf/ExpertPanelonGastrointestinalImaging/RightLowerQua	ACR Appropriateness Criteria

			drantPainDoc12.aspx. Frush DP, et al. Imaging of acute appendicitis in children: EU versus U.S. or US versus CT? A North American perspective. <i>Pediatr Radiol</i> . 2009;39(5):500-5.	
Emergency medicine Cardiovascular	Don't use coronary CT angiography in high-risk emergency department patients presenting with acute chest pain. NOTE: <i>Risk defined by the Thrombolysis In Myocardial Infarction risk score for unstable angina/acute coronary syndromes.</i> <i>Society of Cardiovascular Computed Tomography</i>	To date, RCTs evaluating use of coronary CT angiography for individuals presenting with acute chest pain in the emergency department have been limited to low- or low-intermediate-risk individuals.	Goldstein JA, et al. The CT-STAT (Coronary Computed Tomographic Angiography for Systematic Triage of Acute Chest Pain Patients to Treatment) trial. <i>J Amer Coll Cardiol</i> . 2011;58(14):1414-22. Hoffmann U, et al. Coronary CT angiography versus standard evaluation in acute chest pain. <i>N Engl J Med</i> . 2012;367(4):299-308. Litt HI, et al. CT angiography for safe discharge of patients with possible acute coronary syndromes. <i>N Engl J Med</i> . 2012;366(15):1393-403.	RCTs
Emergency medicine	Avoid the routine use of "whole-body" diagnostic CT scanning in patients with minor or single system trauma. <i>American College of Surgeons</i>	Aggressive use of "whole-body" CT scanning improves early diagnosis of injury and may even positively impact survival in polytrauma patients. However, the significance of radiation exposure as well as costs associated with these studies must be considered, especially in patients with low energy mechanisms of injury and absent physical examination findings consistent with major trauma.	Huber-Wagner S, Lefering R, Qvick LM, Körner M, Kay MV, Pfeifer KJ, Reiser M, Mutschler W, Kanz KG; Working Group on Polytrauma of the German Trauma Society. Effect of whole-body CT during trauma resuscitation on survival: a retrospective, multicentre study. <i>Lancet</i> . 2009 Apr 25;373(9673):1455-61. Stengel D, Ottersbach C, Matthes G, Weigeldt M, Grundei S, Rademacher G, Tittel A, Mutze S, Ekkernkamp A, Frank M, Schmucker U, Seifert J. Accuracy of single-pass whole-body computed tomography for detection of injuries in patients with blunt major trauma. <i>CMAJ</i> . 2012 May 15;184(8):869-76. Ahmadinia K, Smucker JB, Nash CL, Vallier HA. Radiation exposure has increased in trauma patients over time. <i>J Trauma</i> . 2012 Feb;72(2):410-5. Winslow JE, Hinshaw JW, Hughes MJ, Williams RC, Bozeman WP. Quantitative assessment of diagnostic radiation doses in adult blunt trauma patients. <i>Ann Emerg Med</i> . 2008 Aug;52(2):93-7.	Expert consensus
Emergency medicine Pediatric Surgical	Don't do CT for the evaluation of suspected appendicitis in children until after ultrasound has been considered as an option.	Although CT is accurate in the evaluation of suspected appendicitis in the pediatric population, ultrasound is the preferred initial consideration for imaging examination in children. If the results of the ultrasound exam are equivocal, it may be followed by CT. This	Wan MJ, Krahn M, Ungar WJ, Caku E, Sung L, Medina LS, Doria AS. Acute appendicitis in young children: cost-effectiveness of US versus CT in diagnosis—a Markov decision analytic model. <i>Radiology</i> . 2009;250:378-86. Doria AS, Moineddin R, Kellenberger CJ, Epelman M, Beyene J, Schuh S, Babyn PS, Dick PT. US or CT for diagnosis of appendicitis	ACR Appropriateness Criteria

	<p><i>American College of Surgeons</i></p>	<p>approach is cost-effective, reduces potential radiation risks and has excellent accuracy, with reported sensitivity and specificity of 94% in experienced hands. Recognizing that expertise may vary, strategies including improving diagnostic expertise in community-based ultrasound and the development of evidence-based clinical decision rules are realistic goals in improving diagnosis without the use of CT scan.</p>	<p>in children? A meta-analysis. <i>Radiology</i>. 2006;241:83-94.</p> <p>Garcia K, Hernanz-Schulman M, Bennett DL, Morrow SE, Yu C, Kan JH. Suspected appendicitis in children: diagnostic importance of normal abdominopelvic CT findings with nonvisualized appendix. <i>Radiology</i>. 2009;250:531-7.</p> <p>Krishnamoorthi R, Ramarajan N, Wang NE, Newman B, Rubesova E, Mueller CM, Barth RA. Effectiveness of a staged US and CT protocol for the diagnosis of pediatric appendicitis: reducing radiation exposure in the age of ALARA. <i>Radiology</i>. 2011;259:231-9.</p> <p>Rosen MP, Ding A, Blake MA, Baker ME, Cash BD, Fidler JL, Grant TH, Greene FL, Jones B, Katz DS, Lalani T, Miller FH, Small WC, Spottwood S, Sudakoff GS, Tulchinsky M, Warshauer DM, Yee J, Coley BD, Expert Panel on Gastrointestinal Imaging. <i>ACR Appropriateness Criteria® right lower quadrant pain -- suspected appendicitis</i>. [Internet]. Reston (VA): American College of Radiology (ACR); 2010. 7 p.</p> <p>Frush DP, Frush KS, Oldham KT. Imaging of acute appendicitis in children: EU versus US or US versus CT? A North American perspective. <i>Pediatr Radiol</i>. 2009;39(5):500-5.</p> <p>Saito JM, Yan Y, Evashwick TW, Warner BW, Tarr PI. Use and accuracy of diagnostic imaging by hospital type in pediatric appendicitis. <i>Pediatrics</i>. 2013;131(1):e37-44.</p> <p>Kharbanda AB, Stevenson MD, Macias CG, Sinclair K, Dudley NC, Bennett J, Bajaj L, Mittal MK, Huang C, Bachur RG, Dayan PS, and for the Pediatric Emergency Medicine Collaborative Research Committee of the American Academy of Pediatrics. Interrater reliability of clinical findings in children with possible appendicitis. <i>Pediatrics</i>. 2012;129(4):695-700.</p>	
<p>Emergency medicine</p>	<p>Avoid CT scans of the head in emergency department patients with minor head injury who are at low risk based on validated decision rules.</p> <p><i>American College of Emergency Physicians</i></p>	<p>Minor head injury is a common reason for visiting an emergency department. The majority of minor head injuries do not lead to injuries such as skull fractures or bleeding in the brain that need to be diagnosed by a CT scan. As CT scans expose patients to ionizing radiation, increasing patients' lifetime risk of cancer, they should only be performed on patients at risk for significant injuries. Physicians can safely identify patients with minor head injury in whom it is safe to not perform an immediate head CT by performing a thorough history and physical examination following evidence-based guidelines. This</p>	<p>Jagoda AS, Bazarian JJ, Bruns JJ, Jr, Cantrill SV, Gean AD, Howard PK, Ghajar J, Riggio S, Wright DW, Wears RL, Bakshy A, Burgess P, Wald MM, Whitson RR; American College of Emergency Physicians; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Clinical policy: neuroimaging and decision-making in adult mild traumatic brain injury in the acute setting. <i>Ann Emerg Med</i>. 2008 Dec;52(6):714-48.</p> <p>Stiell IG, Clement CM, Rowe BH, Schull MJ, Brison R, Cass D, Eisenhauer MA, McKnight RD, Bandiera G, Holroyd B, Lee JS, Dreyer J, Worthington JR, Reardon M, Greenberg G, Lesiuk H, MacPhail I, Wells GA. Comparison of the Canadian CT head rule and the New Orleans criteria in patients with minor head injury. <i>JAMA</i>. 2005 Sep 28;294(12):1511-8.</p>	<p>ACEP/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guideline</p>

		<p>approach has been proven safe and effective at reducing the use of CT scans in large clinical trials. In children, clinical observation in the emergency department is recommended for some patients with minor head injury prior to deciding whether to perform a CT scan.</p>	<p>Haydel MJ, Preston CA, Mills TJ, Luber S, Blaudeau E, DeBlieux PM. Indications for computed tomography in patients with minor head injury. <i>N Engl J Med.</i> 2000 Jul 13;343(2):100-5.</p> <p>Smits M, Dippel DWJ, de Haan GG, Dekker HM, Vos PE, Kool DR, Nederkoorn PJ, Hofman PA, Twijnstra A, Tanghe HL, Hunink MG. External validation of the Canadian CT head rule and the New Orleans criteria for CT scanning in patients with minor head injury. <i>JAMA.</i> 2005 Sep 28;294(12):1519-25.</p>	
<p>Emergency medicine</p> <p>Urologic</p> <p>Infectious disease</p>	<p>Avoid placing indwelling urinary catheters in the emergency department for either urine output monitoring in stable patients who can void, or for patient or staff convenience.</p> <p><i>American College of Emergency Physicians</i></p>	<p>Indwelling urinary catheters are placed in patients in the emergency department to assist when patients cannot urinate, to monitor urine output, or for patient comfort. Catheter-associated urinary tract infection is the most common hospital-acquired infection in the U.S., and can be prevented by reducing the use of indwelling urinary catheters. Emergency physicians and nurses should discuss the need for a urinary catheter with a patient and/or their caregivers, as sometimes such catheters can be avoided. Emergency physicians can reduce the use of indwelling urinary catheters by following the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's evidence-based guidelines for the use of urinary catheters. Indications for a catheter may include: output monitoring for critically ill patients, relief of urinary obstruction, at the time of surgery and end-of-life care. When possible, alternatives to indwelling urinary catheters should be used.</p>	<p>Umscheid CA, Mitchell MD, Doshi JA, Agarwal R, Williams K, Brennan PJ. Estimating the proportion of healthcare-associated infections that are reasonably preventable and the related mortality and costs. <i>Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol.</i> 2011 Feb;32:101-14.</p> <p>Lo E, Nicolle L, Classen D, Arias KM, Podgorny K, Anderson DJ, Burstin H, Calfee DP, Coffin SE, Dubberke ER, Fraser V, Gerding DN, Griffin FA, Gross P, Kaye KS, Klompas M, Marschall J, Mermel LA, Pegues DA, Perl TM, Saint S, Salgado CD, Weinstein RA, Wise R, Yokoe DS. Strategies to prevent catheter-associated urinary tract infections in acute care hospitals. <i>Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol.</i> 2008 Oct;29:S41-50.</p> <p>Munasinghe RL, Yazdani H, Siddique M, Hafeez W. Appropriateness of use of indwelling urinary catheters in patients admitted to the medical service. <i>Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol.</i> 2001 Oct;22:647-9.</p> <p>Hazelett SE, Tsai M, Gareri M, Allen K. The association between indwelling urinary catheter use in the elderly and urinary tract infection in acute care. <i>BMC Geriatr.</i> 2006 Oct 12;6:15.</p> <p>Gardam MA, Amihod B, Orenstein P, Consolacion N, Miller MA. Overutilization of indwelling urinary catheters and the development of nosocomial urinary tract infections. <i>Clin Perform Qual Health Care.</i> 1998 Jul-Sep;6:99-102.</p> <p>Gokula RR, Hickner JA, Smith MA. Inappropriate use of urinary catheters in elderly patients at a midwestern community teaching hospital. <i>Am J Infect Control.</i> 2004;32:196-9.</p> <p>Gould CV, Umscheid CA, Agarwal RK, Kuntz G, Pegues DA; Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (HICPAC). Guideline for prevention of catheter-associated urinary tract infections 2009. Atlanta (GA): HICPAC; 2009. 67 p.</p> <p>Scott RA, Oman KS, Makic MB, Fink RM, Hulett TM, Braaten JS, Severyn F, Wald HL. Reducing indwelling urinary catheter use in the emergency department. A successful quality-improvement initiative. <i>J Emerg Nurs.</i> 2013 Mar 7. pii: S0099-1767(12)00344-3. [Epub ahead of print]</p>	<p>Expert consensus</p>

Emergency medicine	<p>Don't delay engaging available palliative and hospice care services in the emergency department for patients likely to benefit.</p> <p><i>American College of Emergency Physicians</i></p>	<p>Palliative care is medical care that provides comfort and relief of symptoms for patients who have chronic and/or incurable diseases. Hospice care is palliative care for those patients in the final few months of life. Emergency physicians should engage patients who present to the emergency department with chronic or terminal illnesses, and their families, in conversations about palliative care and hospice services. Early referral from the emergency department to hospice and palliative care services can benefit select patients resulting in both improved quality and quantity of life.</p>	<p>DeVader TE, DeVader SR, Jeanmonod R. Reducing cost at the end of life by initiating transfer to inpatient hospice in the emergency department. <i>Ann Emerg Med.</i> 2012;60(4s):S73.</p> <p>Kenen J. We can't save you: how to tell emergency room patients that they're dying. <i>Slate</i> [Internet]. 2010 Aug 4 [cited 2013 Sep 4]. http://www.slate.com/id/2262769/.</p> <p>Quest TE, Marco CA, Derse AR. Hospice and palliative medicine: new subspecialty, new opportunities. <i>Ann Emerg Med.</i> 2009;54:94-102.</p> <p>Smith AK, McCarthy E, Weber E, Cenzer IS, Boscardin J, Fisher J, Covinsky K. Half of older Americans seen in emergency department in last month of life; most admitted to hospital, and many die there. <i>Health Aff.</i> 2012 Jun 31:1277-85.</p>	<p>Expert consensus</p>
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Topic area(s)	Recommendation	Rationale and comments	References	Source
Endocrinologic Geriatric	<p>Don't medicate to achieve tight glycemic control in older adults. Moderate control is generally better.</p> <p><i>American Geriatrics Society</i></p>	<p>There is no evidence that using medications to achieve tight glycemic control in older adults with type 2 diabetes is beneficial. Among nonolder adults, except for reductions in myocardial infarction and mortality with metformin, using medications to achieve glycated hemoglobin levels less than 7% is associated with harms, including higher mortality rates. Given the long time frame to achieve theorized microvascular benefits of tight control, glycemic goals should reflect patient goals, health status, and life expectancy.</p>	<p>ACCORD Study Group. Effects of intensive glucose lowering in type 2 diabetes. <i>N Engl J Med.</i> 2008;258(24):2545-59.</p> <p>ACCORD Study Group. Long-term effects of intensive glucose lowering on cardiovascular outcomes. <i>N Engl J Med.</i> 2011;364(9):818-28.</p> <p>Duckworth W, et al. Glucose control and vascular complications in veterans with type 2 diabetes. <i>N Engl J Med.</i> 2009;360(2):129-39.</p> <p>ADVANCE Collaborative Group, et al. Intensive blood glucose control and vascular outcomes in patients with type 2 diabetes. <i>N Engl J Med.</i> 2008;358:2560-72.</p> <p>UK Prospective Diabetes Study Group. Effect of intensive blood-glucose control with metformin on complications in overweight patients with type 2 diabetes. <i>Lancet.</i> 1998;352: 854-65.</p> <p>Montori VM, et al. Glycemic control in type 2 diabetes: time for an evidence-based about-face? <i>Ann Intern Med.</i> 2009; 150(11):803-8. [Erratum: <i>Ann Intern Med.</i> 2009;151(2): 144].</p> <p>Finucane T. "Tight control" in geriatrics: the emperor wears a thong. <i>J Am Geriatr Soc.</i> 2012;60:1571-5.</p>	<p>RCTs</p>
Endocrinologic	<p>Don't use nuclear medicine thyroid scans to evaluate thyroid nodules in patients with normal thyroid gland function.</p> <p><i>Society of Nuclear</i></p>	<p>Nuclear medicine thyroid scanning does not conclusively determine whether thyroid nodules are benign or malignant. Cold nodules on thyroid scans will still require biopsy. Nuclear medicine thyroid scans are useful to evaluate the functional status of thyroid nodules in patients who are hyperthyroid.</p>	<p>Welker MJ, et al. Thyroid nodules. <i>Am Fam Physician.</i> 2003;67(3):559-67.</p> <p>American Thyroid Association Guidelines Taskforce on Thyroid Nodules and Differentiated Thyroid Cancer, et al. Revised American Thyroid Association management guidelines for patients with thyroid nodules and differentiated thyroid cancer. <i>Thyroid.</i> 2009;19(11):1167-214.</p> <p>Lee JC, et al. Thyroid scans. <i>Aust Fam Physician.</i> 2012;41(8):586.</p>	<p>Expert consensus</p>

	<i>Medicine and Molecular Imaging</i>			
Endocrinologic Geriatric	<p>Don't use sliding scale insulin (SSI) for long-term diabetes management for individuals residing in the nursing home.</p> <p><i>American Medical Directors Association</i></p>	<p>SSI is a reactive way of treating hyperglycemia after it has occurred rather than preventing it. Good evidence exists that SSI is neither effective in meeting the body's insulin needs nor is it efficient in the long-term care setting. Use of SSI leads to greater patient discomfort and increased nursing time because patients' blood glucose levels are usually monitored more frequently than may be necessary and more insulin injections may be given. With SSI regimens, patients may be at risk from prolonged periods of hyperglycemia. In addition, the risk of hypoglycemia is a significant concern because insulin may be administered without regard to meal intake. Basal insulin, or basal plus rapid-acting insulin with one or more meals (often called basal/bolus insulin therapy) most closely mimics normal physiologic insulin production and controls blood glucose more effectively.</p>	<p>Sue Kirkman M, Briscoe VJ, Clark N, Florez H, Haas LB, Halter JB, Huang ES, Korytkowski MT, Munshi MN, Odegard PS, Pratley RE, Swift CS. Consensus Development Conference on Diabetes and Older Adults. Diabetes in older adults: a consensus report. <i>J Am Geriatr Soc.</i> 2012 Dec;60(12):2342-56.</p> <p>American Geriatrics Society 2012 Beers Criteria Update Expert Panel. American Geriatrics Society updated Beers Criteria for potentially inappropriate medication use in older adults. <i>J Am Geriatr Soc.</i> 2012 Apr;60(4):616-31.</p> <p>Haq J. Insulin sliding scare, does it exist in the nursing home. <i>JAMDA.</i> 2010 Mar;11(3):B14.</p> <p>Hirsch IB. Sliding scale insulin—time to stop sliding. <i>JAMA.</i> 2009;301(2):213-214.</p> <p>American Medical Directors Association. Diabetes management in the long-term care setting clinical practice guideline. Columbia, Md.: AMDA 2008, revised 2010.</p> <p>Pandya N, Thompson S, Sambamoorthi U. The prevalence and persistence of sliding scale insulin use among newly admitted elderly nursing home residents with diabetes mellitus. <i>J Am Med Dir Assoc.</i> 2008 Nov;9(9):663-9.</p> <p>Umpierrez GE, Palacio A, Smiley D. Sliding scale insulin use: myth or insanity? <i>Am J Med.</i> 2007;120(7):563-67.</p> <p>Boyle P, Childs B. A roadmap for improving diabetes management in long-term care communities. Available from: http://www.med-iq.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=courses.overview&cID=591.</p> <p>Golightly LK, Jones MA, Hamamura DH, Stolpman NM, McDermott MT. Management of diabetes mellitus in hospitalized patients: efficiency and effectiveness of sliding-scale insulin therapy. <i>Pharmacotherapy.</i> 2006;26(10):1421-32.</p> <p>Queale WS, Seidler AJ, Brancati FL. Glycemic control and sliding scale insulin use in medical inpatients with diabetes mellitus. <i>Arch Intern Med.</i> 1997;157(5):545-52.</p>	Expert consensus
Endocrinologic	<p>Don't recommend daily home finger glucose testing in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus not using insulin.</p>	<p>Self-monitoring of blood glucose (SMBG) is an integral part of patient self-management in maintaining safe and target-driven glucose control in type 1 diabetes. However, there is no benefit to daily finger glucose testing in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus who are not on insulin or medications associated with</p>	<p>American Diabetes Association. Standards of medical care in diabetes. <i>Diabetes Care.</i> 2013;36 Suppl 1:S11-66.</p> <p>Karter AJ, Parker MM, Moffet HH, Spence MM, Chan J, Ettner SL, Selby JV. Longitudinal study of new and prevalent use of self-monitoring of blood glucose. <i>Diabetes Care.</i> 2006;29:1757-63.</p> <p>Harris MI. Frequency of blood glucose monitoring in relation to glycemic control in patients with type 2 diabetes. <i>Diabetes Care.</i></p>	Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

	<i>Society of General Internal Medicine</i>	hypoglycemia, and there is negative economic impact and potential negative clinical impact of daily glucose testing. SMBG should be reserved for patients during the titration of their medication doses or during periods of changes in patients' diet and exercise routines.	2001;24:979-82. Malanda UL, Welschen LMC, Riphagen II, Dekker JM, Nijpels G, Bot SDM. Self-monitoring of blood glucose in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus who are not using insulin. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews. 2012;1:1-88. O'Kane MJ, Bunting B, Copeland M, Coates VE; ESMON study group. Efficacy of self-monitoring of blood glucose in patients with newly diagnosed type 2 diabetes (ESMON study): randomised controlled trial. BMJ. 2008;336:1174-7. Peel E, Douglas M, Lawton J. Self-monitoring of blood glucose in type 2 diabetes: longitudinal qualitative study of patients' perspectives. BMJ. 2007;335:493-8. Cameron C, Coyle D, Ur E, Klarenback S. Cost-effectiveness of self-monitoring of blood glucose in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus managed without insulin. CMAJ. 2010;182(1):28-34.	
Endocrinologic	Avoid routine multiple daily self-glucose monitoring in adults with stable type 2 diabetes on agents that do not cause hypoglycemia. <i>The Endocrine Society</i> <i>American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists</i>	Once target control is achieved and the results of self-monitoring become quite predictable, there is little gained in most individuals from repeatedly confirming. There are many exceptions, such as for acute illness, when new medications are added, when weight fluctuates significantly, when A1C targets drift off course and in individuals who need monitoring to maintain targets. Self-monitoring is beneficial as long as one is learning and adjusting therapy based on the result of the monitoring.	Davidson MB, Castellanos M, Kain D, Duran P. The effect of self monitoring of blood glucose concentrations on glycated hemoglobin levels in diabetic patients not taking insulin: a blinded, randomized trial. Am J Med. 2005;118:422-5. Farmer A, Wade A, Goyder E, Yudkin P, French D, Craven A, Holman Rury, Kinmonth AL, Neil A. Impact of self monitoring of blood glucose in the management of patients with non-insulin treated diabetes: open parallel group randomized trial. BMJ. 2007;335:132-40. O'Kane MJ, Bunting B, Copeland M, Coates VE; ESMON study group. Efficacy of self monitoring of blood glucose in patients with newly diagnosed type 2 diabetes (ESMON study): randomized controlled trial. BMJ. 2008;336:1174-7.	RCTs
Endocrinologic	Don't routinely order a thyroid ultrasound in patients with abnormal thyroid function tests if there is no palpable abnormality of the thyroid gland. <i>The Endocrine Society</i> <i>American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists</i>	Thyroid ultrasound is used to identify and characterize thyroid nodules, and is not part of the routine evaluation of abnormal thyroid function tests (over- or underactive thyroid function) unless the patient also has a large goiter or a lumpy thyroid. Incidentally discovered thyroid nodules are common. Overzealous use of ultrasound will frequently identify nodules, which are unrelated to the abnormal thyroid function, and may divert the clinical evaluation to assess the nodules, rather than the thyroid dysfunction. Imaging may be needed in thyrotoxic patients; when needed, a thyroid scan, not an ultrasound, is used to	Bahn RS, Burch HB, Cooper DS, Garber JR, Greenlee MC, Klein I, Laurberg P, McDougall IR, Montori VM, Rivkees SA, Ross DS, Sosa JA, Stan MN; American Thyroid Association; American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists. Hyperthyroidism and other causes of thyrotoxicosis: management guidelines of the American Thyroid Association and American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists. Thyroid. 2011;21:593-646. Garber JR, Cobin RH, Gharib H, Hennessey JV, Klein I, Mechanick JI, Pessah-Pollack R, Singer PA, Woeber KA. Clinical practice guidelines for hypothyroidism in adults: cosponsored by the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists and the American Thyroid Association. Endocr Pract. 2012; Sep 11:1-207.	American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists/ American Thyroid Association guidelines

		assess the etiology of the thyrotoxicosis and the possibility of focal autonomy in a thyroid nodule.		
Endocrinologic	Don't order a total or free triiodothyronine (T3) level when assessing levothyroxine (T4) dose in hypothyroid patients. <i>The Endocrine Society</i> <i>American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists</i>	T4 is converted into T3 at the cellular level in virtually all organs. Intracellular T3 levels regulate pituitary secretion and blood levels of thyroid-stimulating hormone (TSH), as well as the effects of thyroid hormone in multiple organs; a normal TSH indicates an adequate T4 dose. Conversion of T4 to T3 at the cellular level may not be reflected in the T3 level in the blood. Compared to patients with intact thyroid glands, patients taking T4 may have higher blood T4 and lower blood T3 levels. Thus the blood level of total or free T3 may be misleading (low normal or slightly low); in most patients a normal TSH indicates a correct dose of T4.	Garber JR, Cobin RH, Gharib H, Hennessey JV, Klein I, Mechanick JI, Pessah-Pollack R, Singer PA, Woeber KA. Clinical practice guidelines for hypothyroidism in adults: cosponsored by the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists and the American Thyroid Association. <i>Endocr Pract.</i> 2012; Sep 11:1-207.	American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists/American Thyroid Association guidelines
Endocrinologic Urologic	Don't prescribe testosterone therapy unless there is biochemical evidence of testosterone deficiency. <i>The Endocrine Society</i> <i>American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists</i>	Many of the symptoms attributed to male hypogonadism are commonly seen in normal male aging or in the presence of comorbid conditions. Testosterone therapy has the potential for serious side effects and represents a significant expense. It is therefore important to confirm the clinical suspicion of hypogonadism with biochemical testing. Current guidelines recommend the use of a total testosterone level obtained in the morning. A low level should be confirmed on a different day, again measuring the total testosterone. In some situations, a free or bioavailable testosterone may be of additional value.	Bhasin S, Cunningham GR, Hayes FJ, Matsumoto AM, Snyder PJ, Swerdloff RS, Montori VM. Testosterone therapy in adult men with androgen deficiency syndromes: an Endocrine Society clinical practice guideline. <i>J Clin Endocrinol Metab.</i> 2006 Jun;91(6):1995-2010. Wu FCW, Tajar A, Beynon JM, Pye SR, Silman AJ, Finn JD, O'Neill TW, Bartfai G, Casanueva FF, Forti G, Giwercman A, Han TS, Kula K, Lean ME, Pendleton N, Punab M, Boonen S, Vanderschueren D, Labrie F, Huhtaniemi IT; EMAS Group. Identification of late-onset hypogonadism in middle-aged and elderly men. <i>N Engl J Med.</i> 2010 Jul 8;363(2):123-35.	Endocrine Society guideline

Topic area(s)	Recommendation	Rationale and comments	References	Source
Gastro- enterologic	Long-term acid suppression therapy for GERD should be titrated to the lowest effective dose. <i>American Gastroenterological Association</i>	The main identifiable risk associated with reducing or discontinuing acid suppression therapy is an increased symptom burden. It follows that the decision regarding the need for (and dosage of) maintenance therapy is driven by the impact of those residual symptoms on the patient's quality of life rather than as a disease control measure.	Kahrilas PJ, et al. American Gastroenterological Association medical position statement on the management of gastroesophageal reflux disease. <i>Gastroenterology.</i> 2008;135(4):1383-91.	American Gastroenterological Association position statement

<p>Gastro- enterologic</p> <p>Pediatric</p>	<p>Don't treat gastroesophageal reflux in infants routinely with acid suppression therapy.</p> <p><i>Society of Hospital Medicine (Pediatric)</i></p>	<p>Antireflux therapy has been demonstrated to have no effect in reducing the symptoms of GERD in children. Concerns regarding the use of proton pump inhibitor therapy in infants include an inability to definitively diagnose pediatric patients according to the established criteria of GERD, lack of documented efficacy of acid suppression therapy in infants, and the potential adverse effects associated with acid suppression therapy.</p>	<p>Vandenplas Y. Pediatric gastroesophageal reflux clinical practice guidelines. <i>J Pediatr Gastroenterol Nutr.</i> 2009;49: 498-547.</p> <p>Van der Pol RJ, et al. Efficacy of proton-pump inhibitors in children with gastroesophageal reflux: a systematic review. <i>Pediatrics.</i> 2011;127(5):925-35.</p> <p>Gibbons TE, et al. The use of proton pump inhibitors in children: a comprehensive review. <i>Paediatr Drugs.</i> 2003;5(1): 25-40.</p> <p>Orenstein SR, et al. Infants and proton pump inhibitors: tribulations, no trials. <i>J Pediatr Gastroenterol Nutr.</i> 2007;45:395-8.</p> <p>Khoshoo V, et al. Are we overprescribing antireflux medications for infants with regurgitation? <i>Pediatrics.</i> 2007;120:946-9.</p>	<p>Systematic review of RCTs</p>
<p>Gastro- enterologic</p>	<p>For a patient with functional abdominal pain syndrome, CT scans should not be repeated unless there is a major change in clinical findings or symptoms.</p> <p><i>American Gastroenterological Association</i></p>	<p>There is a small, but measurable increase in one's cancer risk from x-ray exposure. An abdominal CT scan is one of the higher radiation exposure x-rays — equivalent to three years of natural background radiation. Due to this risk and the high costs of this procedure, CT scans should be performed only when they are likely to provide useful information that changes patient management.</p>	<p>Drossman DA, et al. <i>Rome III: The Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders.</i> 3rd ed. 2006.</p> <p>Clouse RE, et al. Functional abdominal pain syndrome. <i>Gastroenterology.</i> 2006;130(5):1492-7.</p> <p>U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Reducing radiation from medical x-rays. February 19, 2009. http://www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/ConsumerUpdates/ucm095505.htm.</p> <p>Image Wisely, U.S. Food and Drug Administration. My medical imaging history. http://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/safety/ImageWisely/7678_Medical%20Imaging%20History.pdf.</p>	<p>U.S. Food and Drug Administration</p>
<p>Gastro- enterologic</p> <p>Pediatric</p> <p>Emergency medicine</p>	<p>CT scans are not necessary in the routine evaluation of abdominal pain.</p> <p><i>American Academy of Pediatrics</i></p>	<p>Utilization of CT imaging in the emergency department evaluation of children with abdominal pain is increasing. The increased lifetime risk of cancer due to excess radiation exposure is of special concern given the acute sensitivity of children's organs. There also is the potential for radiation overdose with inappropriate CT protocols.</p>	<p>Brenner DJ, et al. Computed tomography—an increased risk of radiation exposure. <i>N Engl J Med.</i> 2007;357:2277-84.</p> <p>Burr A, et al. Glowing in the dark: time of day as a determinant of radiographic imaging in the evaluation of abdominal pain in children. <i>J Pediatr Surgery.</i> 2011;46(1): 188-91.</p> <p>Kyuseok Kim, et al. Low-dose abdominal CT for evaluating suspected appendicitis. <i>N Engl J Med.</i> 2012;366:1596-605.</p> <p>Stewart K, et al. Sonography for appendicitis: nonvisualization of the appendix is an indication for active clinical observation rather than direct referral for computed tomography. <i>J Clin Ultrasound.</i> 2012;40(8):455-61.</p> <p>Pearce MS, et al. Radiation exposure from CT scans in childhood and subsequent risk of leukaemia and brain tumours: a retrospective cohort study. <i>Lancet.</i> 2012; 380(9840):499-505.</p> <p>Saito JM. Beyond appendicitis: evaluation and surgical treatment of pediatric acute abdominal pain. <i>Curr Opin Pediatr.</i> 2012;24(3):357-64.</p>	<p>Expert consensus</p>

Gastro- enterologic	<p>Don't prescribe medications for stress ulcer prophylaxis to medical inpatients unless at high risk for gastrointestinal complications.</p> <p><i>Society of Hospital Medicine (Adult)</i></p>	<p>According to published guidelines, medications for stress ulcer prophylaxis are not recommended for adult patients in non-intensive care unit settings. Histamine H2-receptor antagonists and proton pump inhibitors commonly used to treat stress ulcers are associated with adverse drug events and increased medication costs, and commonly enhance susceptibility to community-acquired nosocomial pneumonia and <i>Clostridium difficile</i>. Adherence to therapeutic guidelines will aid health care providers in reducing treatment of patients without clinically important risk factors for gastrointestinal bleeding.</p>	<p>ASHP therapeutic guidelines on stress ulcer prophylaxis. <i>Am J Health Sys Pharm.</i> 1999;56:347-79.</p>	<p>Expert consensus</p>
Gastro- enterologic Geriatric	<p>Don't recommend percutaneous feeding tubes in patients with advanced dementia.</p> <p><i>American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine</i></p> <p><i>American Geriatrics Society</i></p>	<p>Careful hand feeding for patients with severe dementia is at least as good as tube feeding for the outcomes of death, aspiration pneumonia, functional status, and patient comfort. Food is the preferred nutrient. Tube feeding is associated with agitation, increased use of physical and chemical restraints, and worsening pressure ulcers.</p>	<p>Gabriel SE, et al. Getting the methods right—the foundation of patient-centered outcomes research. <i>N Engl J Med.</i> 2012;367(9):787-90.</p> <p>Teno JM, et al. Do financial incentives of introducing case mix reimbursement increase feeding tube use in nursing home residents? <i>J Am Geriatr Soc.</i> 2008;56(5):887-90.</p> <p>Teno JM, et al. Decision-making and outcomes of feeding tube insertion: a five-state study. <i>J Am Geriatr Soc.</i> 2011;59(5):881-6.</p> <p>Palecek EJ, et al. Comfort feeding only: a proposal to bring clarity to decision-making regarding difficulty with eating for persons with advanced dementia. <i>J Am Geriatr Soc.</i> 2010;58(3):580-4.</p> <p>Hanson LC, et al. Improving decision-making for feeding options in advanced dementia: a randomized, controlled trial. <i>J Am Geriatr Soc.</i> 2011;59(11):2009-16.</p>	<p>RCT</p>
Gastro- enterologic	<p>Don't use topical lorazepam (Ativan), diphenhydramine (Benadryl), and haloperidol (Haldol) (“ABH”) gel for nausea.</p> <p><i>American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine</i></p>	<p>Topical drugs can be safe and effective, such as topical NSAIDs for local arthritis symptoms. However, while topical gels are commonly prescribed in hospice practice, antinausea gels have not been proven effective in any large, well-designed or placebo-controlled trials. The active ingredients in ABH are not absorbed to systemic levels that could be effective. Only diphenhydramine (Benadryl) is absorbed via the skin, and then only after several hours and erratically at subtherapeutic levels. It is therefore not appropriate for “as needed” use. The use of agents given via inappropriate routes may delay or prevent the use of more</p>	<p>Smith TJ, et al. ABH gel is not absorbed from the skin of normal volunteers. <i>J Pain Symptom Manage.</i> 2012;43(5): 961-6.</p> <p>Weschules DJ. Tolerability of the compound ABHR in hospice patients. <i>J Palliat Med.</i> 2005;8(6):1135-43.</p>	<p>Expert consensus</p>

		effective interventions.		
Gastro- enterologic Geriatric	Don't insert percutaneous feeding tubes in individuals with advanced dementia. Instead, offer oral assisted feedings. <i>American Medical Directors Association</i>	Strong evidence exists that artificial nutrition does not prolong life or improve quality of life in patients with advanced dementia. Substantial functional decline and recurrent or progressive medical illnesses may indicate that a patient who is not eating is unlikely to obtain any significant or long-term benefit from artificial nutrition. Feeding tubes are often placed after hospitalization, frequently with concerns for aspirations, and for those who are not eating. Contrary to what many people think, tube feeding does not ensure the patient's comfort or reduce suffering; it may cause fluid overload, diarrhea, abdominal pain, local complications, less human interaction and may increase the risk of aspiration. Assistance with oral feeding is an evidence-based approach to provide nutrition for patients with advanced dementia and feeding problems.	Teno JM, Gozalo PL, Mitchell SL, Kuo S, Rhodes RL, Bynum JP, Mor V. Does feeding tube insertion and its timing improve survival? <i>J Am Geriatr Soc.</i> 2012 Oct;60(10):1918-21. Hanson LC, Ersek M, Gilliam R, Carey TS. Oral feeding options for people with dementia: a systematic review. <i>J Am Geriatr Soc.</i> 2011;59(3):463-72. Palecek EJ, Teno JM, Casarett DJ, Hanson LC, Rhodes RL, Mitchell SL. Comfort feeding only: a proposal to bring clarity to decision-making regarding difficulty with eating for persons with advanced dementia. <i>J Am Geriatr Soc.</i> 2010;58(3):580-4. Sorrell JM. Use of feeding tubes in patients with advanced dementia: are we doing harm? <i>J Psychosoc Nurs Ment Health Serv.</i> 2010 May;48(5):15-8. Sampson EL, Candy B, Jones L. Enteral tube feeding for older people with advanced dementia. <i>Cochrane Database Syst Rev.</i> 2009 Apr 15;(2):CD007209. Gillick MR, Volandes AE. The standard of caring: why do we still use feeding tubes in patients with advanced dementia? <i>J Am Med Dir Assoc.</i> 2008 Jun;9(5):364-7. Ganzini L. Artificial nutrition and hydration at the end of life: ethics and evidence. <i>Palliat Support Care.</i> 2006 Jun;4(2):135-43. Li I. Feeding tubes in patients with severe dementia. <i>Am Fam Physician.</i> 2002 Apr 15;65(8):1605-11. Finucane TE, Christmas C, Travis K. Tube feeding in patients with advanced dementia: a review of the evidence. <i>JAMA.</i> 1999 Oct 13;282(14):1365-70. Mitchell SL, Kiely DK, Lipsitz LA. The risk factors and impact on survival of feeding tube placement in nursing home residents with severe cognitive impairment. <i>Arch Intern Med.</i> 1997 Feb 10;157(3):327-32.	Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

Topic area(s)	Recommendation	Rationale and comments	References	Source
Geriatric Psychiatric/ psychologic	Don't use benzodiazepines or other sedative-hypnotics in older adults as first choice for insomnia, agitation, or delirium.	Large-scale studies consistently show that the risk of motor vehicle accidents, falls, and hip fractures leading to hospitalization and death can more than double in older adults taking benzodiazepines and other sedative-hypnotics. Older patients, their caregivers, and their providers should recognize these potential harms when considering treatment strategies	Finkle WD, et al. Risk of fractures requiring hospitalization after an initial prescription of zolpidem, alprazolam, lorazepam or diazepam in older adults. <i>J Am Geriatr Soc.</i> 2011;59(10): 1883-90. Allain H, et al. Postural instability and consequent falls and hip fractures associated with use of hypnotics in the elderly: a comparative review. <i>Drugs Aging.</i> 2005;22(9):749-65. American Geriatrics Society 2012 Beers Criteria Update Expert Panel. American Geriatrics Society updated Beers Criteria for potentially	AGS guideline

	<i>American Geriatrics Society</i>	for insomnia, agitation, or delirium. Use of benzodiazepines should be reserved for alcohol withdrawal symptoms/delirium tremens or severe generalized anxiety disorder unresponsive to other therapies.	inappropriate medication use in older adults. J Am Geriatr Soc. 2012;60(4):616-31.	
Geriatric Neurologic Psychiatric/psychologic	Don't use antipsychotics as first choice to treat behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia. <i>American Geriatrics Society</i>	People with dementia often exhibit aggression, resistance to care, and other challenging or disruptive behaviors. In such instances, antipsychotic medicines are often prescribed, but they provide limited benefit and can cause serious harm, including stroke and premature death. Use of these drugs should be limited to cases where nonpharmacologic measures have failed and patients pose an imminent threat to themselves or others. Identifying and addressing causes of behavior change can make drug treatment unnecessary.	American Geriatrics Society 2012 Beers Criteria Update Expert Panel. American Geriatrics Society updated Beers Criteria for potentially inappropriate medication use in older adults. J Am Geriatr Soc. 2012;60(4):616-31. National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence and Social Care Institute for Excellence. NICE-SCIE clinical guidelines #42. http://www.nice.org.uk/CG042 . Maher AR, et al. Efficacy and comparative effectiveness of atypical antipsychotic medications for off-label uses in adults: a systematic review and meta-analysis. JAMA. 2011;306(12): 159-60. Schneider LS, et al. Effectiveness of atypical antipsychotics in patients with Alzheimer's disease. N Engl J Med. 2006;355 (15):1525-38.	AGS, NICE guidelines
Geriatric	Don't delay palliative care for patients with a serious illness who have physical, psychological, social, or spiritual distress because they are pursuing disease-directed treatment. <i>American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine</i>	Numerous studies—including randomized trials—provide evidence that palliative care improves pain and symptom control, improves family satisfaction with care, and reduces costs. Palliative care does not accelerate death, and may prolong life in selected populations.	Delgado-Guay MO, et al. Symptom distress, intervention, and outcomes of intensive care unit cancer patients referred to a palliative care consult team. Cancer. 2009;115:437-45. Elsayem A, et al. Impact of a palliative care service on in-hospital mortality in a comprehensive cancer center. J Pall Med. 2006;9:894-902. Elsayem A, et al. Palliative care inpatient services in a comprehensive cancer center: clinical and financial outcomes. J Clin Oncol. 2004;22(10):2008-14. Gelfman LP, et al. Does palliative care improve quality? A survey of bereaved family members. J Pain Symptom Manage. 2008;36:22-8. Higginson IJ, et al. Is there evidence that palliative care teams alter end-of-life experiences of patients and their caregivers? J Pain Symptom Manage. 2003;25:150-68. Jordhoy MS, et al. A palliative care intervention and death at home: A cluster randomized trial. Lancet. 2000;356(9233): 888-93. London MR, et al. Evaluation of a comprehensive, adaptable, life-affirming, longitudinal (CALL) palliative care project. J Pall Med. 2005;8:1214-25. Temel JS, et al. Early palliative care for patients with metastatic non-small cell lung cancer. N Engl J Med. 2010;363:733-42.	RCTs
Geriatric Psychiatric	Don't prescribe antipsychotic medications for	Careful differentiation of cause of the symptoms (physical or neurological versus psychiatric, psychological) may help better	American Medical Directors Association. Dementia in the long-term care setting clinical practice guideline. Columbia, Md.: AMDA 2012. Perkins, R. Evidence-based practice interventions for managing	American Medical Directors

<p>behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia (BPSD) in individuals with dementia without an assessment for an underlying cause of the behavior.</p> <p><i>American Medical Directors Association</i></p>	<p>define appropriate treatment options. The therapeutic goal of the use of antipsychotic medications is to treat patients who present an imminent threat of harm to self or others, or are in extreme distress—not to treat nonspecific agitation or other forms of lesser distress. Treatment of BPSD in association with the likelihood of imminent harm to self or others includes assessing for and identifying and treating underlying causes (including pain; constipation; and environmental factors such as noise, being too cold or warm, etc.), ensuring safety, reducing distress and supporting the patient’s functioning. If treatment of other potential causes of the BPSD is unsuccessful, antipsychotic medications can be considered, taking into account their significant risks compared to potential benefits. When an antipsychotic is used for BPSD, it is advisable to obtain informed consent.</p>	<p>behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia in NH residents. <i>Ann LTC</i>. 2012;20(12):20-4.</p> <p>Flaherty J, Gonzales J, Dong B. Antipsychotics in the treatment of delirium in older hospitalized adults: a systematic review. <i>JAGS</i>. 2011;59:S269-76.</p> <p>American Medical Directors Association. Delirium and acute problematic behavior clinical practice guideline. Columbia, Md.: AMDA 2008.</p> <p>Ozbolt LB, Paniagua MA, Kaiser RM. Atypical antipsychotics for the treatment of delirious elders. <i>J Am Med Dir Association</i>. 2008;9:18-28.</p> <p>U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Information for healthcare professionals: antipsychotics. FDA Alert [Internet]. 2008 Jun 16. [cited 2008 Sep 23]. Available from: http://www.fda.gov/cder/drug/InfoSheets/HCP/antipsychotics_conventional.htm. Accessed 9/23/08.</p> <p>U.S. Food and Drug Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. 2007 information for healthcare professionals: haloperidol (marketed as Haldol, Haldol decanoate, and Haldol lactate) [Internet]. 2007 Sep 17 [cited 2013 Jul 23]. Available from: http://www.fda.gov/cder/drug/InfoSheets/HCP/haloperidol.htm.</p> <p>Schneeweiss S, Setoguchi S, Brookhart A, Dormuth C, Wang PS. Risk of death associated with the use of conventional versus atypical antipsychotic drugs among elderly patients. <i>CMAJ</i> 2007;176(5):627-32.</p> <p>Gill SS, Bronskill SE, Normand SL, Anderson GM, Sykora K, Lam K, Bell CM, Lee PE, Fischer HD, Herrmann N, Gurwitz JH, Rochon PA. Antipsychotic drug use and mortality in older adults with dementia. <i>Ann Intern Med</i>. 2007;146(11):775-86.</p> <p>Schneider LS, Dagerman KS, Insel P. Risk of death with atypical antipsychotic drug treatment for dementia. <i>N Engl J Med</i>. 2005 Oct 19;294(15):1934-43.</p> <p>Schneider LS, Tariot PN, Dagerman KS. Effectiveness of atypical antipsychotic drugs in patients with Alzheimer’s disease. <i>N Engl J Med</i>. 2006;355(15):1525-38.</p> <p>Sink KM, Holden KF, Yaffe K. Pharmacological treatment of neuropsychiatric symptoms of dementia: a review of the evidence. <i>JAMA</i>. 2005;293:596-608.</p> <p>U.S. Food and Drug Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. FDA public health advisory: deaths with antipsychotics in elderly patients with behavioral disturbances</p>	<p>Association guidelines and systematic reviews</p>
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<p>Geriatric Psychiatric</p>	<p>Don't use antipsychotics as first choice to treat behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia.</p> <p><i>American Psychiatric Association</i></p>	<p>Behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia are defined as the noncognitive symptoms and behaviors, including agitation or aggression, anxiety, irritability, depression, apathy, and psychosis. Evidence shows that risks (e.g., cerebrovascular effects, mortality, parkinsonism or extrapyramidal signs, sedation, confusion and other cognitive disturbances, and increased body weight) tend to outweigh the potential benefits of antipsychotic medications in this population. Clinicians should limit the use of antipsychotic medications to cases where nonpharmacologic measures have failed and the patients' symptoms may create a threat to themselves or others. This item is also included in the American Geriatric Society's list of recommendations for "Choosing Wisely."</p>	<p>American Psychiatric Association: Practice guideline for the treatment of patients with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, second edition. <i>Am J Psychiatry</i>. 2007 Dec;164(Dec suppl):5-56. Available from: http://psychiatryonline.org/content.aspx?bookid=28&sectionid=1679489.</p> <p>Ballard CG, Waite J, Birks J. Atypical antipsychotics for aggression and psychosis in Alzheimer's disease. <i>Cochrane Database Syst Rev</i>. 2006 Jan 25;(1):CD003476.</p> <p>Gitlin LN, Kales HC, Lyketsos CG. Nonpharmacologic management of behavioral symptoms in dementia. <i>JAMA</i>. 2012 Nov 21;308(19):2020-9.</p> <p>Maglione M, Ruelaz Maher A, Hu J, Wang Z, Shanman R, Shekelle PG, Roth B, Hilton L, Suttrop MJ, Ewing BA, Motala A, Perry T; Southern California Evidence-Based Practice Center. Off-label use of atypical antipsychotics: an update. Rockville, Md.: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; 2011 Sep 437 p. Report No.: HHS A290-2007-10062-1.</p> <p>Nasrallah HA. Atypical antipsychotic-induced metabolic side effects: insights from receptor-binding profiles. <i>Mol Psychiatry</i>. 2008 Jan;13(1):27-35.</p> <p>Richter T, Meyer G, Möhler R, Köpke S. Psychosocial interventions for reducing antipsychotic medication in care home residents. <i>Cochrane Database Syst Rev</i>. 2012 Dec 12;12:CD008634.</p> <p>Schneider LS, Tariot PN, Dagerman KS, Davis SM, Hsiao JK, Ismail MS, Lebowitz BD, Lyketsos CG, Ryan JM, Stroup TS, Sultzer DL, Weintraub D, Lieberman JA; CATIE-AD Study Group. Effectiveness of atypical antipsychotic drugs in patients with Alzheimer's disease. <i>N Engl J Med</i>. 2006;355(15):1525-38.</p>	<p>AHRQ, Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews</p>

Topic area(s)	Recommendation	Rationale and comments	References	Source
<p>Gynecologic</p>	<p>Don't perform low-risk HPV testing.</p> <p><i>American Society for</i></p>	<p>National guidelines provide for HPV testing in patients with certain abnormal Pap smears and in other select clinical indications. The presence of high-risk HPV leads to more</p>	<p>Lee JW, et al. Low-risk human papillomavirus testing and other non-recommended human papillomavirus testing practices among U.S. health care providers. <i>Obstet Gynecol</i>. 2011;118(1):4-13.</p> <p>Saslow D, et al. American Cancer Society, American Society for</p>	<p>ACS/ASCCP/ASCP guideline</p>

	<i>Clinical Pathology</i>	frequent examination or more aggressive investigation (e.g., colposcopy and biopsy). There is no medical indication for low-risk HPV testing (HPV types that cause genital warts or very minor cell changes on the cervix) because the infection is not associated with disease progression and there is no treatment or therapy change indicated when low-risk HPV is identified.	Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology, and American Society for Clinical Pathology screening guidelines for the prevention and early detection of cervical cancer. Am J Clin Pathol. 2012;137:516-42. Zhao C, et al. Follow-up outcomes for a large cohort of U.S. women with negative imaged liquid-based cytology finding and positive high risk human papillomavirus test results. Gynecol Oncol. 2011;122:291-6. American Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology. Descriptions of new FDA-approved HPV DNA tests. HPV genotyping clinical update. 2009. http://mail.ny.acog.org/website/ASCCPHPVUpdate.pdf .	
Gynecologic Oncologic	Don't treat patients who have mild cervical dysplasia of less than two years' duration. <i>American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists</i>	Mild dysplasia (cervical intraepithelial neoplasia 1) is associated with the presence of HPV, which does not require treatment in average-risk women. Most women with cervical intraepithelial neoplasia 1 on biopsy have a transient HPV infection that will usually clear in less than 12 months and, therefore, does not require treatment.	Wright TC, et al. 2006 consensus guidelines for the management of women with cervical intraepithelial neoplasia or adenocarcinoma in situ. Am J Obstet Gynecol. 2007;197:340-5. American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Management of abnormal cervical cytology and histology. Practice bulletin no. 99. Obstet Gynecol. 2008;112:1419-44.	ASCCP, ACOG guidelines
Gynecologic	Don't require a pelvic exam or other physical exam to prescribe oral contraceptive medications. <i>American Academy of Family Physicians</i>	Hormonal contraceptives are safe, effective, and well-tolerated for most women. Data do not support the necessity of performing a pelvic or breast examination to prescribe oral contraceptive medications. Hormonal contraception can be safely provided on the basis of medical history and blood pressure measurement.	Stewart FH, Harper CC, Ellertson CE, Grimes DA, Sawaya GF, Trussell J. Clinical breast and pelvic examination requirements for hormonal contraception: current practice vs evidence. JAMA. 2001 May 2;285(17):2232-9. Henderson JT, Sawaya GF, Blum M, Stratton L, Harper CC. Pelvic examinations and access to oral hormonal contraception. Obstet Gynecol. 2010 Dec;116(6):1257-64. Committee on Gynecologic Practice. Committee opinion no. 534: well-woman visit. Obstet Gynecol. 2012 Aug;120(2 Pt 1):421-4.	ACOG
Gynecologic	Don't routinely order thrombophilia testing on patients undergoing a routine infertility evaluation. <i>American Society for Reproductive Medicine</i>	There is no indication to order these tests, and there is no benefit to be derived in obtaining them in someone that does not have any history of bleeding or abnormal clotting and in the absence of any family history. This testing is not a part of the infertility workup. Furthermore, the testing is costly, and there are risks associated with the proposed treatments, which would also not be indicated in this routine population.	Lockwood C, Wendel G; Committee on Practice Bulletins—Obstetrics. Practice bulletin no. 124: inherited thrombophilias in pregnancy. Obstet Gynecol. 2011 Sept;118(3):730-40. Casadei L, Puca F, Privitera L, Zamaro V, Emidi E. Inherited thrombophilia in infertile women: implication in unexplained infertility. Fertil Steril. 2010 Jul;94(2):755-7. The Practice Committee of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine. Diagnostic evaluation of the infertile female: a committee opinion. Fertil Steril. 2012 Aug;98:302-7. Baglin T, Gray E, Greaves M, Hunt B, Keeling D, Machin S, Mackie I, Makris M, Nokes T, Perry D, Talt RC, Walker I, Watson H. Clinical guidelines for testing for heritable thrombophilia. Br J Haematol. 2010;149:209-20.	ACOG

Gynecologic	Don't perform immunological testing as part of the routine infertility evaluation. <i>American Society for Reproductive Medicine</i>	Diagnostic testing of infertility requires evaluation of factors involving ovulation, fallopian tube patency and spermatogenesis based upon clinical history. Although immunological factors may influence early embryo implantation, routine immunological testing of couples with infertility is expensive and does not predict pregnancy outcome.	Cervera R, Balasch J. Bidirectional effects on autoimmunity and reproduction. <i>Hum Reprod.</i> 2008;14:359-66. Carp HJA, Selmi C, Shoenfel Y. The autoimmune bases of infertility and pregnancy loss. <i>J Autoimmun.</i> 2012;38:J266-74.	Expert consensus
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Topic area(s)	Recommendation	Rationale and comments	References	Source
Hematologic	Don't perform repetitive complete blood count and chemistry testing in the face of clinical and lab stability. <i>Society of Hospital Medicine (Adult)</i>	Hospitalized patients frequently have considerable volumes of blood drawn (phlebotomy) for diagnostic testing during short periods of time. Phlebotomy is highly associated with changes in hemoglobin and hematocrit levels for patients and can contribute to anemia. This anemia, in turn, may have significant consequences, especially for patients with cardiorespiratory diseases. Additionally, reducing the frequency of daily unnecessary phlebotomy can result in significant cost savings for hospitals.	Adam C, et al. Diagnostic blood loss from phlebotomy and hospital-acquired anemia during acute myocardial infarction. <i>Arch Intern Med.</i> 2011;171(18):1646-53. Thavendiranathan P, et al. Do blood tests cause anemia in hospitalized patients? The effect of diagnostic phlebotomy on hemoglobin and hematocrit levels. <i>J Gen Intern Med.</i> 2005;20(6):520-4. Stuebing EA, et al. Surgical vampires and rising health care expenditure: reducing the cost of daily phlebotomy. <i>Arch Surg.</i> 2011;146(5):524-7.	Prospective studies
Hematologic	Avoid transfusions of red blood cells for arbitrary hemoglobin or hematocrit thresholds and in the absence of symptoms or active coronary disease, heart failure, or stroke. <i>Society of Hospital Medicine (Adult)</i>	The AABB recommends adhering to a restrictive transfusion strategy (7 to 8 g/dL) in hospitalized, stable patients. The AABB suggests that transfusion decisions be influenced by symptoms as well as hemoglobin concentration. According to a National Institutes of Health Consensus Conference, no single criterion should be used as an indication for red cell component therapy. Instead, multiple factors related to the patient's clinical status and oxygen delivery needs should be considered.	Red blood cell transfusion: a clinical practice guideline from the AABB. <i>Ann Intern Med.</i> 2012;157(1):49-58. Consensus conference. Perioperative red blood cell transfusion. <i>JAMA.</i> 1988;260(18):2700-3. AABB. Advancing Transfusion and Cellular Therapies Worldwide. AABB name change. http://www.aabb.org/about/who/Pages/namechange.aspx .	AABB guideline
Hematologic	Don't do workup for clotting disorder (order hyper-coagulable testing) for patients who develop first episode of DVT in the setting of a known cause. <i>Society for Vascular Medicine</i>	Lab tests to look for a clotting disorder will not alter treatment of a venous blood clot, even if an abnormality is found. DVT is a very common disorder, and recent discoveries of clotting abnormalities have led to increased testing without proven benefit.	Dalen JE. Should patients with venous thromboembolism be screened for thrombophilia? <i>Am J Med.</i> 2008;121(6):458-63. Baglin T, et al. Incidence of recurrent venous thromboembolism in relation to clinical and thrombophilic risk factors: prospective cohort study. <i>Lancet.</i> 2003;362:523-6. Ho WK, et al. Risk of recurrent venous thromboembolism in patients with common thrombophilia. <i>Arch Intern Med.</i> 2006;166:729-36. Baglin T, et al. Clinical guidelines for testing for heritable thrombophilia. <i>Br J Haematol.</i> 2010;149:209-20.	Prospective cohort studies

<p>Hematologic</p>	<p>Don't reimaging DVT in the absence of a clinical change.</p> <p><i>Society for Vascular Medicine</i></p>	<p>Repeat ultrasound images to evaluate "response" of venous clot to therapy does not alter treatment.</p>	<p>Bates SM, et al. Diagnosis of DVT antithrombotic therapy and prevention of thrombosis, 9th ed. American College of Chest Physicians evidence-based clinical practice guidelines. Chest. 2012;141(2 suppl):e351S-418S.</p>	<p>ACCP guideline</p>
<p>Hematologic</p>	<p>Don't administer packed red blood cells in a young healthy patient without ongoing blood loss and hemoglobin of ≥ 6 g/dL unless symptomatic or hemodynamically unstable.</p> <p><i>American Society of Anesthesiologists</i></p>	<p>The hemoglobin transfusion threshold used in multiple studies has varied from 6.0 to 10.0 g/dL. The optimal hemoglobin/hematocrit criterion for transfusion remains controversial in several clinical settings. Nevertheless, compared with higher hemoglobin thresholds, a lower hemoglobin threshold is associated with fewer red blood cell units transfused without adverse associations with mortality, cardiac morbidity, functional recovery, or length of hospital stay. Hospital mortality remains lower in patients randomized to a lower hemoglobin threshold for transfusion versus those randomized to a higher hemoglobin threshold. The decision to transfuse should be based on a combination of both clinical and hemodynamic parameters.</p>	<p>American Society of Anesthesiologists Task Force on Perioperative Blood Transfusion and Adjuvant Therapies. Practice guidelines for perioperative blood transfusion and adjuvant therapies. Anesthesiology. 2006 Jul;105(1):198-208.</p> <p>Carson JL, Carless PA, Hebert PC. Outcomes using lower versus higher hemoglobin thresholds for red blood cell transfusion. JAMA. 2013;309(1):83-4.</p> <p>Carson JL, Patel MS. (2013). Is there an optimal perioperative hemoglobin level? In: Fleisher L. Evidence-based practice of anesthesiology (3rd ed., pp. 155–163). Philadelphia (PA): Elsevier Saunders.</p> <p>Goodnough LT, Levy JH, Murphy MF. Concepts of blood transfusion in adults. Lancet. 2013;381(9880):1845-54.</p> <p>Carson JL, Carless PA, Hebert PC. Transfusion threshold and other strategies for guiding allogeneic red blood cell transfusion. Cochrane Database Syst Rev. 2012;4:CD002042.</p> <p>Bittencourt R, Costa J, Lobo JE, Aquiar FC. Consciously transfusion of blood products. Systematic review of indicative factors for blood components infusion trigger. Rev Bras Anesthesiol. 2012;62(3):402-10.</p> <p>Carson JL, Grossman BJ, Kleinman S, Tinmouth AT, Marques MB, Fung MK, Holcomb JB, Illloh O, Kaplan LJ, Katz LM, Rao SV, Roback JD, Shander A, Tobian AA, Weinstein R, Swinton-McLaughlin LG, Djulbegovic B, Clinical Transfusion Medicine Committee of the AABB. Red blood cell transfusion: a clinical perspective guideline from the AABB. Ann Intern Med. 2012;157(1):49-58.</p> <p>Toy P, Feiner J, Viele MK, Watson J, Yeap H, Weiskopf RB. Fatigue during acute isovolemic anemia in healthy resting humans. Transfusion. 2000;40(4):457–60.</p>	<p>Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews</p>
<p>Hematologic</p>	<p>Don't transfuse more than the minimum number of red blood cell (RBC) units necessary to relieve symptoms of anemia or to return a patient to a</p>	<p>Transfusion of the smallest effective dose of RBCs is recommended because liberal transfusion strategies do not improve outcomes when compared to restrictive strategies. Unnecessary transfusion generates costs and exposes patients to potential adverse effects without any likelihood of benefit. Clinicians</p>	<p>Carson JL, Grossman BJ, Kleinman S, Tinmouth AT, Marques MB, Fung MK, Holcomb JB, Illloh O, Kaplan LJ, Katz LM, Rao SV, Roback JD, Shander A, Tobian AA, Weinstein R, Swinton McLaughlin LG, Djulbegovic B; Clinical Transfusion Medicine Committee of the AABB. Red blood cell transfusion: a clinical practice guideline from the AABB. Ann Intern Med. 2012 Jul 3;157(1):49-58.</p>	<p>AABB guideline</p>

	safe hemoglobin range (7 to 8 g/dL in stable, noncardiac inpatients). <i>American Society of Hematology</i>	are urged to avoid the routine administration of two units of RBCs if one unit is sufficient and to use appropriate weight-based dosing of RBCs in children.	Retter A, Wyncoll D, Pearse R, Carson D, McKechnie S, Stanworth S, Allard S, Thomas D, Walsh T; British Committee for Standards in Hematology. Guidelines on the management of anaemia and red cell transfusion in adult critically ill patients. <i>Br J Haematol.</i> 2013 Feb;160(4):445-64.	
Hematologic	Don't test for thrombophilia in adult patients with venous thromboembolism (VTE) occurring in the setting of major transient risk factors (surgery, trauma, or prolonged immobility). <i>American Society of Hematology</i>	Thrombophilia testing is costly and can result in harm to patients if the duration of anticoagulation is inappropriately prolonged or if patients are incorrectly labeled as thrombophilic. Thrombophilia testing does not change the management of VTEs occurring in the setting of major transient VTE risk factors. When VTE occurs in the setting of pregnancy or hormonal therapy, or when there is a strong family history plus a major transient risk factor, the role of thrombophilia testing is complex and patients and clinicians are advised to seek guidance from an expert in VTE.	Chong LY, Fenu E, Stansby G, Hodgkinson S. Management of venous thromboembolic diseases and the role of thrombophilia testing: summary of NICE guidance. <i>BMJ.</i> 2012 Jun 27;344:e3979. Baglin T, Gray E, Greaves M, Hunt BJ, Keeling D, Machin S, Mackie I, Makris M, Nokes T, Perry D, Tait RC, Walker I, Watson H; British Committee for Standards in Hematology. Clinical guidelines for testing for heritable thrombophilia. <i>Br J Haematol.</i> 2010 Apr;149(2):209-20.	NICE guideline
Hematologic	Don't administer plasma or prothrombin complex concentrates for nonemergent reversal of vitamin K antagonists (i.e., outside of the setting of major bleeding, intracranial hemorrhage, or anticipated emergent surgery). <i>American Society of Hematology</i>	Blood products can cause serious harm to patients, are costly, and are rarely indicated in the reversal of vitamin K antagonists. In nonemergent situations, elevations in the international normalized ratio are best addressed by holding the vitamin K antagonist and/or by administering vitamin K.	Holbrook A, Schulman S, Witt DM, Vandvik PO, Fish J, Kovacs MJ, Svensson PJ, Veenstra DL, Crowther M, Guyatt GH; American College of Chest Physicians. Evidence-based management of anticoagulant therapy: Antithrombotic Therapy and Prevention of Thrombosis, 9th ed: American College of Chest Physicians Evidence-Based Clinical Practice Guidelines. <i>Chest.</i> 2012 Feb;141(2 Suppl):e152S-84S. Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN). Antithrombotics: indications and management. Edinburgh (UK): 2012. 75 p. Report No. 129.	ACCP guideline

Topic area(s)	Recommendation	Rationale and comments	References	Source
Infectious disease	Antibiotics should not be used for apparent viral respiratory illnesses (sinusitis, pharyngitis, bronchitis). <i>American Academy of Pediatrics</i>	Although overall antibiotic subscription rates for children have fallen, they still remain alarmingly high. Unnecessary medication use for viral respiratory illnesses can lead to antibiotic resistance and contributes to higher health care costs and the risks of adverse events.	American Academy of Pediatrics Subcommittee on Diagnosis and Management of Bronchiolitis. Diagnosis and management of bronchiolitis. <i>Pediatrics.</i> 2006;118(4):1774-93. Kelly LF. Pediatric cough and cold preparations. 2004;25(4): 115-23. O'Brien KL, et al. Cough illness/bronchitis—principles of judicious use of antimicrobial agents. <i>Pediatrics.</i> 1998;101 (suppl):178-81. Shulman ST, et al. Clinical practice guideline for the diagnosis and management of group A streptococcal pharyngitis: 2012 update by the	AAP, IDSA guidelines

			<p>Infectious Diseases Society of America. Clin Infect Dis. 2012;55(10):e86-102.</p> <p>Williamson IG, et al. Antibiotics and topical nasal steroids for treatment of acute maxillary sinusitis: a randomized controlled trial. JAMA. 2007;298(21):2487-96.</p>	
<p>Infectious disease</p> <p>Urologic</p> <p>Geriatric</p>	<p>Don't use antimicrobials to treat bacteriuria in older adults unless specific urinary tract symptoms are present.</p> <p><i>American Geriatrics Society</i></p>	<p>Cohort studies have found no adverse outcomes for older men or women associated with asymptomatic bacteriuria. Antimicrobial treatment studies for asymptomatic bacteriuria in older adults demonstrate no benefits and show increased adverse antimicrobial effects. Consensus criteria have been developed to characterize the specific clinical symptoms that, when associated with bacteriuria, define urinary tract infection. Screening for and treatment of asymptomatic bacteriuria is recommended before urologic procedures for which mucosal bleeding is anticipated.</p>	<p>Nordenstam GR, et al. Bacteriuria and mortality in an elderly population. N Engl J Med. 1986;314(18):1152-6.</p> <p>Nicolle LE, et al. Prospective randomized comparison of therapy and no therapy for asymptomatic bacteriuria in institutionalized elderly women. Am J Med. 1987;83(1):27-33.</p> <p>Juthani-Mehta M. Asymptomatic bacteriuria and urinary tract infection in older adults. Clin Geriatr Med. 2007;23:585-94.</p> <p>Nicolle LE, et al. Infectious Diseases Society of America guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of asymptomatic bacteriuria in adults. Clin Infect Dis. 2005;40(5):643-5.</p>	<p>IDSA guideline</p>
<p>Infectious disease</p> <p>Urologic</p>	<p>Don't obtain a urine culture unless there are clear signs and symptoms that localize to the urinary tract.</p> <p><i>American Medical Directors Association</i></p>	<p>Chronic asymptomatic bacteriuria is frequent in the long-term care setting, with prevalence as high as 50%. A positive urine culture in the absence of localized urinary tract infection (UTI) symptoms (i.e., dysuria, frequency, urgency) is of limited value in identifying whether a patient's symptoms are caused by a UTI. Colonization (a positive bacterial culture without signs or symptoms of a localized UTI) is a common problem in long-term care facilities that contributes to the overuse of antibiotic therapy in this setting, leading to an increased risk of diarrhea, resistant organisms and infection due to <i>Clostridium difficile</i>. An additional concern is that the finding of asymptomatic bacteriuria may lead to an erroneous assumption that a UTI is the cause of an acute change of status, hence failing to detect or delaying the more timely detection of the patient's more serious underlying problem. A patient with advanced dementia may be unable to report urinary symptoms. In this situation, it is reasonable to obtain a urine culture if there are signs of systemic infection such as fever (increase in temperature of equal to or greater than 2°F [1.1°C] from baseline)</p>	<p>Stone ND, Ashraf MS, Calder J, Crnich CJ, Crossley K, Drinka PJ, Gould CV, Juthani-Mehta M, Lautenbach E, Loeb M, MacCannell T, Malani TN, Mody L, Mylotte JM, Nicolle LE, Roghmann MC, Schweon SJ, Simor AE, Smith PW, Stevenson KB, Bradley SF. Surveillance definitions of infections in long-term care facilities: revisiting the McGeer Criteria. Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol. 2012;33(10):965-77.</p> <p>Drinka P. Treatment of bacteriuria without urinary signs, symptoms, or systemic infectious illness (S/S/S). J Am Med Dir Assoc. 2009 Oct;10(8):516-9.</p> <p>Arinzon Z, Peisakh A, Shuval I, Shabat S, Berner YN. Detection of urinary tract infection (UTI) in long-term care setting: is the multireagent strip an adequate diagnostic tool? Arch Gerontol Geriatr. 2009 Mar-Apr;48(2):227-31.</p> <p>High KP, Bradley SF, Gravenstein S, Mehr DR, Quagliarello VJ, Richards C, Yoshikawa TT. Clinical practice guideline for the evaluation of fever and infection in older adult residents of long-term care facilities: 2008 update by the Infectious Diseases Society of America. J Am Geriatr Soc. 2009 Mar;57(3):375-94.</p> <p>Zabarsky TF, Sethi AK, Donskey CJ. Sustained reduction in inappropriate treatment of asymptomatic bacteriuria in a long-term care facility through an educational intervention. Am J Infect Control. 2008 Sep;36(7):476-80.</p> <p>Richards CL Jr. Infection control in long-term care facilities. J Am</p>	<p>IDSA guideline</p>

		<p>leukocytosis, or a left shift or chills in the absence of additional symptoms (e.g., new cough) to suggest an alternative source of infection.</p>	<p>Med Dir Assoc. 2007 Mar;8(3 Suppl):S18-25.</p> <p>Ducharme J, Neilson S, Ginn JL. Can urine cultures and reagent test strips be used to diagnose urinary tract infection in elderly emergency department patients without focal urinary symptoms? CJEM. 2007 Mar;9(2):87-92.</p> <p>Loeb M, Brazil K, Lohfeld L, McGeer A, Simor A, Stevenson K, Zoutman D, Smith S, Liu X, Walter SD. Effect of a multifaceted intervention on number of antimicrobial prescriptions for suspected urinary tract infections in residents of nursing homes: cluster randomized controlled trial. BMJ. 2005 Sep 24;331(7518):669.</p> <p>Loeb M, Brazil K, Lohfeld L, McGeer A, Simor A, Stevenson K, Walter S, Zoutman D. Optimizing antibiotics in residents of nursing homes: protocol of a randomized trial. BMC Health Serv Res. 2002 Sep 3;2(1):17.</p> <p>Nicolle LE. Urinary tract infection in geriatric and institutionalized patients. Curr Opin Urol. 2002 Jan;12(1):51-5.</p> <p>Boscia JA, Kobasa WD, Abrutyn E, Levison ME, Kaplan AM, Kaye D. Lack of association between bacteriuria and symptoms in the elderly. Am J Med. 1986 Dec;81(6):979-82.</p> <p>Nicolle LE, Bentley D, Garibaldi R, Neuhaus E, Smith P. SHEA Long-Term Care Committee. Antimicrobial use in long-term-care facilities. Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol. 1996;17:119-28.</p> <p>High KP, Bradley SF, Gravenstein S, Mehr DR, Quagliarello VJ, Richards C, Yoshikawa TT. Clinical practice guideline for the evaluation of fever and infection in older adult residents of long-term care facilities: 2008 update by the Infectious Diseases Society of America. Clin Infect Dis 2009;48:149-71.</p>	
<p>Infectious disease</p> <p>Emergency medicine</p>	<p>Avoid antibiotics and wound cultures in emergency department patients with uncomplicated skin and soft tissue abscesses after successful incision and drainage and with adequate medical follow-up.</p> <p><i>American College of Emergency Physicians</i></p>	<p>Skin and soft tissue infections are a frequent reason for visiting an emergency department. Some infections, called abscesses, become walled off and form pus under the skin. Opening and draining an abscess is the appropriate treatment; antibiotics offer no benefit. Even in abscesses caused by methicillin-resistant <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>, appropriately selected antibiotics offer no benefit if the abscess has been adequately drained and the patient has a well-functioning immune system. Additionally, culture of the drainage is not needed as the result will not routinely change treatment.</p>	<p>Baumann BM, Russo CJ, Pavlik D, Cassidy-Smith T, Brown N, Sacchetti A, Capano-Wehrle LM, Mistry RD. Management of pediatric skin abscesses in pediatric, general academic and community emergency departments. West J Emerg Med. 2011 May;12(2):159-67.</p> <p>Duong M, Markwell S, Peter J, Barenkamp S. Randomized, controlled trial of antibiotics in the management of community-acquired skin abscesses in the pediatric patient. Ann Emerg Med. 2010 May;55(5):401-7.</p> <p>Llera JL, Levy RC. Treatment of cutaneous abscess: a double-blind clinical study. Ann Emerg Med. 1985;14:15-9.</p> <p>Niska R, Bhuiya F, Xu J. National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey: 2007 Emergency Department Summary. National health statistics reports. Hyattsville, [MD]: National Center for Health Statistics. 2010. 31 p. Report no.: 26.</p>	<p>RCTs</p>

Topic area(s)	Recommendation	Rationale and comments	References	Source
Nephrologic Cardio-vascular	Avoid NSAIDs in individuals with hypertension or heart failure or chronic kidney disease of all causes, including diabetes. <i>American Society of Nephrology</i>	The use of NSAIDs, including cyclooxygenase type 2 inhibitors, for the pharmacological treatment of musculoskeletal pain can elevate blood pressure, make antihypertensive drugs less effective, cause fluid retention, and worsen kidney function in these individuals. Other agents such as acetaminophen or tramadol, or short-term use of narcotic analgesics, may be safer than and as effective as NSAIDs.	National Kidney Foundation Kidney Disease Outcomes Quality Initiative. KDOQI clinical practice guidelines for chronic kidney disease: evaluation, classification, and stratification. http://www.kidney.org/professionals/KDOQI/guidelines_ckd/toc.htm . Chronic kidney disease in adults: UK guidelines for identification, management and referral. http://www.renal.org/ckdguide/full/ukckdfull.pdf . Seventh Report of the Joint National Committee on Prevention, Detection, Evaluation, and Treatment of High Blood Pressure. http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/guidelines/hypertension/jnc7full.pdf . Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network. Management of chronic heart failure. http://www.sign.ac.uk/pdf/sign95.pdf .	National Kidney Foundation Kidney Disease Outcomes Quality Initiative
Nephrologic Cardio-vascular	Don't screen for renal artery stenosis in patients without resistant hypertension and with normal renal function, even if known atherosclerosis is present. <i>Society for Vascular Medicine</i>	Performing surgery or angioplasty to improve circulation to the kidneys has no proven preventive benefit, and shouldn't be considered unless there is evidence of symptoms, such as elevated blood pressure or decreased renal function.	ACC/AHA 2005 practice guidelines for the management of patients with peripheral arterial disease (lower extremity, renal, mesenteric, and abdominal aortic): executive summary. <i>Circulation</i> . 2006;113:1474-1547.	ACC/AHA guideline

Topic area(s)	Recommendation	Rationale and comments	References	Source
Neurologic	Don't do imaging for uncomplicated headache. <i>American College of Radiology</i>	Imaging headache patients absent specific risk factors for structural disease is not likely to change management or improve outcome. Those patients with a significant likelihood of structural disease requiring immediate attention are detected by clinical screens that have been validated in many settings. Many studies and clinical practice guidelines concur. Also, incidental findings lead to additional medical procedures and expense that do not improve patient well-being.	Jordan JE, et al. ACR Appropriateness Criteria: headache. Reston, Va.: American College of Radiology; 2009. http://www.acr.org/~media/ACR/Documents/AppCriteria/Diagnostic/Headache.pdf . Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement. Diagnosis and treatment of headache. Bloomington, Minn.: Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement; 2011. Frishberg BM, et al. Evidence-based guidelines in the primary care setting: neuroimaging in patients with nonacute headache. <i>American Academy of Neurology</i> . 2000. http://www.aan.com/professionals/practice/pdfs/gl0088.pdf . Silberstein SD. Practice parameter: evidence-based guidelines for migraine headache. <i>Neurology</i> . 2000;55:754. Edlow JA, et al. Clinical policy: critical issues in the evaluation and management of adult patients presenting to the emergency department with acute headache. <i>Ann Emerg Med</i> . 2008;52(4): 407-36.	AAN, ACR guidelines

Neurologic	Don't perform electroencephalography for headaches. <i>American Academy of Neurology</i>	Electroencephalography has no advantage over clinical evaluation in diagnosing headache, does not improve outcomes, and increases cost. Recurrent headache is the most common pain problem, affecting 15% to 20% of people.	American Academy of Neurology. Practice parameter: the electroencephalogram in the evaluation of headache. http://aan.com/professionals/practice/pdfs/pdf_1995_thru_1998/1995.45.1411.pdf .	AAN guideline
Neurologic Pediatric Emergency medicine	CT scans are not necessary in the evaluation of minor head injuries. <i>American Academy of Pediatrics</i>	Head injuries occur commonly in children and adolescents. Approximately 50% of children who visit hospital emergency departments with a head injury are given a CT scan, a considerable number of which are unnecessary. Unnecessary exposure to x-rays poses considerable danger to children, including increasing the lifetime risk of cancer because a child's brain tissue is more sensitive to ionizing radiation. They also impose undue costs to the health care system. Clinical observation prior to CT decision making for children with minor head injuries is an effective approach.	Dunning J, et al. A meta-analysis of variables that predict significant intracranial injury in minor head trauma. <i>Arch Dis Child</i> . 2004;89(7):653-9. Kuppermann N, et al. Identification of children at very low-risk of clinically-important brain injuries after head trauma: a prospective cohort study. 2009;374(9696):1160-70. Nigrovic LE, et al. The effect of observation on cranial computed tomography utilization for children after blunt head trauma. <i>Pediatrics</i> . 2011;127(6):1067-73. Oman JA, et al. Performance of a decision-rule to predict need for computed tomography among children with blunt head trauma. <i>Pediatrics</i> . 2006;117(2):e238-46.	Systematic review and meta-analysis
Neurologic Pediatric Emergency medicine	Neuroimaging (CT, MRI) is not necessary in a child with simple febrile seizure. <i>American Academy of Pediatrics</i>	CT scanning is associated with radiation exposure that may escalate future cancer risk. MRI also has associated risks from required sedation and high cost. The literature does not support the use of skull films in the evaluation of a child with a febrile seizure. Clinicians evaluating infants or young children after a simple febrile seizure should direct their attention toward identifying the cause of the child's fever.	American Academy of Pediatrics Subcommittee on Febrile Seizures. Guideline for the neurodiagnostic evaluation of the child with a simple febrile seizure. <i>Pediatrics</i> . 2011;127(2):389-94.	AAP guideline
Neurologic	In the evaluation of simple syncope and a normal neurologic examination, don't obtain brain imaging studies (CT or MRI). <i>American College of Physicians</i>	In patients with witnessed syncope, but with no suggestion of seizure and no report of other neurologic symptoms or signs, the likelihood of a central nervous system cause of the event is extremely low and patient outcomes are not improved with brain imaging studies.	ACR-ASNR Practice guideline for the performance of computed tomography (CT). 2010. http://www.asnr.org/sites/default/files/guidelines/CT_Brain.pdf . National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence. Transient loss of consciousness in adults and young people. August 2010. http://guidance.nice.org.uk/CG109 .	ACR, NICE guidelines
Neurologic	Don't perform imaging of the carotid arteries for simple syncope without other neurologic symptoms.	Occlusive carotid artery disease does not cause fainting but rather causes focal neurologic deficits such as unilateral weakness. Thus, carotid imaging will not identify the cause of the fainting and increases cost. Fainting is a frequent complaint, affecting 40% of people	AHA/ACCF scientific statement on the evaluation of syncope. <i>Circulation</i> . 2006;113:316-27. The Task Force for the Diagnosis and Management of Syncope of the European Society of Cardiology. Guidelines for the diagnosis and management of syncope. http://www.escardio.org/guidelines-	AHA, NICE guidelines

	<i>American Academy of Neurology</i>	during their lifetime.	surveys/esc-guidelines/guidelinesdocuments/ guidelines-syncope-ft.pdf. National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence. Transient loss of consciousness (“blackouts”) management in adults and young people. London, U.K.: Royal College of Physicians; 2010.	
Neurologic	Don’t use opioids or butalbital for migraine except as a last resort. <i>American Academy of Neurology</i>	Opioid and butalbital treatment for migraine should be avoided because more effective, migraine-specific treatments are available. Frequent use of opioids and butalbital can worsen headaches. Opioids should be reserved for those with medical conditions precluding use of migraine-specific treatments or for those who fail these treatments.	U.S. Headache Consortium guidelines. http://www.americanheadachesociety.org/professional_resources/us_headache_consortium_guidelines/ . European Federation of Neurological Societies guideline on drug treatment of migraine. http://www.efns.org/fileadmin/user_upload/guidline_papers/EFNS_guideline_2009_drug_treatment_of_migraine.pdf . Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement. Headache, diagnosis and treatment of. https://www.icsi.org/guidelines__more/catalog_guidelines_and_more/catalog_guidelines/catalog_neurological_guidelines/headache/ .	Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement, U.S. Headache Consortium guidelines
Neurologic Orthopedic	Don’t use electromyography (EMG) and nerve conduction studies (NCS) to determine the cause of axial lumbar, thoracic or cervical spine pain. <i>North American Spine Society</i>	Electromyography and nerve conduction studies are measures of nerve and muscle function. They may be indicated when there is concern for a neurologic injury or disorder, such as the presence of leg or arm pain, numbness or weakness associated with compression of a spinal nerve. As spinal nerve injury is not a cause of neck, mid back, or low back pain, EMG/NCS have not been found to be helpful in diagnosing the underlying causes of axial lumbar, thoracic, and cervical spine pain.	Sandoval AE. Electrodiagnostics for low back pain. <i>Phys Med Rehabil Clin N Am</i> . 2010 Nov;21(4):767-76. NASS Evidence-Based Guideline: North American Spine Society (NASS). Diagnosis and treatment of degenerative lumbar spinal stenosis. Burr Ridge (IL): North American Spine Society (NASS); 2011. 104 p.	Expert consensus
Neurologic	Don’t perform neuroimaging studies in patients with stable headaches that meet criteria for migraine. <i>American Headache Society</i>	Numerous evidence-based guidelines agree that the risk of intracranial disease is not elevated in migraine. However, not all severe headaches are migraine. To avoid missing patients with more serious headaches, a migraine diagnosis should be made after a careful clinical history and an examination that documents the absence of any neurologic findings such as papilledema. Diagnostic criteria for migraine are contained in the International Classification of Headache Disorders.	Frishberg BM. The utility of neuroimaging in the evaluation of headache in patients with normal neurologic examination. <i>Neurology</i> . 1994 Jul;44(7):1191-7. Silberstein SD. Practice parameter: evidence-based guidelines for migraine headache (an evidence-based review): report of the Quality Standards Subcommittee of the American Academy of Neurology. <i>Neurology</i> . 2000 Sep 26;55(6):754-62. Neuroimaging for the evaluation of chronic headaches: an Evidence-based analysis. <i>Ont Health Technol Assess Ser</i> . 2010;10(26):1-57. Headache Classification Subcommittee of the International Headache Society. International classification of headache disorders. Cephalalgia. 2004 Sep 1;4(1):1-151.	AAN guideline

Neurologic	Don't perform CT imaging for headache when MRI is available, except in emergency settings. <i>American Headache Society</i>	When neuroimaging for headache is indicated, MRI is preferred over CT, except in emergency settings when hemorrhage, acute stroke, or head trauma are suspected. MRI is more sensitive than CT for the detection of neoplasm, vascular disease, posterior fossa and cervicomedullary lesions, and high and low intracranial pressure disorders. CT of the head is associated with substantial radiation exposure, which may elevate the risk of later cancers, while there are no known biologic risks from MRI.	Neuroimaging for the evaluation of chronic headaches: an evidence-based analysis. <i>Ont Health Technol Assess Ser.</i> 2010;10(26):1-57. Evans R. Diagnostic testing for migraine and other primary headaches. <i>Neurol Clin.</i> 2009 May;27(2):393-414. Semelka RC, Armao DM, Elias J Jr, Huda W. Imaging strategies to reduce the risk of radiation in CT studies, including selective substitution with MRI. <i>J Magn Reson Imaging.</i> 2007;25(5):900-09. Brenner DJ, Hall EJ. Computed tomography—an increasing source of radiation exposure. <i>N Engl J Med.</i> 2007;357(22):2277-84.	Expert consensus
Neurologic	Don't recommend surgical deactivation of migraine trigger points outside of a clinical trial. <i>American Headache Society</i>	The value of this form of “migraine surgery” is still a research question. Observational studies and a small controlled trial suggest possible benefit. However, large multicenter, randomized controlled trials with long-term follow-up are needed to provide accurate estimates of the effectiveness and harms of surgery. Long-term side effects are unknown but potentially a concern.	Guyuron B, Kriegler JS, Davis J, Amini SB. Comprehensive surgical treatment of migraine headaches. <i>Plast Reconstr Surg.</i> 2005;115:1-9. Guyuron B, Reed D, Kriegler JS, Davis J, Pashmini N, Amini S. A placebo-controlled surgical trial of the treatment of migraine headaches. <i>Plast Reconstr Surg.</i> 2009;124:461-8. Guyuron B, Kriegler JS, Davis J, Amini SB. Five-year outcome of surgical treatment of migraine headaches. <i>Plast Reconstr Surg.</i> 2011;127:603-8. American Headache Society urges caution in using any surgical intervention in migraine treatment. Position statement of the American Headache Society [Internet]. Mount Royal (NJ): American Headache Society; 2012 April 13 [cited 11 January 2013] Available from: www.americanheadachesociety.org/american_headache_society_urges_caution_in_using_any_surgical_intervention_in_migraine_treatment .	Expert consensus
Neurologic	Don't prescribe opioid or butalbital-containing medications as first-line treatment for recurrent headache disorders. <i>American Headache Society</i>	These medications impair alertness and may produce dependence or addiction syndromes, an undesirable risk for the young, otherwise healthy people most likely to have recurrent headaches. They increase the risk that episodic headache disorders such as migraine will become chronic, and may produce heightened sensitivity to pain. Use may be appropriate when other treatments fail or are contraindicated. Such patients should be monitored for the development of chronic headache.	Bigal ME, Lipton RB. Excessive opioid use and the development of chronic migraine. <i>Pain.</i> 2009 Apr;142(3):179-82. Bigal ME, Serrano D, Buse D, Scher AI, Stewart WF, Lipton RB. Migraine medications and evolution from episodic to chronic migraine: a longitudinal population-based study. <i>Headache.</i> 2008;48:1157-68. Scher AI, Stewart WF, Ricci JA, Lipton RB. Factors associated with the onset and remission of chronic daily headache in a population-based study. <i>Pain.</i> 2003;106(1-2):81-9. Katsarava Z, Schneeweiss S, Kurth T, Kroener U, Fritsche G, Eikermann A, Diener HC, Limmroth V. Incidence and predictors for chronicity of headache in patients with episodic migraine. <i>Neurology.</i> 2004 Mar;62(5):788-90.	Expert consensus
Neurologic	Don't recommend prolonged or frequent use of over-the-counter (OTC) pain medications	OTC medications are appropriate treatment for occasional headaches if they work reliably without intolerable side effects. Frequent use (especially of caffeine-containing medications)	Bigal ME, Serrano D, Buse D, Scher A, Stewart WF, Lipton RB. Acute migraine medications and evolution from episodic to chronic migraine: a longitudinal population-based study. <i>Headache.</i> 2008	AAN guideline

	for headache. <i>American Headache Society</i>	can lead to an increase in headaches, known as medication overuse headache (MOH). To avoid this, OTC medication should be limited to no more than two days per week. In addition to MOH, prolonged overuse of acetaminophen can cause liver damage, while overuse of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs can lead to gastrointestinal bleeding.	Sep;48(8):1157-68. Bigal ME, Lipton RB. Excessive acute migraine medication use and migraine progression. <i>Neurology</i> . 2008 Nov 25;71(22):1821-8. Zwart JA, Dyb G, Hagen K, Svebak S, Holmen J. Analgesic use: a predictor of chronic pain and medication overuse headache—the Head-HUNT Study. <i>Neurology</i> . 2003;61:160-4. Silberstein SD. Practice parameter: evidence-based guidelines for migraine headache (an evidence-based review): report of the Quality Standards Subcommittee of the American Academy of Neurology. <i>Neurology</i> . 2000;55:754-62.	
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Topic area(s)	Recommendation	Rationale and comments	References	Source
Obstetric	Don't schedule non-medically-indicated (elective) inductions of labor or cesarean deliveries before 39 weeks 0 days gestational age. <i>American Academy of Family Physicians</i> <i>American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists</i>	Delivery prior to 39 weeks 0 days has been shown to be associated with an increased risk of learning disabilities and a potential increase in morbidity and mortality. There are clear medical indications for delivery prior to 39 weeks and 0 days based on maternal and/or fetal conditions. A mature fetal lung test, in the absence of appropriate clinical criteria, is not an indication for delivery.	Main E, et al. Elimination of nonmedically indicated (elective) deliveries before 39 weeks gestational age. California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative Toolkit to Transform Maternity Care. Developed under contract #08-85012 with the California Department of Public Health; Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Division. First edition published by March of Dimes, July 2010.	California Department of Public Health
Obstetric	Avoid elective, non-medically-indicated inductions of labor between 39 weeks 0 days and 41 weeks 0 days unless the cervix is deemed favorable. <i>American Academy of Family Physicians</i> <i>American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists</i>	Ideally, labor should start on its own initiative whenever possible. Higher cesarean delivery rates result from inductions of labor when the cervix is unfavorable. Health care clinicians should discuss the risks and benefits with their patients before considering inductions of labor without medical indications.	American Academy of Pediatrics, American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Guidelines for Perinatal Care. 6th ed. Elk Grove Village, Ill.: AAP; Washington, DC: ACOG; 2007. American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Induction of labor. Practice bulletin no. 107. <i>Obstet Gynecol</i> . 2009;114:386-97. Gulmezoglu AM, et al. Induction of labour for improving birth outcomes for women at or beyond term. <i>Cochrane Database Syst Rev</i> . 2012;(6):CD004945.	AAP/ACOG guidelines, Cochrane Database of Systematic reviews

Topic area(s)	Recommendation	Rationale and comments	References	Source
Oncologic Gynecologic	Don't perform Pap tests for surveillance of women with a history of endometrial cancer. <i>Society of Gynecologic Oncology</i>	Pap testing of the top of the vagina in women treated for endometrial cancer does not improve detection of local recurrence. False-positive Pap smears in this group can lead to unnecessary procedures such as colposcopy and biopsy.	Salani R, Backes FJ, Fung MF, Holschneider CH, Parker LP, Bristow RE, Goff BA. Posttreatment surveillance and diagnosis of recurrence in women with gynecologic malignancies: Society of Gynecologic Oncologists recommendations. <i>Am J Obstet Gynecol.</i> 2011;204:466-78. Salani R, Nagel CI, Drennen E, Bristow RE. Recurrence patterns and surveillance for patients with early stage endometrial cancer. <i>Gynecol Oncol.</i> 2011;123:205-7. Bristow RE, Purinton SC, Santillan A, Diaz-Montes TP, Gardner GJ, Giuntoli RL II. Cost-effectiveness of routine vaginal cytology for endometrial cancer surveillance. <i>Gynecol Oncol.</i> 2006;103:709-13.	Society of Gynecologic Oncology guideline
Oncologic Gynecologic	Don't perform colposcopy in patients treated for cervical cancer with Pap tests of low-grade squamous intraepithelial lesion or less. <i>Society of Gynecologic Oncology</i>	Colposcopy for low-grade abnormalities in this group does not detect recurrence unless there is a visible lesion and is not cost effective.	Rimel BJ, Ferda A, Erwin J, Dewdney SB, Seamon L, Gao F, DeSimone C, Cotney KK, Huh W, Massad LS. Cervicovaginal cytology in the detection of recurrence after cervical cancer treatment. <i>Obstet Gynecol.</i> 2011;118:548-53. Tergas A HL, Guntupalli SR, Huh WK, Massad LS, Fader AN, Rimel BJ. A cost analysis of colposcopy following abnormal cytology in posttreatment surveillance for cervical cancer. <i>Gynecol Oncol.</i> 2013.	Expert consensus

Topic area(s)	Recommendation	Rationale and comments	References	Source
Ophthalmologic Infectious disease	Don't order antibiotics for adenoviral conjunctivitis. <i>American Academy of Ophthalmology</i>	Adenoviral conjunctivitis and bacterial conjunctivitis are different forms of infection that can be diagnosed by the ophthalmologist by clinical signs and symptoms, and if needed, by cultures. Antibiotics are of use for patients with bacterial conjunctivitis, particularly with moderate to severe bacterial conjunctivitis. However, they are not useful for adenoviral conjunctivitis and the overuse of antibiotics can lead to the emergence of bacteria that don't respond readily to available treatments. In cases of diagnostic uncertainty, patients may be followed closely to see if their condition resolves on its own or if further treatment is required.	American Academy of Ophthalmology. Conjunctivitis preferred practice pattern. 2011. http://www.aao.org/ppp . Sheikh A, et al. Antibiotics versus placebo for acute bacterial conjunctivitis. <i>Cochrane Database Syst Rev.</i> 2006;(2):CD001211.	Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews
Ophthalmologic Surgical	Don't perform preoperative medical tests for eye surgery unless there are specific	For many, preoperative tests are not necessary and add costs because eye surgeries are not lengthy and don't pose serious risks. An electrocardiogram should be ordered if patients	Schein OD, et al. The value of routine preoperative medical testing before cataract surgery. <i>N Engl J Med.</i> 2000;342:168-75. Keay L, et al. Routine preoperative medical testing for cataract	Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

	<p>medical indications.</p> <p><i>American Academy of Ophthalmology</i></p>	<p>have heart disease. A blood glucose test should be ordered if patients have diabetes. A potassium test should be ordered if patients are on diuretics. In general, patients scheduled for surgery do not need medical tests unless the history or physical examination indicates the need for a test (e.g., like the existence of conditions noted above, heart disease, diabetes, use of diuretics, etc.). Institutional policies should consider these issues.</p>	<p>surgery. Cochrane Database Syst Rev. 2009;(2):CD007293.</p> <p>Bartley GB, et al. Preoperative medical examinations for patients undergoing ophthalmic surgery. <i>Am J Ophthalmol.</i> 1991;112:725-7.</p> <p>Imasogie N, et al. Elimination of routine testing in patients undergoing cataract surgery allows substantial savings in laboratory costs. A brief report. <i>Can J Anesth.</i> 2003;50:246-8.</p> <p>Bass EB, et al. Do ophthalmologists, anesthesiologists and internists agree about preoperative testing in health patients undergoing cataract surgery? <i>Arch Ophthalmol.</i> 1995;113:1248-56.</p>	
<p>Ophthalmologic</p> <p>Pediatric</p>	<p>Don't put asymptomatic children in weak reading glasses.</p> <p><i>American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus</i></p>	<p>Low "farsightedness" is a normal finding in children. Children can easily focus to see at near, with their large accommodative reserve. If the reading glasses prescription is low (less than +2.00 diopters), their innate ability to focus can be used to see clearly at both distance and near. If the eyes are not crossed, prescription of weak glasses is generally not necessary.</p>	<p>Donahue SP. How often are spectacles prescribed to "normal" preschool children? <i>J AAPOS.</i> 2004;8:224-9.</p>	<p>Expert consensus</p>
<p>Ophthalmologic</p> <p>Pediatric</p> <p>Preventive medicine</p>	<p>Annual comprehensive eye exams are unnecessary for children who pass routine vision screening assessments.</p> <p><i>American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus</i></p>	<p>Early childhood vision screening done as part of routine well-child care accurately identifies most children with significant eye problems that are otherwise asymptomatic. Annual comprehensive eye examinations increase financial costs, a child's absence from school and parental time away from work, with no evidence that the comprehensive exam detects asymptomatic vision problems better than timely, methodical and recurrent screening efforts. Comprehensive eye exams are appropriate for children who do not pass a vision screening.</p>	<p>AAO/AAP/AAPOS/AACO. Eye examination in infants, children, and young adults by pediatricians. <i>May 2007. Pediatrics.</i> 2007;120:683-4.</p> <p>AAO/AAP/AAPOS. Vision screening for infants and children: a joint statement of the American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus and the American Academy of Ophthalmology. 2007. Available from: http://www.aapos.org/client_data/files/2011/337_visionscreeningforinfantsandchildren2011.pdf.</p> <p>AAPOS vision screening recommendations. Available from: http://www.aapos.org/client_data/files/2013/595_aapos_visscreen.pdf.</p>	<p>American Academy of Ophthalmology/AAP/American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus guideline</p>
<p>Ophthalmologic</p>	<p>Don't routinely order imaging for all patients with double vision.</p> <p><i>American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus</i></p>	<p>Many people with double vision, or diplopia, want a CT scan or MRI to see if it is caused by a brain tumor or other serious problem. Much of the time, following a comprehensive eye evaluation, neither test is necessary. The most common causes of double vision are refractive error, dry eyes, cataract and non-neurologic eye misalignment; all readily diagnosed by a complete exam. Only a minority of cases of diplopia result from problems within the brain.</p>	<p>Lee MS. Diplopia: diagnosis and management. <i>American Academy of Ophthalmology Focal points module.</i> 2007:12.</p>	<p>Expert consensus</p>

Topic area(s)	Recommendation	Rationale and comments	References	Source
Orthopedic	<p>Don't perform imaging for low back pain within the first six weeks unless red flags are present.</p> <p>NOTE: <i>Red flags include, but are not limited to, severe or progressive neurologic deficits or when serious underlying conditions such as osteomyelitis are suspected.</i></p> <p><i>American Academy of Family Physicians</i></p> <p><i>American College of Physicians</i></p>	<p>Imaging of the lumbar spine before six weeks does not improve outcomes, but does increase costs. Low back pain is the fifth most common reason for all physician visits.</p>	<p>Agency for Health Care Policy and Research Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews</p>	<p>Agency for Health Care Policy and Research, Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews</p>
Orthopedic	<p>Don't use glucosamine and chondroitin to treat patients with symptomatic osteoarthritis of the knee.</p> <p><i>American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons</i></p>	<p>Both glucosamine and chondroitin sulfate do not provide relief for patients with symptomatic osteoarthritis of the knee.</p>	<p>American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons. Clinical Practice Guideline on the Treatment of Osteoarthritis of the Knee (Non-Arthroplasty). Rosemont (IL): American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, 2008 Dec. Available from: http://www.aaos.org/research/guidelines/OAKguideline.pdf.</p> <p>Altman RD, Marcussen KC. Effects of a ginger extract on knee pain in patients with osteoarthritis. <i>Arthritis Rheum.</i> 2001;44(11):2531-8.</p> <p>Bourgeois P, Chales G, Dehais J, Delcambre B, Kuntz JL, Rozenberg S. Efficacy and tolerability of chondroitin sulfate 1200 mg/day versus chondroitin sulfate 3 x 400 mg/day versus placebo. <i>Osteoarthritis Cartilage.</i> 1998;6 Suppl A:25-30.</p> <p>Bucsi L, Poor G. Efficacy and tolerability of oral chondroitin sulfate as a symptomatic slow-acting drug for osteoarthritis (SYSADOA) in the treatment of knee osteoarthritis. <i>Osteoarthritis Cartilage.</i> 1998;6 Suppl A:31-6.</p> <p>Cibere J, Kopec JA, Thorne A, Singer J, Canvin J, Robinson DB, Pope J, Hong P, Grant E, Esdaile JM. Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled glucosamine discontinuation trial in knee osteoarthritis. <i>Arthritis Rheum.</i> 2004;51(5):738-45.</p> <p>Clegg DO, Reda DJ, Harris CL, Klein MA, O'Dell JR, Hooper MM, Bradley JD, Bingham CO, Weisman MH, Jackson CG, Lane NE, Cush</p>	<p>RCTs</p>

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<p>Orthopedic</p>	<p>Don't use lateral wedge insoles to treat patients with symptomatic medial compartment osteoarthritis of the knee.</p> <p><i>American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons</i></p>	<p>In patients with symptomatic osteoarthritis of the knee, the use of lateral wedge or neutral insoles does not improve pain or functional outcomes. Comparisons between lateral and neutral heel wedges were investigated, as were comparisons between lateral wedged insoles and lateral wedged insoles with subtalar strapping. The systematic review concludes that there is only limited evidence for the effectiveness of lateral heel wedges and related orthoses. In addition, the possibility exists that those who do not use them may experience fewer symptoms from osteoarthritis of the knee.</p>	<p>American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons. Clinical practice guideline on the treatment of osteoarthritis of the knee (non-arthroplasty). Rosemont (IL): American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, 2008 Dec. Available from: http://www.aaos.org/research/guidelines/OAKguideline.pdf.</p> <p>Baker K, Goggins J, Xie H, Szumowski K, Lavalley M, Hunter DJ, Felson DT. A randomized crossover trial of a wedged insole for treatment of knee osteoarthritis. <i>Arthritis Rheum.</i> 2007;56(4):1198-203.</p> <p>Bennell KL, Bowles KA, Payne C, Cicuttini F, Williamson E, Forbes A, Hanna F, Davies-Tuck M, Harris A, Hinman RS. Lateral wedge insoles for medial knee osteoarthritis: 12 month randomized controlled trial. <i>BMJ.</i> 2011;342:d2912.</p> <p>Brouwer RW, Jakma TS, Verhagen AP, Verhaar JA, Bierma-Zeinstra SM. Braces and orthoses for treating osteoarthritis of the knee. <i>Cochrane Database Syst Rev.</i> 2005;1:CD004020.</p> <p>Maillefert JF, Hudry C, Baron G, Kieffert P, Bourgeois P, Lechevalier D, Coutaux A, Dougados M. Laterally elevated wedged insoles in the treatment of medial knee osteoarthritis: a prospective randomized controlled study. <i>Osteoarthritis Cartilage.</i> 2001;9(8):738-45.</p> <p>Nigg BM, Emery C, Hiemstra LA. Unstable shoe construction and reduction of pain in osteoarthritis patients. <i>Med Sci Sports Exerc.</i> 2006;38(10):1701-8.</p> <p>Pham T, Maillefert JF, Hudry C, Kieffert P, Bourgeois P, Lechevalier D, Dougados M. Laterally elevated wedged insoles in the treatment of medial knee osteoarthritis. A two-year prospective randomized controlled study. <i>Osteoarthritis Cartilage.</i> 2004;12(1):46-55.</p> <p>Richmond J, Hunter D, Irrgang J, Jones MH, Levy B, Marx R, Snyder-Mackler L, Watters WC, Haralson RH, Turkelson CM, Wies JL, Boyer KM, Anderson S, St Andre J, Sluka P, McGowan R; American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons. Treatment of osteoarthritis of the knee (nonarthroplasty), JAAOS. 2009;17(9):591-600.</p> <p>Toda Y, Segal N, Kato A, Yamamoto S, Irie M. Effect of a novel insole on the subtalar joint of patients with medial compartment osteoarthritis of the knee. <i>J Rheumatol.</i> 2001;28:2705-10.</p> <p>Toda Y, Tsukimura N. A comparative study on the effect of the insole materials with subtalar strapping in patients with medial compartment osteoarthritis of the knee. <i>Mod Rheumatol</i> 2004;14(6):459-65.</p> <p>Toda Y, Segal N. Usefulness of an insole with subtalar strapping for analgesia in patients with medial compartment osteoarthritis of the knee. <i>Arthritis Rheum.</i> 2002;47:468-73.</p>	<p>Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews</p>
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Orthopedic	<p>Don't recommend advanced imaging (e.g., MRI) of the spine within the first six weeks in patients with nonspecific acute low back pain in the absence of red flags.</p> <p><i>North American Spine Society</i></p>	<p>In the absence of red flags, advanced imaging within the first six weeks has not been found to improve outcomes, but does increase costs. Red flags include, but are not limited to: trauma history, unintentional weight loss, immunosuppression, history of cancer, intravenous drug use, steroid use, osteoporosis, age > 50, focal neurologic deficit, and progression of symptoms.</p>	<p>Chou R, Qaseem A, Snow V, Casey D, Cross JT Jr, Shekelle P, Owens DK; Clinical Efficacy Assessment Subcommittee of the American College of Physicians; American College of Physicians; American Pain Society Low Back Pain Guidelines Panel. Diagnosis and treatment of low back pain: a joint clinical practice guideline from the American College of Physicians and the American Pain Society. <i>Ann Intern Med.</i> 2007 Oct 2;147(7):478-91.</p> <p>Forseen S, Corey A. Clinical decision support and acute low back pain: evidence-based order sets. <i>J Am Coll Radiol.</i> 2012 Oct;9(10):704-12.</p>	American College of Physicians/American Pain Society guideline
Orthopedic	<p>Don't recommend bed rest for more than 48 hours when treating low back pain.</p> <p><i>North American Spine Society</i></p>	<p>In patients with low back pain, bed rest exceeding 48 hours in duration has not been shown to be of benefit.</p>	<p>Dahm KT, Brurberg KG, Jamtvedt G, Hagen KB. Advice to rest in bed versus advice to stay active for acute low-back pain and sciatica. <i>Cochrane Database Syst Rev.</i> 2010 Jun 16;(6):CD007612.</p> <p>North American Spine Society. Acute low back pain [Internet]. Blue Ridge (IL): North American Spine Society; 2009. [cited 2012 November 7]. Available from: http://www.knowyourback.org/Pages/SpinalConditions/LowBackPain/Acute.aspx.</p>	Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

Topic area(s)	Recommendation	Rationale and comments	References	Source
Otolaryngologic Infectious disease	<p>Don't routinely prescribe antibiotics for acute, mild to moderate sinusitis unless symptoms (which must include purulent nasal secretions <i>and</i> maxillary pain or facial or dental tenderness to percussion) last at least seven days <i>or</i> symptoms worsen after initial clinical</p>	<p>Most cases of maxillary sinusitis in the ambulatory setting are caused by a viral infection that will resolve on its own. Despite consistent recommendations to the contrary, antibiotics are prescribed in more than 80% of outpatient visits for acute sinusitis. Sinusitis accounts for 16 million office visits and \$5.8 billion in annual health care costs.</p>	<p>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention <i>Annals of Internal Medicine</i></p> <p>Ahovuo-Saloranta A, et al. Antibiotics for acute maxillary sinusitis. <i>Cochrane Database Syst Rev.</i> 2008;(2):CD000243.</p>	<i>Annals of Internal Medicine</i> , Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

	<p>improvement.</p> <p><i>American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology</i></p> <p><i>American Academy of Family Physicians</i></p> <p><i>American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery Foundation</i></p>			
<p>Otolaryngologic</p> <p>Infectious disease</p>	<p>Don't routinely obtain radiographic imaging for patients who meet diagnostic criteria for uncomplicated acute rhinosinusitis.</p> <p><i>American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery Foundation</i></p>	<p>Imaging of the paranasal sinuses, including plain film radiography, CT, and MRI, is unnecessary in patients who meet the clinical diagnostic criteria for uncomplicated acute rhinosinusitis. Acute rhino-sinusitis is defined as up to four weeks of purulent nasal drainage (anterior, posterior, or both) accompanied by nasal obstruction, facial pain-pressure-fullness, or both. Imaging is costly and may expose patients to radiation. Imaging may be appropriate in patients with a complication of acute rhinosinusitis, patients with comorbidities that predispose them to complications, and patients in whom an alternative diagnosis is suspected.</p>	<p>Rosenfeld RM, et al. Clinical practice guideline: adult sinusitis. <i>Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg.</i> 2007;137(3 suppl):S1-31.</p>	<p>AAO-HNSF practice guideline</p>
<p>Otolaryngologic</p> <p>Infectious disease</p>	<p>Don't prescribe oral antibiotics for uncomplicated external otitis.</p> <p><i>American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery Foundation</i></p>	<p>Oral antibiotics have significant adverse effects and have been shown to be no more effective than topical antibiotics. Avoidance of oral antibiotics can reduce the spread of antibiotic resistance and the risk of opportunistic infections.</p>	<p>Rosenfeld RM, et al. Clinical practice guideline: acute otitis externa. <i>Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg.</i> 2006;134(4 suppl):S4-23.</p>	<p>AAO-HNSF practice guideline</p>
<p>Otolaryngologic</p> <p>Infectious disease</p> <p>Pediatric</p>	<p>Don't prescribe oral antibiotics for uncomplicated tympanostomy tube otorrhea.²¹</p>	<p>Oral antibiotics have significant adverse effects and have been shown to be no more effective than topical antibiotics. Avoidance of oral antibiotics can reduce the spread of antibiotic resistance and the risk of opportunistic infections.</p>	<p>Goldblatt EL, et al. Topical ofloxacin versus systemic amoxicillin/clavulanate in purulent otorrhea in children with tympanostomy tubes. <i>Int J Pediatr Otorhinolaryngol.</i> 1998;46(1-2):91-101.</p>	<p>RCT</p>

	<i>American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery Foundation</i>			
Otolaryngologic	Don't order CT scan of the head/brain for sudden hearing loss. <i>American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery Foundation</i>	CT scanning is expensive, exposes the patient to radiation, and offers no useful information that would improve initial management. CT scanning may be appropriate in patients with focal neurologic findings, a history of trauma, or chronic ear disease.	Stachler RJ, et al. Clinical practice guideline: sudden hearing loss. <i>Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg.</i> 2012;146(3 suppl):S1-35.	AAO-HNSF practice guideline
Otolaryngologic	Don't obtain CT or MRI in patients with a primary complaint of hoarseness prior to examining the larynx. <i>American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery Foundation</i>	Examination of the larynx with mirror or fiberoptic scope is the primary method for evaluating patients with hoarseness. Imaging is unnecessary in most patients and is both costly and has potential for radiation exposure. After laryngoscopy, evidence supports the use of imaging to further evaluate 1) vocal fold paralysis or 2) a mass or lesion of the larynx.	Schwartz SR, et al. Clinical practice guideline: hoarseness (dysphonia). <i>Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg.</i> 2009;141(3 suppl 2):S1-31.	AAO-HNSF practice guideline

Topic area(s)	Recommendation	Rationale and comments	References	Source
Pediatric	Cough and cold medicines should not be prescribed or recommended for respiratory illnesses in children younger than four years. <i>American Academy of Pediatrics</i>	Research has shown these products offer little benefit to young children, and can have potentially serious side effects. Many cough and cold products for children have more than one ingredient, increasing the chance of accidental overdose if combined with another product.	Carr BC. Efficacy, abuse, and toxicity of over-the-counter cough and cold medications in the pediatric population. <i>Curr Opin Pediatr.</i> 2006;18(2):184-8. Irwin RS, et al. Diagnosis and management of cough executive summary: ACCP evidence-based clinical practice guidelines. <i>Chest.</i> 2006;129(1 suppl):1S-23S. Isbister GK, et al. Restricting cough and cold medications in children. <i>J Paediatr Child Health.</i> 2012;48(2):91-8. Schaeffer MK, et al. Adverse events from cough and cold medication in children. <i>Pediatrics.</i> 2008;121(4):783-82. Sharfstein JM, et al. Over the counter but no longer under the radar—pediatric cough and cold medications. <i>N Engl J Med.</i> 2007;357(23):2321-4.	ACCP guideline
Pediatric Infectious disease Otolaryng-	Don't prescribe antibiotics for otitis media in children aged two to 12 years with nonsevere symptoms where the observation	The “observation option” refers to deferring antibacterial treatment of selected children for 48 to 72 hours and limiting management to symptomatic relief. The decision to observe or treat is based on the child's age, diagnostic certainty and illness severity. To observe a	Lieberthal AS, Carroll AE, Chonmaitree T, Ganiats TG, Hoberman A, Jackson MA, Joffe MD, Miller DT, Rosenfeld RM, Sevilla XD, Schwartz RH, Thomas PA, Tunkel DE, American Academy of Pediatrics. The diagnosis and management of acute otitis media. <i>Pediatrics.</i> 2013 Mar;131(3):e964-99.	AAP guideline

gologic	option is reasonable. <i>American Academy of Family Physicians</i>	child without initial antibacterial therapy, it is important that the parent or caregiver has a ready means of communicating with the clinician. There also must be a system in place that permits reevaluation of the child.	Venekamp RP, Sanders S, Glasziou PP, Del Mar CB, Rovers MM. Antibiotics for acute otitis media in children. <i>Cochrane Database Syst Rev.</i> 2013 Jan 31;1:CD000219.	
Pediatric Infectious disease Urologic	Don't perform voiding cystourethrogram routinely in first febrile urinary tract infection (UTI) in children aged two to 24 months. <i>American Academy of Family Physicians</i>	The risks associated with radiation (plus the discomfort and expense of the procedure) outweigh the risk of delaying the detection of the few children with correctable genitourinary abnormalities until their second UTI.	Subcommittee on Urinary Tract Infection, Steering Committee on Quality Improvement and Management, Roberts KB. Urinary tract infection: clinical practice guideline for the diagnosis and management of the initial UTI in febrile infants and children 2 to 24 months. <i>Pediatrics.</i> 2011 Sep;128(3):595-610. American College of Radiology, Society for Pediatric Radiology, Society of Nuclear Medicine. <i>ACR-SPR-SNM practice guideline for the performance of adult and pediatric radionuclide cystography</i> [Internet]. Reston (VA): American College of Radiology; 2010. 5 p. National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence, National Collaborating Centre for Women's and Children's Health (UK). <i>Urinary tract infection in children: diagnosis, treatment and long-term management.</i> London: RCOG Press; August 2007. 429 p. Westwood ME, Whiting PF, Cooper J, Watt IS, Kleijnen J. Further investigation of confirmed urinary tract infection (UTI) in children under five years: a systematic review. <i>BMC Pediatrics.</i> 2005 Mar 15;5:2.	AAP, ACR, and NICE guidelines
Pediatric Preventive medicine Orthopedic	Don't screen adolescents for scoliosis. <i>American Academy of Family Physicians</i>	There is no good evidence that screening asymptomatic adolescents detects idiopathic scoliosis at an earlier stage than detection without screening. The potential harms of screening and treating adolescents include unnecessary follow-up visits and evaluations due to false-positive test results and psychological adverse effects.	American Academy of Family Physicians. <i>Scoliosis</i> [Internet]. Leawood (KS): American Academy of Family Physicians; 2004 [cited 2013 Jul 23]. Available from: http://www.aafp.org/patient-care/clinical-recommendations/all/scoliosis.html . U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. <i>Screening for idiopathic scoliosis in adolescents.</i> Rockville (MD): U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. 2004 Jun. 3 p.	USPSTF
Pediatric Ophthalmologic	Don't recommend vision therapy for patients with dyslexia. <i>American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus</i>	Dyslexia is a language-based learning disorder in which a person has trouble understanding written words. This occurs because the brain has a problem distinguishing and separating the sounds in spoken words, called a phonological deficit. Dyslexia is not due to a vision disorder. Children with dyslexia do not have any more visual problems than children without dyslexia. Vision therapy does not work for this population because the eyes are not the problem.	Shaywitz SE. <i>Overcoming dyslexia: a new and complete science-based program for overcoming reading problems at any level.</i> New York, NY: Knopf; 2003. Jennings AJ. Behavioural optometry—a critical review. <i>Optom Pract.</i> 2000;1:67-78. Barrett B. A critical evaluation of the evidence supporting the practice of behavioural vision therapy. <i>Ophthalmic Physiol Opt.</i> 2009;29:4-25. Fletcher JM, Currie D. Vision efficiency interventions and reading disability. <i>Perspectives on Language and Literacy.</i> 2011;37:21-4. Handler SM, Fierson WM; Section on Ophthalmology and Council on Children with Disabilities, American Academy of Ophthalmology, American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus,	American Academy of Ophthalmology/ American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus /American Association of Certified Orthoptists

			American Association of Certified Orthoptists. Joint technical report—learning disabilities, dyslexia, and vision. <i>Pediatrics</i> . 2011;127:e818-56. Available at: http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/127/3/e818.full.pdf+html	guideline
Pediatric Emergency medicine	Avoid instituting intravenous (IV) fluids before doing a trial of oral rehydration therapy in uncomplicated emergency department cases of mild to moderate dehydration in children. <i>American College of Emergency Physicians</i>	Many children who come to the emergency department with dehydration require fluid replacement. To avoid the pain and potential complications of an IV catheter, it is preferable to give these fluids by mouth. Giving a medication for nausea may allow patients with nausea and vomiting to accept fluid replenishment orally. This strategy can eliminate the need for an IV. It is best to give these medications early during the emergency department visit, rather than later, in order to allow time for them to work optimally.	Szajewska H, Gieruszczak-Bialek D, Dylag M. Meta-analysis: ondansetron for vomiting in acute gastroenteritis in children. <i>Aliment Pharmacol Ther</i> . 2007;25:393-400. Roslund G, Hepps T, McQuillen K. The role of oral ondansetron in children with vomiting as a result of acute gastritis/gastroenteritis who have failed oral rehydration therapy: a randomized controlled trial. <i>Ann Emerg Med</i> . 2008;52(1); 22-9. Hartling L, Bellemare S, Wiebe N, Russell K, Klassen TP, Craig W. Oral versus intravenous rehydration for treating dehydration due to gastroenteritis in children. <i>Cochrane Database System Rev</i> . 2006;19(3):CD004390.	Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

Topic area(s)	Recommendation	Rationale and comments	References	Source
Preventive medicine Gynecologic Oncologic	Don't perform routine annual cervical cytology screening (Pap tests) in women 30 to 65 years of age. <i>American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologist</i>	In average-risk women, annual cervical cytology screening has been shown to offer no advantage over screening performed at three-year intervals. However, a well-woman visit should occur annually for patients with their health care provider to discuss concerns, problems, and have appropriate screening, with consideration of a pelvic examination.	Boulware LE, et al. Systematic review: the value of the periodic health evaluation. <i>Ann Intern Med</i> . 2007;146:289-300. Saslow D, et al. American Cancer Society, American Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology, and American Society for Clinical Pathology screening guidelines for the prevention and early detection of cervical cancer. <i>CA Cancer J Clin</i> . 2012;62:147-72. American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Well-woman visit. Committee opinion no. 534. <i>Obstet Gynecol</i> 2012;120:421-4. American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Screening for cervical cancer. Practice bulletin no. 131. <i>Obstet Gynecol</i> . 2012;120(5):122-38.	ACS/ASCCP/ASCP, ACOG guidelines
Preventive medicine Gynecologic Oncologic	Don't screen women younger than 30 years for cervical cancer with HPV testing, alone or in combination with cytology. <i>American Academy of Family Physicians</i>	There is adequate evidence that the harms of HPV testing, alone or in combination with cytology, in women younger than 30 years are moderate. The harms include more frequent testing and invasive diagnostic procedures such as colposcopy and cervical biopsy. Abnormal screening test results are also associated with psychological harms, anxiety, and distress.	American Academy of Family Physicians. Screening for cervical cancer policy. http://www.aafp.org/online/en/home/clinical/exam/cervicalcancer.html . U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. Screening for cervical cancer. http://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/uspscerv.htm . Vesco KK, et al. Screening for cervical cancer: a systematic evidence review for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. Rockville, Md.: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; 2011. http://preview.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/bookshelf/booktest/br.fcgi?book=es86 .	USPSTF
Preventive medicine	Don't screen women older than 65 years for cervical cancer who have	There is adequate evidence that screening women older than 65 years for cervical cancer who have had adequate prior screening and	American Academy of Family Physicians. Screening for cervical cancer policy. http://www.aafp.org/online/en/home/clinical/exam/cervicalcancer.html	USPSTF

Gynecologic Oncologic	had adequate prior screening and are not otherwise at high risk for cervical cancer. <i>American Academy of Family Physicians</i>	are not otherwise at high risk provides little to no benefit.	U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. Screening for cervical cancer. http://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/uspstf/uspstfscerv.htm . Vesco KK, et al. Screening for cervical cancer: a systematic evidence review for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. Rockville, Md.: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; 2011. http://preview.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/bookshelf/booktest/br.fcgi?book=es86 .	
Preventive medicine Gynecologic Oncologic	Don't perform Pap tests in patients younger than 21 years or in women after hysterectomy for benign disease. <i>American Academy of Family Physicians</i>	Most dysplasia in adolescents regresses spontaneously; therefore, screening Pap tests in this age group can lead to unnecessary anxiety, morbidity, and cost. Pap tests have low yield in women after hysterectomy for benign disease, and there is poor evidence for improved outcomes.	U.S. Preventive Services Task Force American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists	ACOG (for age), USPSTF (for hysterectomy)
Preventive medicine Gynecologic Oncologic	Don't screen for ovarian cancer in asymptomatic women at average risk. <i>American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists</i>	In population studies, there is only fair evidence that screening of asymptomatic women with serum cancer antigen 125 level and/or transvaginal ultrasound can detect ovarian cancer at an earlier stage than it can be detected in the absence of screening. Because of the low prevalence of ovarian cancer and the invasive nature of interventions required after a positive screening test, the potential harms of screening outweigh the potential benefits.	Screening for ovarian cancer: recommendation statement. <i>Ann Fam Med</i> . 2004;2:260-2. Barton MB, et al. Screening for ovarian cancer: evidence update for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force reaffirmation recommendation statement. AHRQ publication no. 12-05165-EF3. Rockville, Md.: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; April 2012. Partridge E, et al. Results from four rounds of ovarian cancer screening in a randomized trial. <i>Obstet Gynecol</i> 2009;113:775-82. American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. The role of the obstetrician-gynecologist in the early detection of epithelial ovarian cancer. Committee opinion no. 477. <i>Obstet Gynecol</i> . 2011;117:742-6.	USPSTF
Preventive medicine Oncologic	Don't use positron emission tomography/CT for cancer screening in healthy individuals. <i>Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging</i>	The likelihood of finding cancer in healthy adults is extremely low (around 1%), based on studies using positron emission tomography/CT for screening. Imaging without clear clinical indication is likely to identify harmless findings that lead to more tests, biopsy, or unnecessary surgery.	Lee JW, et al. Cancer screening using 18F-FDG PET/CT in Korean asymptomatic volunteers: a preliminary report. <i>Ann Nucl Med</i> . 2009;23(7):685-91. Minamimoto R, et al. Analysis of various malignant neoplasms detected by FDG-PET cancer screening program: based on a Japanese Nationwide Survey. <i>Ann Nucl Med</i> . 2011;25(1):45-54.	Expert consensus
Preventive medicine Nephrologic Oncologic	Don't perform routine cancer screening for dialysis patients with limited life expectancies without signs or symptoms.	Due to high mortality among end-stage renal disease patients, routine cancer screening—including mammography, colonoscopy, prostate-specific antigen, and Pap smears—in dialysis patients with limited life expectancy, such as those who are not transplant	U.S. Renal Data System. http://www.usrds.org . American Society of Nephrology American Society of Transplantation Archives of Internal Medicine Seminars in Dialysis	American Society of Nephrology

	<i>American Society of Nephrology</i>	candidates, is not cost-effective and does not improve survival. False-positive tests can cause harm: unnecessary procedures, overtreatment, misdiagnosis, and increased stress. An individualized approach to cancer screening incorporating patients' cancer risk factors, expected survival, and transplant status is required.		
Preventive medicine Gastro-enterologic Oncologic	Don't repeat colorectal cancer screening (by any method) for 10 years after a high-quality colonoscopy is negative in average-risk individuals. <i>American Gastroenterological Association</i>	A screening colonoscopy every 10 years is the recommended interval for adults without increased risk of colorectal cancer, beginning at 50 years of age. Published studies indicate the risk of cancer is low for 10 years after a high-quality colonoscopy fails to detect neoplasia in this population. Therefore, following a high-quality colonoscopy with normal results the next interval for any colorectal screening should be 10 years following that normal colonoscopy.	Winawer S, et. al. Colorectal cancer screening and surveillance: clinical guidelines and rationale—update based on new evidence. <i>Gastroenterology</i> . 2003;124(2):544-60. Rex DK, et. al. Quality indicators for colonoscopy. <i>Gastrointest Endosc</i> . 2006;63(4 suppl):S16-28.	U.S. Multi-Society Task Force on Colorectal Cancer
Preventive medicine Rheumatologic	Don't use DEXA to screen for osteoporosis in women younger than 65 years or in men younger than 70 years with no risk factors. NOTE: Risk factors include, but are not limited to, fractures after 50 years of age, prolonged exposure to corticosteroids, diet deficient in calcium or vitamin D, cigarette smoking, alcoholism, and thin/small build. <i>American Academy of Family Physicians</i>	Not cost-effective in younger, low-risk patients, but cost-effective in older patients.	U.S. Preventive Services Task Force American Association of Clinical Endocrinology American College of Preventive Medicine National Osteoporosis Foundation	American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists, American College of Preventive Medicine, NOF, USPSTF
Preventive medicine Rheumatologic	Don't routinely repeat DEXA scans more often than once every two years.	Initial screening for osteoporosis should be performed according to NOF recommendations. The optimal interval for repeating DEXA scans is uncertain, but	Grossman JM, et al. American College of Rheumatology 2010 recommendations for the prevention and treatment of glucocorticoid-induced osteoporosis. <i>Arthritis Care Res (Hoboken)</i> . 2010;62(11):1515-26.	USPSTF, NOF

	<i>American College of Rheumatology</i>	because changes in bone density over short intervals are often smaller than the measurement error of most DEXA scanners, frequent testing (e.g., < 2 years) is unnecessary in most patients. Even in high-risk patients receiving drug therapy for osteoporosis, DEXA changes do not always correlate with probability of fracture. Therefore, DEXA should only be repeated if the result will influence clinical management or if rapid changes in bone density are expected. Recent evidence also suggests that healthy women 67 years and older with normal bone mass may not need additional DEXA testing for up to 10 years provided osteoporosis risk factors do not significantly change.	Clinician's guide to prevention and treatment of osteoporosis., Washington, D.C.: National Osteoporosis Foundation; 2008:1–36. U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. Screening for osteoporosis: recommendation statement. <i>Ann Intern Med</i> ;154(5):356-64.	
Preventive medicine Endocrinologic	Don't perform population-based screening for 25-OH-vitamin D deficiency. <i>American Society for Clinical Pathology</i>	Vitamin D deficiency is common in many populations, particularly in patients at higher latitudes, during winter months, and in those with limited sun exposure. Over-the-counter vitamin D supplements and increased summer sun exposure are sufficient for most otherwise healthy patients. Laboratory testing is appropriate in higher risk patients when results will be used to institute more aggressive therapy (e.g., osteoporosis, chronic kidney disease, malabsorption, some infections, obese individuals).	Sattar N, et al. Increasing requests for vitamin D measurement: costly, confusing, and without credibility. <i>Lancet</i> . 2012;379:95-6. Bilinski K, et al. The rising cost of vitamin D testing in Australia: time to establish guidelines for testing. <i>Med J Aust</i> . 2012;197(2):90. Lu C. Pathology consultation on vitamin D testing: clinical indications for 25(OH) vitamin D measurement [letter to the editor]. <i>Am J Clin Pathol</i> . 2012;137:831. Holick M, et al. Evaluation, treatment, and prevention of vitamin D deficiency: an Endocrine Society clinical practice guideline. <i>J Clin Endocrinol Metab</i> . 2011;96(7):1911-30.	Endocrine Society guideline
Preventive medicine Neurologic	Don't screen for carotid artery stenosis in asymptomatic adult patients. <i>American Academy of Family Physicians</i>	There is good evidence that for adult patients with no symptoms of carotid artery stenosis the harms of screening outweigh the benefits. Screening could lead to nonindicated surgeries that result in serious harms, including death, stroke, and myocardial infarction.	American Academy of Family Physicians. Screening for carotid artery stenosis policy. http://www.aafp.org/online/en/home/clinical/exam/carotidartery.html . U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. Screening for carotid artery stenosis. http://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/uspsacas.htm . Wolff T, et al. Screening for asymptomatic carotid artery stenosis. Evidence synthesis no. 50. Rockville, Md.: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; 2007. http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK33504/ .	USPSTF
Preventive medicine	Avoid colorectal cancer screening tests on asymptomatic patients	Screening for colorectal cancer has been shown to reduce the mortality associated with this common disease; colonoscopy provides	Lieberman DA, Rex DK, Winawer SJ, Giardiello FM, Johnson DA, Levin TR; United States Multi-Society Task Force on Colorectal Cancer. Guidelines for colonoscopy surveillance after screening and	U.S. Multi-Society Task Force on

<p>Gastro- enterologic</p> <p>Geriatric</p>	<p>with a life expectancy of less than 10 years and no family or personal history of colorectal neoplasia.</p> <p><i>American College of Surgeons</i></p>	<p>the opportunity to detect and remove adenomatous polyps, the precursor lesion to many cancers, thereby reducing the incidence of the disease later in life. However, screening and surveillance modalities are inappropriate when the risks exceed the benefit. The risk of colonoscopy increases with increasing age and comorbidities. The risk/benefit ratio of colorectal cancer screening or surveillance for any patient should be individualized based on the results of previous screening examinations, family history, predicted risk of the intervention, life expectancy, and patient preference.</p>	<p>polypectomy: a consensus update by the US Multi-Society Task Force on Colorectal Cancer. <i>Gastroenterology</i>. 2012;143(3):844-57.</p> <p>Warren JL, Klabunde CN, Mariotto AB, Meekins A, Topor M, Brown ML, Ransohoff DF. Adverse events after outpatient colonoscopy in the Medicare population. <i>Ann Intern Med</i>. 2009;150(12):849-57.</p> <p>U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. Screening for colorectal cancer: US Preventive Services Task Force Recommendation Statement. <i>Ann Intern Med</i>. 2008;149(9):627-37.</p> <p>Qaseem A, Denberg TD, Hopkins RH, Humphrey LL, Levine J, Sweet DE, Shekelle P; Clinical Guidelines Committee of the American College of Physicians. Screening for colorectal cancer; a guidance statement from the American College of Physicians. <i>Ann Intern Med</i>. 2012;156(5):378-86.</p>	<p>Colorectal Cancer, USPSTF</p>
<p>Preventive medicine</p>	<p>Don't perform routine general health checks for asymptomatic adults.</p> <p><i>Society of General Internal Medicine</i></p>	<p>Routine general health checks are office visits between a health professional and a patient exclusively for preventive counseling and screening tests. In contrast to office visits for acute illness, specific evidence-based preventive strategies, or chronic care management such as treatment of high blood pressure, regularly scheduled general health checks without a specific cause including the "health maintenance" annual visit, have not shown to be effective in reducing morbidity, mortality or hospitalization, while creating a potential for harm from unnecessary testing.</p>	<p>Krogsboll LT, Jorgensen KJ, Gronhoj Larsen C, Gotzsche PC. General health checks in adults for reducing morbidity and mortality from disease: Cochrane systematic review and meta-analysis. <i>BMJ</i>. 2012;345:e7191.</p> <p>Boulware LE, Marinopoulos S, Phillips KA, Hwang CW, Maynor K, Merenstein D, Wilson RF, Barnes GJ, Bass EB, Powe NR, Daumit GL. Systematic review: the value of the periodic health evaluation. <i>Ann Intern Med</i>. 2007 Feb 20;146(4):289-300.</p> <p>United States Preventive Services Task Force. Guide to clinical preventative services: an assessment of the effectiveness of 169 interventions. Baltimore: Williams & Wilkins, 1989.</p> <p>Canadian Task Force on the Periodic Health Examination. The periodic health examination. <i>CMAJ</i>. 1979;121(9):1193-254.</p>	<p>Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews</p>
<p>Preventive medicine</p> <p>Geriatric</p>	<p>Don't recommend cancer screening in adults with life expectancy of less than 10 years.</p> <p><i>Society of General Internal Medicine</i></p>	<p>Screening for cancer can be lifesaving in otherwise healthy at-risk patients. While screening tests lead to a mortality benefit, which emerges years after the test is performed, they expose patients to immediate potential harms. Patients with life expectancies of less than 10 years are unlikely to live long enough to derive the distant benefit from screening. However, these patients are in fact more likely to experience the harms since patients with limited life expectancy are more likely to be frail and more susceptible to complications of testing and treatments. Therefore, the balance of potential benefits and harms does not favor recommending cancer screening in patients</p>	<p>Lee SJ, Boscardin WJ, Stijacic-Cenzer I, Conell-Price J, O'Brien S, Walter LC. Time lag to benefit after screening for breast and colorectal cancer: meta-analysis of survival data from the United States, Sweden, United Kingdom, and Denmark. <i>BMJ</i>. 2012 Jan 8;345:e8441.</p> <p>Moyer VA, U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. Screening for prostate cancer: U.S. Preventive Services Task Force Recommendation Statement. <i>Ann Intern Med</i>. 2012 Jul 17;157(2):120-34.</p> <p>Schröder FS, Hugosson J, Roobol, MJ, Tammela TL, Ciatto S, Nelen V, Kwiatkowski M, Lujan M, Lilja H, Zappa M, Denis LJ, Recker F, Páez A, Määtänen L, Bangma CH, Aus G, Carlsson S, Villers A, Rebillard X, van der Kwast T, Kujala PM, Blijenberg BG, Stenman UH, Huber A, Taari K, Hakama M, Moss SM, de Koning HJ, Auvinen A; ERSPC Investigators. Prostate-cancer mortality at 11 years of follow-up. <i>N Engl J Med</i>. 2012 Mar 15;366(11):981-90.</p> <p>Whitlock EP, Lin JS, Liles E, Beil TL, Fu R. Screening for colon</p>	<p>USPSTF</p>

		with life expectancies of less than 10 years.	cancer: a targeted updated systematic review for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. <i>Ann Intern Med.</i> 2008 Nov 4;149(9):638-58. Walter LC and Covinsky KE. Cancer screening in elderly patients: a framework for individualized decision making. <i>JAMA.</i> 2001 Jun 6;285(21):2750-6.	
Preventive medicine Urologic Oncologic	Don't routinely screen for prostate cancer using a prostate-specific antigen (PSA) test or digital rectal exam. <i>American Academy of Family Physicians</i>	There is convincing evidence that PSA-based screening leads to substantial overdiagnosis of prostate tumors. Many tumors will not harm patients, while the risks of treatment are significant. Physicians should not offer or order PSA screening unless they are prepared to engage in shared decision making that enables an informed choice by patients.	American Academy of Family Physicians. Prostate cancer [Internet]. Leawood (KS): American Academy of Family Physicians; 2012 [cited 2013 Jul 23]. Available from: http://www.aafp.org/patient-care/clinical-recommendations/all/prostate-cancer.html . U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. Screening for prostate cancer. Rockville (MD): U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. 2012 May. 16 p.	USPSTF
Preventive medicine	Don't routinely measure 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D unless the patient has hypercalcemia or decreased kidney function. <i>The Endocrine Society</i> <i>American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists</i>	Many practitioners become confused when ordering a vitamin D test. Because 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D is the active form of vitamin D, many practitioners think that measuring 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D is an accurate means to estimate vitamin D stores and test for vitamin D deficiency, which is incorrect. Current Endocrine Society guidelines recommend screening for vitamin D deficiency in individuals at risk for deficiency. Serum levels of 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D have little or no relationship to vitamin D stores but rather are regulated primarily by parathyroid hormone levels, which in turn are regulated by calcium and/or vitamin D. In vitamin D deficiency, 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D levels go up, not down. Unregulated production of 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D (i.e., sarcoidosis, granulomatous diseases) is an uncommon cause of hypercalcemia; this should be suspected if blood calcium levels are high and parathyroid hormone levels are low and confirmed by measurement of 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D. The enzyme that activates vitamin D is produced in the kidney, so blood levels of 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D are sometimes of interest in patients on dialysis or with end-stage kidney disease. There are few other circumstances, if any,	Bikle D, Adams J, Christakos S. Primer on the metabolic bone diseases and disorders of mineral metabolism. Washington: American Society for Bone and Mineral Research. c2008. Chapter 28, Vitamin D: production, metabolism, mechanism of action, and clinical requirements. p. 141-9. Holick MF. Vitamin D deficiency. <i>N Engl J Med.</i> 2007;357:266-81. Holick MF, Binkley NC, Bischoff-Ferrari HA, Gordon CM, Hanley DA, Heaney RP, Murad MH, Weaver CM; Endocrine Society. Evaluation, treatment, and prevention of vitamin D deficiency: an Endocrine Society clinical practice guideline. <i>J Clin Endocrinol Metab.</i> 2011 Jul;96(7):1911-30.	Endocrine Society Guideline

		where 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D testing would be helpful. Serum 25-hydroxyvitamin D levels may be overused, but when trying to assess vitamin D stores or diagnose vitamin D deficiency (or toxicity), 25-hydroxyvitamin D is the correct test.		
Preventive medicine Oncologic Gynecologic	Don't screen low-risk women with cancer antigen (CA) 125 or ultrasound for ovarian cancer. <i>Society of Gynecologic Oncology</i>	CA-125 and ultrasound in low-risk, asymptomatic women have not led to diagnosis of ovarian cancer in earlier stages of disease or reduced ovarian cancer mortality. False-positive results of either test can lead to unnecessary procedures, which have risks of complication.	Barton MB, Lin K. Screening for ovarian cancer: Evidence update for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force reaffirmation recommendation statement [Internet]. Rockville (MD); 2012 Apr. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; AHRQ Publication No. 12-05165-EF3. Available from: http://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf12/ovarian/ovarcanccerrs.htm . Buys SS, Partridge E, Black A, Johnson CC, Lamerato L, Isaacs C, Reding DJ, Greenlee RT, Yokochi LA, Kessel B, Crawford ED, Church TR, Andriole GL, Weissfeld JL, Fouad MN, Chia D, O'Brien B, Ragard LR, Clapp JD, Rathmell JM, Riley TL, Hartge P, Pinsky PF, Zhu CS, Izmirlian G, Kramer BS, Miller AB, Xu JL, Prorok PC, Gohagan JK, Berg CD; PLCO Project Team. Effect of screening on ovarian cancer mortality: the Prostate, Lung, Colorectal and Ovarian (PLCO) cancer screening randomized controlled trial. JAMA. 2011 Jun 8;305(22):2295-303. American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists Committee on Gynecologic Practice. The role of the obstetrician-gynecologist in the early detection of epithelial ovarian cancer. Committee Opinion No. 477. Obstet Gynecol. 2011 Mar;117(3):742-6.	USPSTF
Preventive medicine Urologic Oncologic	Don't perform prostate-specific antigen (PSA) testing for prostate cancer screening in men with no symptoms of the disease when they are expected to live less than 10 years. <i>American Society of Clinical Oncology</i>	Since PSA levels in the blood have been linked with prostate cancer, many doctors have used repeated PSA tests in the hope of finding "early" prostate cancer in men with no symptoms of the disease. Unfortunately, PSA is not as useful for screening as many have hoped because many men with prostate cancer do not have high PSA levels, and other conditions that are not cancer (such as benign prostate hyperplasia) can also increase PSA levels. Research has shown that men who receive PSA testing are less likely to die specifically from prostate cancer. However when accounting for deaths from all causes, no lives are saved, meaning that men who receive PSA screening have not been shown to live longer than men who do not have PSA	Raghavan D. PSA – Please Stop Agonizing (over prostate-specific antigen interpretation). Mayo Clin Proc. 2013 Jan;88:1-3. Schroder FH, Hugosson J, Roobol MJ, Tammela TL, Ciatto S, Nelen V, Kwiatkowski M, Lujan M, Lilja H, Zappa M, Denis LJ, Recker F, Páez A, Määtänen L, Bangma CH, Aus G, Carlsson S, Villers A, Rebillard X, van der Kwast T, Kujala PM, Blijenberg BG, Stenman UH, Huber A, Taari K, Hakama M, Moss SM, de Koning HJ, Auvinen A; ERSPC Investigators. Prostate-cancer mortality at 11 years of follow-up. N Engl J Med. 2012 Mar 15;366(11):981-90. Hugosson J, Carlsson S, Aus G, Bergdahl S, Khatami A, Lodding P, Pihl C-G, Stranne J, Holmberg E, Lilja H. Mortality results from the Goteborg randomized population based prostate-cancer screening trial. Lancet Oncol. 2010 Aug;11(8):725-32. Andriole GL, Crawford ED, Grubb RL III, Buys SS, Chia D, Church TR, Fouad MN, Gelmann EP, Kvale PA, Reding DJ, Weissfeld JL, Yokochi LA, O'Brien B, Clapp JD, Rathmell JM, Riley TL, Hayes	USPSTF, American College of Physicians and AUA guidelines

		<p>screening. Men with medical conditions that limit their life expectancy to less than 10 years are unlikely to benefit from PSA screening as their probability of dying from the underlying medical problem is greater than the chance of dying from asymptomatic prostate cancer.</p>	<p>RB, Kramer BS, Izmirlian G, Miller AB, Pinsky PF, Prorok PC, Gohagan JK, Berg CD; PLCO Project Team. Mortality results form a randomized prostate-cancer screening trial. <i>N Engl J Med.</i> 2009 Mar 26;360(1):1310-9.</p> <p>Moyer VA; U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. Screening for prostate cancer: U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommendation statement. <i>Ann Intern Med.</i> 2012 Jul 17;157(2):1-15.</p> <p>Qaseem A, Barry MJ, Denberg TD, Owens DK, Shekelle P; Clinical Guidelines Committee of the American College of Physicians. Screening for prostate cancer: A guidance statement from the Clinical Guidelines Committee of the American College of Physicians. <i>Ann Intern Med.</i> 2013 May 21;158(10):761-9.</p> <p>Carter HB, Albertson PC, Barry MJ, Etzioni R, Freedland SJ, Greene KL, Holmberg L, Kantoff P, Konety BR, Murad MH, Penson DF, Zietman AL. Early detection of prostate cancer: AUA Guideline. <i>J Urol.</i> 2013 Aug;190(2):419-26.</p> <p>Basch E, Oliver TK, Vickers A, Thompson I, Kantoff P, Parnes H, Loblaw DA, Roth B, Williams J, Nam RK. Screening for prostate cancer with prostate-specific antigen testing: American Society of Clinical Oncology provisional clinical opinion. <i>J Clin Oncol.</i> 2012 Aug 20;30(24):3020-5.</p>	
<p>Preventive medicine</p> <p>Oncologic</p> <p>Pulmonary medicine</p>	<p>Don't perform CT screening for lung cancer among patients at low risk for lung cancer.</p> <p><i>American College of Chest Physicians</i></p> <p><i>American Thoracic Society</i></p>	<p>Low dose chest CT screening for lung cancer has the potential to reduce lung cancer death in patients at high risk (i.e., individuals aged 55 to 74 with at least a 30-pack-year history of tobacco use, who are either still smoking or quit within the past 15 years). However, CT screening for lung cancer also has the potential to cause a number of adverse effects (e.g., radiation exposure, high false-positive rate, harms related to downstream evaluation of pulmonary nodules, overdiagnosis of indolent tumors). Thus, screening should be reserved for patients at high risk of lung cancer and should not be offered to individuals at low risk of lung cancer.</p>	<p>Aberle DR, Adams AM, Berg CD, Black WC, Clapp JD, Fagerstrom RM, Gareen IF, Gatsonis C, Marcus PM, Sicks JD. Reduced lung-cancer mortality with low-dose computed tomographic screening. <i>N Engl J Med.</i> 2011;365(5):395-409.</p> <p>Bach PB, Mirkin JN, Oliver TK, Azzoli CG, Berry DA, Brawley OW, Byers T, Colditz GA, Gould MK, Jett JR, Sabichi AL, Smith-Bindman R, Wood DE, Qaseem A, Detterbeck FC. Benefits and harms of CT screening for lung cancer: a systematic review. <i>JAMA.</i> 2012;307(22):2418-29.</p> <p>Veronesi G, Maisonneuve P, Bellomi M, Rampinelli C, Durli I, Bertolotti R, Spaggiari L. Estimating overdiagnosis in low-dose computed tomography screening for lung cancer: a cohort study. <i>Ann Intern Med.</i> 2012;157(11):776-84.</p> <p>Humphrey LL, Deffebach M, Pappas M, Baumann C, Artis K, Mitchell JP, Zakher B, Fu R, Slatore CG. Screening for lung cancer with low-dose computed tomography: a systematic review to update the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommendation. <i>Ann Intern Med.</i> 2013 Sep 17;159(6):411-20.</p>	<p>USPSTF</p>

Topic area(s)	Recommendation	Rationale and comments	References	Source
Psychiatric	<p>Don't prescribe antipsychotic medications to patients for any indication without appropriate initial evaluation and appropriate ongoing monitoring.</p> <p><i>American Psychiatric Association</i></p>	<p>Metabolic, neuromuscular, and cardiovascular side effects are common in patients receiving antipsychotic medications for any indication, so thorough initial evaluation to ensure that their use is clinically warranted, and ongoing monitoring to ensure that side effects are identified, are essential. "Appropriate initial evaluation" includes the following: (a) thorough assessment of possible underlying causes of target symptoms including general medical, psychiatric, environmental or psychosocial problems; (b) consideration of general medical conditions; and (c) assessment of family history of general medical conditions, especially of metabolic and cardiovascular disorders. "Appropriate ongoing monitoring" includes re-evaluation and documentation of dose, efficacy and adverse effects; and targeted assessment, including assessment of movement disorder or neurological symptoms; weight, waist circumference and/or body mass index; blood pressure; heart rate; blood glucose level; and lipid profile at periodic intervals.</p>	<p>American Psychiatric Association. Practice guideline for the psychiatric evaluation of adults, second edition. <i>Am J Psychiatry</i>. 2006 Jun;163(Suppl):3-36. Available from: http://psychiatryonline.org/content.aspx?bookid=28&sectionid=2021669.</p> <p>American Diabetes Association; American Psychiatric Association; American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists; North American Association for the Study of Obesity. Consensus development conference on antipsychotic drugs and obesity and diabetes. <i>Diabetes Care</i>. 2004;27(2):596-601.</p> <p>Dixon L, Perkins D, Calmes C. Guideline watch (September 2009): practice guideline for the treatment of patients with schizophrenia [Internet]. <i>Psychiatry Online</i>. [cited 2013 Mar 8] Available from: http://psychiatryonline.org/content.aspx?bookid=28&sectionid=1682213.</p> <p>Maglione M, Ruelaz Maher A, Hu J, Wang Z, Shanman R, Shekelle PG, Roth B, Hilton L, Suttrop MJ, Ewing BA, Motala A, Perry T; Southern California Evidence-Based Practice Center. Off-label use of atypical antipsychotics: an update. Rockville, Md.: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; 2011 Sep 437 p. Report No.: HHS290-2007-10062-1.</p> <p>Nasrallah HA. Atypical antipsychotic-induced metabolic side effects: insights from receptor-binding profiles. <i>Mol Psychiatry</i>. 2008 Jan;13(1):27-35.</p>	<p>American Psychiatric Association guideline</p>
Psychiatric	<p>Don't routinely prescribe two or more antipsychotic medications concurrently.</p> <p><i>American Psychiatric Association</i></p>	<p>Research shows that use of two or more antipsychotic medications occurs in 4% to 35% of outpatients and 30% to 50% of inpatients. However, evidence for the efficacy and safety of using multiple antipsychotic medications is limited, and risk for drug interactions, noncompliance, and medication errors is increased. Generally, the use of two or more antipsychotic medications concurrently should be avoided except in cases of three failed trials of monotherapy, which included one failed trial of clozapine where possible, or where a second antipsychotic medication is added with a plan to cross-taper to monotherapy.</p>	<p>American Psychiatric Association. Practice guideline for the treatment of patients with schizophrenia, second edition. <i>Am J Psychiatry</i>. 2004 Feb;161(2 Suppl):1-56. Available from: http://psychiatryonline.org/content.aspx?bookid=28&sectionid=1682213.</p> <p>Kane J, Honigfeld G, Singer J, Meltzer H. Clozapine for the treatment-resistant schizophrenic. A double-blind comparison with chlorpromazine. <i>Arch Gen Psychiatry</i>. 1988;45(9):789-96.</p> <p>McEvoy JP, Lieberman JA, Stroup TS, Davis SM, Meltzer HY, Rosenheck RA, Swartz MS, Perkins DO, Keefe RS, Davis CE, Severe J, Hsiao JK, CATIE Investigators. Effectiveness of clozapine versus olanzapine, quetiapine, and risperidone in patients with chronic schizophrenia who did not respond to prior atypical antipsychotic treatment. <i>Am J Psychiatry</i>. 2006;163(4):600-10.</p> <p>Maglione M, Ruelaz Maher A, Hu J, Wang Z, Shanman R, Shekelle PG, Roth B, Hilton L, Suttrop MJ, Ewing BA, Motala A, Perry T;</p>	<p>American Psychiatric Association guideline</p>

			<p>Southern California Evidence-Based Practice Center. Off-label use of atypical antipsychotics: an update. Rockville, Md.: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; 2011 Sep 437 p. Report No.: HHS290-2007-10062-1.</p> <p>Specifications Manual for Joint Commission National Quality Measures (v2013A1). Measure Set: Hospital Based Inpatient Psychiatric Services (HBIPS), Set Measure ID: HBIPS-4.</p> <p>Stahl SM, Grady MM. A critical review of atypical antipsychotic utilization: comparing monotherapy with polypharmacy and augmentation. <i>Curr Med Chem.</i> 2004;11(3):313-27.</p>	
Psychiatric	<p>Don't routinely prescribe antipsychotic medications as a first-line intervention for insomnia in adults.</p> <p><i>American Psychiatric Association</i></p>	<p>There is inadequate evidence for the efficacy of antipsychotic medications to treat insomnia (primary or due to another psychiatric or medical condition), with the few studies that do exist showing mixed results.</p>	<p>American Diabetes Association; American Psychiatric Association; American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists; North American Association for the Study of Obesity. Consensus development conference on antipsychotic drugs and obesity and diabetes. <i>Diabetes Care.</i> 2004;27(2):596-601.</p> <p>Maglione M, Ruelaz Maher A, Hu J, Wang Z, Shanman R, Shekelle PG, Roth B, Hilton L, Suttrop MJ, Ewing BA, Motala A, Perry T; Southern California Evidence-Based Practice Center. Off-label use of atypical antipsychotics: an update. Rockville, Md.: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; 2011 Sep 437 p. Report No.: HHS290-2007-10062-1.</p> <p>Nasrallah HA. Atypical antipsychotic-induced metabolic side effects: insights from receptor-binding profiles. <i>Mol Psychiatry.</i> 2008 Jan;13(1):27-35.</p>	AHRQ
Psychiatric Pediatric	<p>Don't routinely prescribe antipsychotic medications as a first-line intervention for children and adolescents for any diagnosis other than psychotic disorders.</p> <p><i>American Psychiatric Association</i></p>	<p>Recent research indicates that use of antipsychotic medication in children has nearly tripled in the past 10 to 15 years, and this increase appears to be disproportionate among children with low family income, minority children, and children with externalizing behavior disorders (i.e., rather than schizophrenia, other psychotic disorders and severe tic disorders). Evidence for the efficacy and tolerability of antipsychotic medications in children and adolescents is inadequate and there are notable concerns about weight gain, metabolic side effects, and a potentially greater tendency for cardiovascular changes in children than in adults.</p>	<p>Correll CU. Monitoring and management of antipsychotic-related metabolic and endocrine adverse events in pediatric patients. <i>Int Rev Psychiatry.</i> 2008;20(2):195-201.</p> <p>Findling RL, Drury SS, Jensen PS, Rapoport JL; AACAP Committee on Quality Issues. Practice parameter for the use of atypical antipsychotic medications in children and adolescents [Internet]. American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. [cited 2013 Mar 3]. Available from: http://www.aacap.org/galleries/PracticeParameters/Atypical_Antipsychotic_Medications_Web.pdf.</p> <p>Loy JH, Merry SN, Hetrick SE, Stasiak K. Atypical antipsychotics for disruptive behaviour disorders in children and youths. <i>Cochrane Database Syst Rev.</i> 2012 Sep 12;9:CD008559.</p> <p>Zito JM, Burcu M, Ibe A, Safer DJ, Magder LS. Antipsychotic use by Medicaid-insured youths: impact of eligibility and psychiatric diagnosis across a decade. <i>Psychiatr Serv.</i> 2013 Mar 1;64(3):223-9.</p>	American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry guideline, Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

Topic area(s)	Recommendation	Rationale and comments	References	Source
Pulmonary medicine Pediatrics	Don't order chest radiographs in children with uncomplicated asthma or bronchiolitis. <i>Society of Hospital Medicine (Pediatric)</i>	National guidelines articulate a reliance on physical examination and patient history for diagnosis of asthma and bronchiolitis in the pediatric population. Multiple studies have established limited clinical utility of chest radiographs for patients with asthma or bronchiolitis. Omission of the use of chest radiography will reduce costs, but not compromise diagnostic accuracy and care.	American Academy of Pediatrics. Diagnosis and management of bronchiolitis. <i>Pediatrics</i> . 2006;118(4):1774-93. National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute. Guidelines for the diagnosis and management of asthma. 2007. http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/guidelines/asthma/ . Dawson, KP, et al. The chest radiograph in acute bronchiolitis. <i>J Paediatr Child</i> . 1990;26(4):209-11. Roback MG, et al. Chest radiograph in the evaluation of first time wheezing episodes: review of current clinical efficacy. <i>Pediatr Emerg Care</i> . 1998;14(3):181-4.	AAP, National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute guidelines
Pulmonary medicine Pediatrics	Don't routinely use bronchodilators in children with bronchiolitis. <i>Society of Hospital Medicine (Pediatric)</i>	Published guidelines do not advocate the routine use of bronchodilators in patients with bronchiolitis. Comprehensive reviews of the literature have demonstrated that the use of bronchodilators in children admitted to the hospital with bronchiolitis has no effect or any important outcomes. There is limited demonstration of clear impact of bronchodilator therapy upon the course of disease. Additionally, providers should consider the potential impact of adverse events upon the patient.	American Academy of Pediatrics. Diagnosis and management of bronchiolitis. <i>Pediatrics</i> . 2006;118(4):1774-93. Gadomski AM, et al. Bronchodilators for bronchiolitis. <i>Cochrane Database Syst Rev</i> . 2010;(12):CD001266.	AAP guideline, Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews
Pulmonary medicine Pediatrics Infectious disease	Don't use systemic corticosteroids in children younger than two years with an uncomplicated lower respiratory tract infection. <i>Society of Hospital Medicine (Pediatric)</i>	Published guidelines recommend that corticosteroid medications not be used routinely in the management of bronchiolitis. Furthermore, additional studies in patients with other viral lower respiratory tract infections have failed to demonstrate any benefits.	American Academy of Pediatrics. Diagnosis and management of bronchiolitis. <i>Pediatrics</i> . 2006;118(4):1774-93. Klassen TP, et al. Dexamethasone in salbutamol-treated inpatients with acute bronchiolitis: a randomized, controlled trial. <i>J Pediatr</i> . 199;130(2):191-6. Patel H, et al. Glucocorticoids for acute viral bronchiolitis in infants and young children. <i>Cochrane Database Syst Rev</i> . 2004;(3):CD004878. De Boeck K, et al. Respiratory syncytial virus bronchiolitis: a double-blind dexamethasone efficacy study. <i>J Pediatr</i> . 1997;131(6):919-21. Von Woensel JBM, et al. Viral lower respiratory tract infection in infants and young children, <i>BMJ</i> . 2003;327(7405):36-40. Panickar J, et al. Oral prednisolone for preschool children with acute virus-induced wheezing. <i>N Engl J Med</i> . 2009;360(4):329-38.	AAP guideline, Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews
Pulmonary medicine Pediatric	Don't use continuous pulse oximetry routinely in children with acute respiratory illness unless they are on supplemental	The utility of continuous pulse oximetry in pediatric patients with acute respiratory illness is not well established. Use of continuous pulse oximetry has been previously associated with increased admission rates and increase	American Academy of Pediatrics. Diagnosis and management of bronchiolitis. <i>Pediatrics</i> . 2006;118(4):1774-93. Schroeder AR, et al. Impact of pulse oximetry and oxygen therapy on length of stay in bronchiolitis hospitalizations. <i>Arch Pediatr Adolesc</i>	AAP guideline

	oxygen. <i>Society of Hospital Medicine (Pediatric)</i>	length of stay. The clinical benefit of pulse oximetry is not validated or well documented.	Med. 2004;158(6):527-30. Hunt CE, et al. Longitudinal assessment of hemoglobin oxygen saturation in healthy infants during the first 6 months of life. J Pediatr. 1999;135(5):580-6. Alverson, et al. Multi-center randomized trial of pulse oximetry monitoring strategies for children hospitalized for bronchiolitis. Abstract presented at IDWeek 2012, Oct. 2012, San Diego, Calif.	
Pulmonary medicine	Don't diagnose or manage asthma without spirometry. <i>American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology</i>	Clinicians often rely solely upon symptoms when diagnosing and managing asthma, but these symptoms may be misleading and be from alternate causes. Therefore, spirometry is essential to confirm the diagnosis in those patients who can perform this procedure. Recent guidelines highlight spirometry's value in stratifying disease severity and monitoring control. History and physical exam alone may over- or underestimate asthma control. Beyond the increased costs of care, repercussions of misdiagnosing asthma include delaying a correct diagnosis and treatment.	National Asthma Education and Prevention Expert Panel Report 3: Guidelines for the diagnosis and management of asthma. NIH Publication no. 08-5846. October 2007. Li J, et al. Attaining asthma control. A practice parameter. J Allergy Clin Immunol. 2005;115:S3-11. Global strategy for asthma management and prevention: GINA executive summary. Eur Respir J. 2008;31:143-78. Fuhlbrigge A, et. al. FEV1 is associated with risk of asthma attacks in a pediatric population. J Allergy Clin Immunol. 2001;107:61-6. Magadle R. The risk of hospitalization and near-fatal and fatal asthma in relation to the perception of dyspnea. Chest. 2002;121:329-33.	National Asthma Education and Prevention Expert Panel report
Pulmonary medicine	In patients with a low pretest probability of venous thromboembolism, obtain a high-sensitive D-dimer measurement as the initial diagnostic test; don't obtain imaging studies as the initial diagnostic test. <i>American College of Physicians</i>	In patients with low pretest probability of venous thromboembolism as defined by the Wells prediction rules, a negative high-sensitivity D-dimer measurement effectively excludes venous thromboembolism and the need for further imaging studies.	American College of Emergency Physicians. Evaluation and management of adult emergency department patients with suspected pulmonary embolism. January 2011. http://www.acep.org/Content.aspx?id=80332 . 2008 European Society of Cardiology. Acute pulmonary embolism (diagnosis and management of). 2008. http://www.escardio.org/guidelines-surveys/esc-guidelines/Pages/acute-pulmonary-embolism.aspx . Snow V, et al. Management of venous thromboembolism. Ann Intern Med. 2007;146:204-10. Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network. Prevention and management of venous thromboembolism. http://www.sign.ac.uk/guidelines/fulltext/122/index.html .	American Academy of Family Physicians, American College of Physicians, ACEP guidelines
Pulmonary medicine	Don't image for suspected PE without moderate or high pretest probability. <i>American College of Radiology</i>	While DVT and PE are relatively common clinically, they are rare in the absence of elevated blood D-dimer levels and certain specific risk factors. Imaging, particularly CT pulmonary angiography, is a rapid, accurate, and widely available test, but has limited value in patients who are very unlikely, based on serum and clinical criteria, to have	Torbicki A, et al. Guidelines on the diagnosis and management of acute pulmonary embolism. Eur Heart J. 2008;29(18):2276-315. Neff MJ. ACEP releases clinical policy on evaluation and management of pulmonary embolism. Am Fam Physician. 2003;68(4):759-60. Stein PD, et al. Diagnostic pathways in acute pulmonary embolism: recommendations of the PIOPED II Investigators. Radiology. 2007;242(1):15-21.	ACEP, European Society of Cardiology guidelines

		significant value. Imaging is helpful to confirm or exclude PE only for such patients, not for patients with low pretest probability of PE.		
Pulmonary medicine	<p>Avoid using a CT angiogram to diagnose PE in young women with a normal chest radiograph; consider a radionuclide lung study (“V/Q study”) instead.</p> <p><i>Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging</i></p>	When the clinical question is whether or not pulmonary emboli are present, a V/Q study can provide the answer with lower overall radiation dose to the breast than can CT angiography, even when performed with a breast shield.	<p>International Commission on Radiological Protection report 53 (http://www.icrp.org/publication.asp?id=ICRP%20Publication%2053) and 80 (http://www.icrp.org/publication.asp?id=ICRP%20Publication%2080).</p> <p>McCullough, et al. Strategies for reducing radiation dose in CT. <i>Radiol Clin North Am.</i> 2009;47:27-40.</p> <p>Hurwitz, et al. Radiation dose savings for adult pulmonary embolus 64-MDCT using bismuth breast shields, lower peak kilovoltage, and automatic tube current modulation. <i>AJR Am J Roentgenol.</i> 2009;192:244-53.</p> <p>Stein EG, et al. Success of a safe and simple algorithm to reduce use of CT pulmonary angiography in the emergency department. <i>AJR Am J Roentgenol.</i> 2010;194:392-7.</p> <p>Parker MS, et al. Female breast radiation exposure during CT pulmonary angiography. <i>AJR Am J Roentgenol.</i> 2005;185: 1228-33.</p> <p>Niemann T, et al. Imaging for suspected pulmonary embolism in pregnancy-what about the fetal dose? A comprehensive review of the literature. <i>Insights Imaging.</i> 2010;1:361-72.</p> <p>Freeman LM, et al. V/Q scintigraphy: alive, well and equal to the challenge of CT angiography. <i>Eur J Nucl Med Mol Imaging.</i> 2009;36:499-504.</p> <p>Brenner DJ, et al. Computed tomography—an increasing source of radiation exposure. <i>N Engl J Med.</i> 2007;357:2277-84.</p> <p>Freeman LM, et al. The current and continuing role of ventilation-perfusion scintigraphy in evaluating patients with suspected pulmonary embolism. <i>Semin Nucl Med.</i> 2008;38(6): 432-40.</p> <p>Burns SK, et al. Diagnostic imaging and risk stratification of patients with acute pulmonary embolism. <i>Cardiol Rev.</i> 2012;20(1):15-24.</p>	Expert consensus
Pulmonary medicine	Don’t perform CT surveillance for evaluation of indeterminate pulmonary nodules at more frequent intervals or for a longer period of time than recommended by established guidelines.	Clinical practice guidelines for pulmonary nodule evaluation (such as those issued by the Fleischner Society or the American College of Chest Physicians) suggest that intensity of surveillance should be guided by the likelihood of malignancy. In patients with no prior history of cancer, solid nodules that have not grown over a two-year period have an extremely low risk of malignancy (although	<p>MacMahon H, Austin JH, Gamsu G, Herold CJ, Jett JR, Naidich DP, Patz EF Jr, Swensen SJ; Fleischner Society. Guidelines for management of small pulmonary nodules detected on CT scans: a statement from the Fleischner Society. <i>Radiology.</i> 2005;237(2):395-400.</p> <p>Gould MK, Donington J, Lynch WR, Mazzone, Midthun DE, Naidich DP, Wiener RS. Evaluation of patients with pulmonary nodules: When is it lung cancer?: ACCP evidence-based clinical practice guidelines (3rd edition). <i>Chest.</i> 2013 May;143(5):e93.</p>	ACCP guideline

	<p><i>American College of Chest Physicians</i></p> <p><i>American Thoracic Society</i></p>	<p>longer follow-up is suggested for ground-glass nodules). Similarly, intensive surveillance (e.g., repeating CT scans every three months for two years or more) has not been shown to improve outcomes such as lung cancer mortality. Meanwhile, extended or intensive surveillance exposes patients to increased radiation and prolonged uncertainty.</p>	<p>Smith-Bindman R, Lipson J, Marcus R, Kim KP, Mahesh M, Gould R, Berrington de González A, Miglioretti DL. Radiation dose associated with common computed tomography examinations and the associated lifetime attributable risk of cancer. <i>Arch Intern Med</i>. 2009;169(22):2078-86.</p> <p>Wiener RS, Gould MK, Woloshin S, Schwartz LM, Clark JA. What do you mean, a spot? A qualitative analysis of patients' reactions to discussions with their doctors about pulmonary nodules. <i>Chest</i>. 2012 Jul 17. doi: 10.1378/chest.12-1095. [Epub ahead of print].</p>	
Pulmonary medicine	<p>For patients recently discharged on supplemental home oxygen following hospitalization for an acute illness, don't renew the prescription without assessing the patient for ongoing hypoxemia.</p> <p><i>American College of Chest Physicians</i></p> <p><i>American Thoracic Society</i></p>	<p>Hypoxemia often resolves after recovery from an acute illness, and continued prescription of supplemental oxygen therapy incurs unnecessary cost and resource use. At the time that supplemental oxygen is initially prescribed, a plan should be established to re-assess the patient no later than 90 days after discharge. Medicare and evidence-based criteria should be followed to determine whether the patient meets criteria for supplemental oxygen.</p>	<p>Croxton T, Baily W, for the NHLBI working group on Long-Term Oxygen Treatment in COPD. Report of a National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Workshop. Long-term oxygen treatment in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease: recommendations for future research. <i>Am J Respir Crit Care Med</i>. 2006;174:373-8.</p> <p>O'Driscoll B, Howard L, Davison A. BTS guideline for emergency oxygen use in adult patients. <i>Thorax</i>. 2008;63 Suppl 6:vi1-68.</p> <p>MacNee W. Prescription of oxygen: still problems after all these years. <i>Am J Respir Crit Care Med</i>. 2005;172:517-22.</p>	Expert consensus
Pulmonary medicine	<p>Don't perform chest CT (CT angiography) to evaluate for possible pulmonary embolism in patients with a low clinical probability and negative results of a highly sensitive D-dimer assay.</p> <p><i>American College of Chest Physicians</i></p> <p><i>American Thoracic Society</i></p>	<p>Clinical practice guidelines for pulmonary embolism indicate that the cost and potential harms of CT angiography (including radiation exposure and the possibility of detecting and treating clinically insignificant pulmonary emboli with anticoagulation) outweigh the benefits for patients with a low pretest probability of pulmonary embolism. In patients with a low clinical prediction score (e.g., Wells or Geneva score) followed by a negative D-dimer measured with a high sensitivity test (e.g., enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay [ELISA]), pulmonary embolism is effectively excluded and no further imaging is indicated for pulmonary embolism evaluation.</p>	<p>Fesmire FM, Brown MD, Espinosa JA, Shih RD, Silvers SM, Wolf SJ, Decker WW. Critical issues in the evaluation and management of adult patients presenting to the emergency department with suspected pulmonary embolism. <i>Ann Emerg Med</i>. 2011;57(6):628-652, e675.</p> <p>Qaseem A, Snow V, Barry P, Hornbake ER, Rodnick JE, Tobolic T, Ireland B, Segal JB, Bass EB, Weiss KB, Green L, Owens DK; Joint American Academy of Family Physicians/American College of Physicians Panel on Deep Venous Thrombosis/Pulmonary Embolism. Current diagnosis of venous thromboembolism in primary care: a clinical practice guideline from the American Academy of Family Physicians and the American College of Physicians. <i>Ann Intern Med</i>. 2007 Mar 20;146(6):454-8.</p> <p>Torbicki A, Perrier A, Konstantinides S, Agnelli G, Galiè N, Pruszczyk P, Bengel F, Brady AJ, Ferreira D, Janssens U, Klepetko W, Mayer E, Remy-Jardin M, Bassand JP; ESC Committee for Practice Guidelines (CPG). Guidelines on the diagnosis and management of acute pulmonary embolism: the Task Force for the Diagnosis and Management of Acute Pulmonary Embolism of the European Society</p>	American Academy of Family Physicians/American College of Physicians guideline

			<p>of Cardiology (ESC). Eur Heart J. 2008;29(18):2276-315.</p> <p>The Christopher Study Investigators. Effectiveness of managing suspected pulmonary embolism using an algorithm combining clinical probability, D-dimer testing, and computed tomography. JAMA. 2006;295:172-9.</p> <p>Roy P-M, Colombet I, Durieux P, Chatellier G, Sors H, Meyer G. Systematic review and meta-analysis of strategies for the diagnosis of suspected pulmonary embolism. BMJ. 2005;331:259.</p> <p>Anderson DR, Kahn SR, Rodger MA, Kovacs MJ, Morris T, Hirsch A, Lang E, Stiell I, Kovacs G, Dreyer J, Dennie C, Cartier Y, Barnes D, Burton E, Pleasance S, Skedgel C, O'Rourke K, Wells PS. Computed tomographic pulmonary angiography vs ventilation-perfusion lung scanning in patients with suspected pulmonary embolism: A randomized controlled trial. JAMA. 2007;298(23):2743-53.</p> <p>Wiener RS, Schwartz LM, Woloshin S. Time trends in pulmonary embolism in the United States: evidence of overdiagnosis. Arch Intern Med. 2011;171(9):831-7.</p>	
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Topic area(s)	Recommendation	Rationale and comments	References	Source
Rheumatologic	<p>Don't test for Lyme disease as a cause of musculoskeletal symptoms without an exposure history and appropriate exam findings.</p> <p><i>American College of Rheumatology</i></p>	<p>The musculoskeletal manifestations of Lyme disease include brief attacks of arthralgia or intermittent or persistent episodes of arthritis in one or a few large joints at a time, especially the knee. Lyme testing in the absence of these features increases the likelihood of false-positive results and may lead to unnecessary follow-up and therapy. Diffuse arthralgias, myalgias, or fibromyalgia alone are not criteria for musculoskeletal Lyme disease.</p>	<p>Guidelines and statements made by the Centers for Disease Control and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Lyme disease diagnosis and treatment. http://www.cdc.gov/lyme/diagnosis/treatment/index.html.</p> <p>American College of Physicians. Guidelines for laboratory evaluation in the diagnosis of Lyme disease. Ann Intern Med. 1997;127(12):1106-8.</p> <p>Hu LT. Lyme disease. Ann Intern Med. 2012;157(3):ITC2-1.</p> <p>Wormser GP, et al. The clinical assessment, treatment, and prevention of Lyme disease, human granulocytic anaplasmosis, and babesiosis. Clin Infect Dis. 2006;43(9):1089-134.</p>	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, IDSA guidelines
Rheumatologic	<p>Don't test ANA subserologies without a positive ANA and clinical suspicion of immune-mediated disease.</p> <p><i>American College of Rheumatology</i></p>	<p>Tests for ANA subserologies (including antibodies to double-stranded DNA, Smith, RNP, SSA, SSB, Scl-70, centromere) are usually negative if the ANA is negative. Exceptions include anti-Jo1, which can be positive in some forms of myositis, or occasionally, anti-SSA, in the setting of lupus or Sjögren syndrome. Broad testing of autoantibodies should be avoided; instead, the choice of autoantibodies should be guided by the specific disease under consideration.</p>	<p>Kavanaugh A, et al. Guidelines for clinical use of the antinuclear antibody test and tests for specific autoantibodies to nuclear antigens. Arch Pathol Lab Med. 2000;124(1):71-81.</p> <p>Solomon DH, et al. Evidence-based guidelines for the use of immunologic tests: antinuclear antibody testing. Arthritis Rheum. 2002;47(4):434-44.</p> <p>Tozzoli R, et al. Guidelines for the laboratory use of autoantibody tests in the diagnosis and monitoring of autoimmune rheumatic diseases. Am J Clin Pathol. 2002;117(2):316-24.</p>	American College of Rheumatology guidelines
Rheumatologic	Don't prescribe biologics	High-quality evidence suggests that	Singh JA, et al. 2012 update of the 2008 American College of	American

	<p>for rheumatoid arthritis before a trial of methotrexate (or other conventional nonbiologic DMARDs).</p> <p><i>American College of Rheumatology</i></p>	<p>methotrexate and other conventional nonbiologic DMARDs are effective in many patients with rheumatoid arthritis. Initial therapy for rheumatoid arthritis should be a conventional nonbiologic DMARD unless these are contraindicated. If a patient has had an inadequate response to methotrexate with or without other nonbiologic DMARDs during an initial three-month trial, then biologic therapy can be considered. Exceptions include patients with high disease activity AND poor prognostic features (functional limitations, disease outside the joints, seropositivity, or bony damage), where biologic therapy may be appropriate first-line treatment.</p>	<p>Rheumatology recommendations for the use of disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs and biologic agents in the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis. <i>Arthritis Care Res (Hoboken)</i>. 2012;64(5):625-39.</p> <p>Smolen JS, et al. EULAR recommendations for the management of rheumatoid arthritis with synthetic and biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs. <i>Ann Rheum Dis</i>. 2012;69(6):964-75.</p>	<p>College of Rheumatology guidelines</p>
Rheumatologic	<p>Don't order autoantibody panels unless positive ANA and evidence of rheumatic disease.</p> <p><i>American College of Rheumatology—Pediatric Rheumatology</i></p>	<p>Up to 50% of children develop musculoskeletal pain. There is no evidence that autoantibody panel testing in the absence of history or physical exam evidence of a rheumatologic disease enhances the diagnosis of children with isolated musculoskeletal pain. Autoantibody panels are expensive; evidence has demonstrated cost reduction by limiting autoantibody panel testing. Thus, autoantibody panels should be ordered following confirmed ANA positivity or clinical suspicion that a rheumatologic disease is present in the child.</p>	<p>Wong KO, Bond K, Homik J, Ellsworth JE, Karkhaneh M, Ha C, Dryden DM. Antinuclear antibody, rheumatoid factor, and cyclic-citrullinated peptide tests for evaluating musculoskeletal complaints in children. <i>Comparative Effectiveness Review No. 50</i>. AHRQ Publication No. 12-EHC015-EF. Rockville, Md.: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. March 2012.</p> <p>Cabral DA, Petty RE, Fung M, Malleson PN. Persistent antinuclear antibodies in children without identifiable inflammatory rheumatic or autoimmune disease. <i>Pediatrics</i>. 1992;89:441-4.</p> <p>Deane PM, Liard G, Siegel DM, Baum J. The outcome of children referred to a pediatric rheumatology clinic with a positive antinuclear antibody test but without an autoimmune disease. <i>Pediatrics</i>. 1995;95:892-5.</p> <p>McGhee JL, Burks FN, Sheckels JL, Jarvis JN. Identifying children with chronic arthritis based on chief complaints: absence of predictive value for musculoskeletal pain as an indicator of rheumatic disease in children. <i>Pediatrics</i>. 2002;110:354-9.</p> <p>Man A, Shojania K, Phoon C, Pal J, Hudoba de Badyn M, Pi D, Lacaille D. An evaluation of autoimmune antibody testing patterns in a Canadian health region and an evaluation of a laboratory algorithm aimed at reducing unnecessary testing. <i>Clin Rheumatol</i>. 2012; doi:10.1007/s10067-012-2141-y.</p>	<p>AHRQ</p>
Rheumatologic Infectious disease	<p>Don't test for Lyme disease as a cause of musculoskeletal symptoms without an exposure history and</p>	<p>The musculoskeletal manifestations of Lyme disease include brief attacks of arthralgia or intermittent or persistent episodes of arthritis in one or a few large joints at a time, especially the knee. Lyme testing in the</p>	<p>Lyme Disease Diagnosis and Treatment. [Internet]. Atlanta (GA). Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. [Updated 2011 Nov 15; cited 2012 Sep 6]. Available from: www.cdc.gov/lyme/diagnosis/treatment/index.html.</p> <p>American College of Physicians. Guidelines for laboratory evaluation</p>	<p>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and IDSA</p>

	appropriate exam findings. <i>American College of Rheumatology— Pediatric Rheumatology</i>	absence of these features increases the likelihood of false-positive results and may lead to unnecessary follow-up and therapy. Diffuse arthralgias, myalgias or fibromyalgia alone are not criteria for musculoskeletal Lyme disease.	in the diagnosis of Lyme disease. <i>Ann Intern Med.</i> 1997;127(12):1106-8. Hu LT. Lyme disease. <i>Ann Intern Med.</i> 2012;157(3):ITC2-1. Wormser GP, Dattwyler RJ, Shapiro ED, Halperin JJ, Steere AC, Klempner MS, Krause PJ, Bakken JS, Strle F, Stanek G, Bockenstedt L, Fish D, Dumler JS, Nadelman RB. The clinical assessment, treatment, and prevention of Lyme disease, human granulocytic anaplasmosis, and babesiosis: clinical practice guidelines by the Infectious Diseases Society of America. <i>Clin Infect Dis.</i> 2006;43(9):1089-134.	guidelines
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Topic area(s)	Recommendation	Rationale and comments	References	Source
Surgical	Avoid routine preoperative testing for low-risk surgeries without a clinical indication. <i>American Society for Clinical Pathology</i>	Most preoperative tests (typically a complete blood count, prothrombin time and partial thromboplastin time, basic metabolic panel, and urinalysis) performed on elective surgical patients are normal. Findings influence management in under 3% of patients tested. In almost all cases, no adverse outcomes are observed when clinically stable patients undergo elective surgery, irrespective of whether an abnormal test is identified. Preoperative testing is appropriate in symptomatic patients and those with risks factors for which diagnostic testing can provide clarification of patient surgical risk.	Keay L, et al. Routine preoperative medical testing for cataract surgery. <i>Cochrane Database Syst Rev.</i> 2012;(3):CD007293. Katz R, et al. Survey study of anesthesiologists' and surgeons' ordering of unnecessary preoperative laboratory tests. <i>Anesth Analg.</i> 2011;112(1):207-12. Munro J, et al. Routine preoperative testing: a systematic review of the evidence. <i>Health Technol Assessment.</i> 1997;1(12):i-iv, 1-62. Reynolds TM. National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence guidelines on preoperative tests: the use of routine preoperative tests for elective surgery. <i>Ann Clin Biochem.</i> 2006;43:13-16. Capdenat Saint-Martin E, et al. Description of local adaptation of national guidelines and of active feedback for rationalizing preoperative screening in patients at low risk from anaesthetics in a French university hospital. <i>Qual Health Care.</i> 1998;7:5-11.	Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews
Surgical	Avoid admission or preoperative chest x-rays for ambulatory patients with unremarkable history and physical exam. <i>American College of Physicians</i> <i>American College of Radiology</i>	Performing routine admission or preoperative chest x-rays is not recommended for ambulatory patients without specific reasons suggested by the history and/or physical examination findings. Only 2% of such images lead to a change in management. Obtaining a chest radiograph is reasonable if acute cardiopulmonary disease is suspected or there is a history of chronic stable cardiopulmonary disease in a patient older than 70 years who has not had chest radiography within six months.	American College of Radiology. ACR Appropriateness Criteria: routine admission and preoperative chest radiography. http://www.acr.org/SecondaryMainMenuCategories/quality_safety/app_criteria/pdf/ExpertPanelonThoracicImaging/RoutineAdmissionandPreoperativeChestRadiographyDoc6.aspx . Gomez-Gil E, et al. Lack of clinical relevance of routine chest radiography in acute psychiatric admissions. <i>Gen Hosp Psychiatry.</i> 2002; 24(2):110-3. Archer C, et al. Value of routine preoperative chest x-rays: a meta-analysis. <i>Can J Anaesth.</i> 1993; 40(11):1022-17. Munro J, et al. Routine preoperative testing: a systematic review of the evidence. <i>Health Technol Assessment.</i> 1997;1(12):i-iv; 1-62. Grier DJ, et al. Are routine chest radiographs prior to angiography of any value? <i>Clin Radiol.</i> 1993;48(2):131-3. Gupta SD, et al. Routine chest radiography in the elderly. <i>Age Ageing.</i>	ACR Appropriateness Criteria

			1985;14(1):11-4. American College of Radiology. ACR Appropriateness Criteria: routine chest radiographs in ICU patients. http://www.acr.org/SecondaryMainMenuCategories/quality_safety/app_criteria/pdf/ExpertPanelonThoracicImaging/RoutineChestRadiographDoc7.aspx .	
Surgical Cardio-vascular	Patients who have no cardiac history and good functional status do not require preoperative stress testing prior to noncardiac thoracic surgery. <i>Society of Thoracic Surgeons</i>	Functional status has been shown to be reliable for prediction of perioperative and long-term cardiac events. In highly functional asymptomatic patients, management is rarely changed by preoperative stress testing. It is therefore appropriate to proceed with the planned surgery without it. Preoperative stress testing should be reserved for patients with significant clinical risk factors for cardiac complications such as history, symptom, or signs of ischemic heart disease, heart failure, cerebrovascular disease, diabetes mellitus, or peripheral vascular disease. It may also be appropriate to perform preoperative cardiac testing on patients with a low functional status (unable to carry out anything more than minor physical activity) since inactivity in these patients may mask otherwise significant cardiac disease.	Fleisher LA, et al. ACC/AHA 2007 guidelines on perioperative cardiovascular evaluation and care for non-cardiac surgery. <i>Circulation</i> . 2007;116:e418-99. Poldermans D, et al. Guidelines for preoperative cardiac risk assessment and perioperative cardiac management in non-cardiac surgery. <i>Eur Heart J</i> . 2009;30:2769-812. Brunelli A, et al. Recalibration of the revised cardiac risk index in lung resection candidates. <i>Ann Thorac Surg</i> . 2010;90:199-203. Wijesundera DN, et al. Non-invasive cardiac stress testing before elective major non-cardiac surgery: population based cohort study. <i>BMJ</i> . 2010;340:b5526.	ACC/AHA, European Society of Cardiology guidelines
Surgical Cardio-vascular	Avoid cardiovascular stress testing for patients undergoing low-risk surgery. <i>Society for Vascular Medicine</i>	Preoperative stress testing does not alter therapy or decision making in patients facing low-risk surgery.	Fleisher LA, et al. ACC/AHA 2007 guidelines on perioperative cardiovascular evaluation and care for noncardiac surgery. <i>J Am Coll Cardiol</i> . 2007;50:e159-241.	ACC/AHA guideline
Surgical Cardio-vascular	Avoid echocardiograms for preoperative/perioperative assessment of patients with no history or symptoms of heart disease. <i>American Society of Echocardiography</i>	Perioperative echocardiography is used to clarify signs or symptoms of cardiovascular disease, or to investigate abnormal heart tests. Resting left ventricular function is not a consistent predictor of perioperative ischemic events; even reduced left ventricular systolic function has poor predictive value for perioperative cardiac events.	Douglas PS, et al. ACCF/ASE/AHA/ASNC/HFSA/HRS/SCAI/SCCM/SCCT/SCMR 2011 appropriate use criteria for echocardiography. <i>J Am Soc Echocardiogr</i> . 2011;24:229-67. Fleisher LA, et al. 2009 ACCF/AHA focused update on perioperative beta blockade incorporated into the ACC/AHA 2007 guidelines on perioperative cardiovascular evaluation and care for noncardiac surgery. <i>J Am Coll Cardiol</i> . 2009;54:e13-118. http://content.onlinejacc.org/article.aspx?articleid=1140211 .	ACC/AHA guidelines
Surgical	Don't order coronary artery calcium scoring	No evidence exists to support the diagnostic or prognostic potential of coronary artery	Fleisher LA, et al. ACC/AHA 2007 guidelines on perioperative cardiovascular evaluation and care for noncardiac surgery. <i>Circulation</i> .	ACC/AHA guideline

Cardio-vascular	<p>for preoperative evaluation for any surgery, irrespective of patient risk.</p> <p><i>Society of Cardiovascular Computed Tomography</i></p>	<p>calcium scoring in individuals in the preoperative setting. This practice may add costs and confound professional guideline-based evaluations.</p>	<p>2007;116(17):e418–99.</p>	
Surgical Cardio-vascular	<p>Don't initiate routine evaluation of carotid artery disease prior to cardiac surgery in the absence of symptoms or other high-risk criteria.</p> <p><i>Society of Thoracic Surgeons</i></p>	<p>Studies show that the presence of asymptomatic carotid disease in patients undergoing cardiac surgery does not justify preoperative screening in more than the subgroup of "high-risk" patients. Carotid stenosis with symptoms (stroke or transient ischemic attacks) is a known risk for cardiovascular accident and appropriate for preoperative testing. High-risk patients have been defined as patients with left main coronary disease, peripheral artery disease, hypertension, smoking, diabetes mellitus, or age older than 65 years due to a higher rate of asymptomatic carotid stenosis in these patients. The presence a carotid bruit does not equate to an increased risk of stroke after cardiac surgery. Patients with carotid stenosis have a higher rate of cerebrovascular complications after cardiac surgery, but there is no evidence that prophylactic or concomitant carotid surgery decreases this rate of complications in asymptomatic patients. Although controversial, the cumulative risk of carotid surgery and cardiac surgery, either sequentially or concomitantly, may exceed the benefit in asymptomatic patients.</p>	<p>Hillis LD, et al. 2011 ACCF/AHA guideline for coronary artery bypass graft surgery. <i>Circulation</i>. 2011;124(23):e652-e735.</p> <p>Stansby G, et al. Asymptomatic carotid disease and cardiac surgery consensus. <i>Angiology</i>. 2011;62:457-60.</p> <p>Tarakji KG, et al. Temporal onset, risk factors, and outcomes associated with stroke after coronary artery bypass grafting. <i>JAMA</i>. 2011;305:381-90.</p> <p>Naylor AR, et al. Stroke after cardiac surgery and its association with asymptomatic carotid disease: An updated systematic review and meta-analysis. <i>Eur J Vasc Endovasc Surg</i>. 2011;41:607-24.</p> <p>Cournot M, et al. Accuracy of the screening physical examination to identify subclinical atherosclerosis and peripheral arterial disease in asymptomatic subjects. <i>J Vasc Surg</i>. 2007;46:1215-21.</p> <p>Ratchford EV, et al. Carotid bruit for detection of hemodynamically significant carotid stenosis: the Northern Manhattan Study. <i>Neurol Res</i>. 2009;31:748-52.</p>	<p>ACC/AHA guideline</p>
Surgical Pulmonary medicine	<p>Prior to cardiac surgery, there is no need for pulmonary function testing in the absence of respiratory symptoms.</p> <p><i>Society of Thoracic Surgeons</i></p>	<p>Pulmonary function tests can be helpful in determining risk in cardiac surgery, but patients with no pulmonary disease are unlikely to benefit and do not justify testing. Symptoms attributed to cardiac disease that are respiratory in nature should be better characterized with pulmonary function tests.</p>	<p>Shahian DM, et al. The society of thoracic surgeons 2008 cardiac surgery risk models: Part 1–coronary artery bypass grafting surgery. <i>Ann Thorac Surg</i>. 2009;88:S2-22.</p> <p>O'Brien SM, et al. The society of thoracic surgeons 2008 cardiac surgery risk models: Part 2–isolated valve surgery. <i>Ann Thorac Surg</i>. 2009;88:S23-42.</p> <p>Ried M, et al. Mild-to-moderate COPD as a risk factor for increased 30-day mortality in cardiac surgery. <i>Thorac Cardiovasc Surg</i>.</p>	<p>Expert consensus</p>

			2010;58:387-91. Adabag AS, et al. Preoperative pulmonary function and mortality after cardiac surgery. <i>Am Heart J.</i> 2010;159(4):691-7.	
Surgical	Avoid admission or preoperative chest x-rays for ambulatory patients with unremarkable history and physical exam. <i>American College of Surgeons</i>	Performing routine admission or preoperative chest x-rays is not recommended for ambulatory patients without specific reasons suggested by the history and/or physical examination findings. Only 2% of such images lead to a change in management. Obtaining a chest radiograph is reasonable if acute cardiopulmonary disease is suspected or there is a history of chronic stable cardiopulmonary diseases in patients older than age 70 who have not had chest radiography within six months.	Mohammed TL, Kirsch J, Amorosa JK, Brown K, Chung JH, Dyer DS, Ginsburg ME, Heitkamp DE, Kanne JP, Kazerooni EA, Ketai LH, Ravenel JG, Saleh AG, Shah RD, Expert Panel on Thoracic Imaging. ACR Appropriateness Criteria® routine admission and preoperative chest radiography [Internet]. Reston (VA): American College of Radiology (ACR). 2011. 6 p. Gomez-Gil E, Trilla A, Corbella B, Fernández-Egea E, Luburich P, de Pablo J, Ferrer Raldúa J, Valdés M. Lack of clinical relevance of routine chest radiography in acute psychiatric admissions. <i>Gen Hosp Psychiatry.</i> 2002;24(2):110-3. Archer C, Levy AR, McGregor M. Value of routine preoperative chest x-rays: a meta-analysis. <i>Can J Anaesth.</i> 1993;40(11):1022-7. Munro J, Booth A, Nicholl J. Routine preoperative testing: a systematic review of the evidence. <i>Health Technol Assess.</i> 1997;1(12):i-iv:1-62. Grier DJ, Watson LF, Harnell GG, Wilde P. Are routine chest radiographs prior to angiography of any value? <i>Clin Radiol.</i> 1993;48(2):131-3. Gupta SD, Gibbins FJ, Sen I. Routine chest radiography in the elderly. <i>Age Ageing.</i> 1985;14(1):11-4. Amorosa JK, Bramwit MP, Mohammed TL, Reddy GP, Brown K, Dyer DS, Ginsburg ME, Heitkamp DE, Jeudy J, Kirsch J, MacMahon H, Ravenel JG, Saleh AG, Shah RD, Expert Panel on Thoracic Imaging. ACR Appropriateness Criteria® routine chest radiographs in ICU patients. [Internet]. Reston (VA): American College of Radiology (ACR); 2011. 6 p.	ACR Appropriateness Criteria
Surgical	Don't perform routine preoperative testing before low-risk surgical procedures. <i>Society of General Internal Medicine</i>	Preoperative assessment is expected before all surgical procedures. This assessment includes an appropriately directed and sufficiently comprehensive history and physical examination, and, in some cases, properly includes laboratory and other testing to help direct management and assess surgical risk. However, preoperative testing for low-risk surgical procedures (such as cataract extraction) results in unnecessary delays and adds to significant avoidable costs and should be eliminated.	Keay L, Lindsley K, Tielsch J, Katz J, Schein O. Routine preoperative medical testing for cataract surgery. <i>Cochrane Database Syst Rev.</i> 2012 Mar 14;3:CD007293. Czoski-Murray C, Jones ML, McCabe C, Claxton K, Oluboyede Y, Roberts J, Nicholl JP, Rees A, Reilly CS, Young D, Fleming T. What is the value of routinely testing full blood count, electrolytes and urea, and pulmonary function tests before elective surgery in patients with no apparent clinical indication and in subgroups of patients with common comorbidities: a systematic review of the clinical and cost-effective literature. <i>Health Technol Assess.</i> 2012 Dec;16(50):1-159. Fritsch G, Flamm M, Hepner DL, Panisch S, Seer J, Soennichsen A. <u>Abnormal pre-operative tests, pathologic findings of medical history,</u>	Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

			<p>and their predictive value for perioperative complications. <i>Acta Anaesthesiol Scand.</i> 2012;56(3):339-50.</p> <p>Benarroch-Gampel J, Sheffield KM, Duncan CB, Brown KM, Han Y, Townsend CM Jr, Riall TS. Preoperative laboratory testing in patients undergoing elective, low-risk ambulatory surgery. <i>Ann Surg.</i> 2012 Sep;256(3):518-28.</p> <p>Van Veen JJ, Spahn DR, Makris M. Routine preoperative coagulation tests: an outdated practice? <i>Br J Anaesth.</i> 2011;106:1-3.</p> <p>Chung F, Yuan H, Yin L, Vairavanathan S, Wong DT. Elimination of preoperative testing in ambulatory surgery. <i>Anesth Analg.</i> 2009 Feb;108(2):467-75.</p> <p>Apfelbaum JL, Connis RT and the Committee on Standards and Practice Parameters. Practice advisory for preanesthesia evaluation: an updated report by the American Society of Anesthesiologists Task Force on Preanesthesia Evaluation. <i>Anesthesiology.</i> 2012 Mar;116:522-38.</p>	
Surgical	Don't place, or leave in place, peripherally inserted central catheters for patient or provider convenience.	Peripherally inserted central catheters are commonly used devices in contemporary medical practice that are associated with two costly and potentially lethal health care-acquired complications: central-line associated bloodstream infection and venous thromboembolism. Given the clinical and economic consequences of these complications, placement of peripherally inserted central catheters should be limited to acceptable indications (long-term intravenous antibiotics, total parenteral nutrition, chemotherapy and frequent blood draws). Peripherally inserted central catheters should be promptly removed when acceptable indications for their use ends.	<p>Chopra V, Anand S, Krein SL, Chenoweth C, Saint S. Bloodstream infection, venous thrombosis, and peripherally inserted central catheters: reappraising the evidence. <i>Am J Med.</i> 2012;125(8):733-74.</p> <p>Chopra V, Anand S, Hickner A, Buist M, Rogers MA, Saint S, Flanders SA. Risk of venous thromboembolism associated with peripherally inserted central catheters: a systematic review and meta-analysis. <i>Lancet.</i> 2013 May 17; pii: S0140-6736(13)60592-9. ePub ahead of print.</p> <p>Safdar N, Maki DG. Risk of catheter-related bloodstream infection with peripherally inserted central venous catheters used in hospitalized patients. <i>Chest.</i> 2005;128(2):489-95.</p> <p>Tejedor SC, Tong D, Stein J, Payne C, Dressler D, Xue W, Steinberg JP. Temporary central venous catheter utilization patterns in a large tertiary care center: tracking the "Idle central venous catheter". <i>Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol.</i> 2012 Jan;33(1):50-57.</p>	Systematic review and meta-analysis
Infectious disease	<i>Society of General Internal Medicine</i>			
Surgical	Don't obtain baseline laboratory studies in patients without significant systemic disease (ASA I or II) undergoing low-risk surgery—specifically complete blood count, basic or comprehensive metabolic panel,	Performing routine laboratory tests in patients who are otherwise healthy is of little value in detecting disease. Evidence suggests that a targeted history and physical exam should determine whether preprocedure laboratory studies should be obtained. The current recommendation from the 2003 ASA amendment that all female patients of childbearing age be offered pregnancy testing rather than required to undergo testing has	<p>Committee on Standards and Practice Parameters, Apfelbaum JL, Connis RT, Nickinovich DG; American Society of Anesthesiologists Task Force on Preanesthesia Evaluation, Pasternak LR, Arens JF, Caplan RA, Connis RT, Fleisher LA, Flowerdew R, Gold BS, Mayhew JF, Nickinovich DG, Rice LJ, Roizen MF, Twersky RS. Practice advisory for preanesthesia evaluation: an updated report by the American Society of Anesthesiologists Task Force on Preanesthesia Evaluation. <i>Anesthesiology.</i> 2012 Mar;116(3):522-38.</p> <p>Kumar A, Srivastava U. Role of routine laboratory investigations in preoperative evaluation. <i>J Anaesthesiol Clin Pharmacol.</i></p>	ASA guideline

	<p>coagulation studies when blood loss (or fluid shifts) is/are expected to be minimal.</p> <p><i>American Society of Anesthesiologists</i></p>	<p>provided individual physicians and hospitals the opportunity to set their own practices and policies relating to preoperative pregnancy testing. Some institutions respect the right of a patient to refuse testing after a thorough explanation of the anesthetic risks during pregnancy and the required signing of a waiver. The avoidance of the routine administration of the pregnancy test was therefore excluded from our top five preoperative recommendations. The risk specifically related to the surgical procedure could however modify the above preoperative recommendation to obtain laboratory studies and when the need arises; the decision to implement should include a joint decision between the anesthesiologists and surgeons. This should be applicable to all outpatient surgery.</p>	<p>2011;27(2):174-9.</p> <p>Mollov JL, Twersky RS. (2013). Is routine preoperative pregnancy testing necessary? In: Fleisher L. Evidence-based practice of anesthesiology (3rd ed., pp. 26-30). Philadelphia (PA): Elsevier Saunders.</p> <p>Soares Dde S, Brandao RR, Mourao MR, Azevedo VL, Figueiredo AV, Trindade ES. Relevance of routine testing in low risk patients undergoing minor and medium surgical procedures. Rev Bras Anesthesiol. 2013;63(2):197-201.</p> <p>Brown SR, Brown J. Why do physicians order preoperative test? A qualitative study. Fam Med. 2011;43(5):338-43.</p> <p>Czowski-Murray C, Lloyd JM, McCabe C, Claxton K, Oluboyede Y, Roberts J, Nicholls JP, Rees A, Reilly CS, Young D, Fleming T. What is the value of routinely testing full blood count, electrolytes and urea, and pulmonary function test before elective surgery in patients with no apparent clinical indication and in subgroups of patients with common comorbidities: a systematic review of the clinical and cost-effective literature. Health Technol Assess. 2012;16(50):1-159.</p> <p>Katz RI, Dexter F, Rosenfeld K, Wolfe L, Redmond V, Agarwal D, Salik I, Goldstein K, Goodman M, Glass PS. Survey study of anesthesiologists' and surgeons' ordering of unnecessary preoperative laboratory tests. Anesth Analg. 2011;112(1):207-12.</p> <p>Keay L, Lindsley K, Tielsch J, Katz J, Schein O. Routine preoperative testing for cataract surgery. Cochrane Database Syst Rev. 2012;3:CD007293.</p>	
<p>Surgical Cardio-vascular</p>	<p>Don't obtain baseline diagnostic cardiac testing (transthoracic/esophageal echocardiography) or cardiac stress testing in asymptomatic stable patients with known cardiac disease (e.g., coronary artery disease, valvular disease) undergoing low or moderate risk noncardiac surgery.</p> <p><i>American Society of Anesthesiologists</i></p>	<p>Advances in cardiovascular medical management, particularly the introduction of perioperative beta-blockade and improvements in surgical and anesthetic techniques, have significantly decreased operative morbidity and mortality rates in noncardiac surgery. Surgical outcomes continue to improve causing the mortality rate of major surgeries to be low and the need for revascularization minimal. Consequently, the role of preoperative cardiac stress testing has been reduced to the identification of extremely high-risk patients, for instance, those with significant left main disease for which preoperative revascularization would be beneficial regardless of the impending procedure. In other words, testing may be</p>	<p>Committee on Standards and Practice Parameters, Apfelbaum JL, Connis RT, Nickinovich DG; American Society of Anesthesiologists Task Force on Preanesthesia Evaluation, Pasternak LR, Arens JF, Caplan RA, Connis RT, Fleisher LA, Flowerdew R, Gold BS, Mayhew JF, Nickinovich DG, Rice LJ, Roizen MF, Twersky RS. Practice advisory for preanesthesia evaluation: an updated report by the American Society of Anesthesiologists Task Force on Preanesthesia Evaluation. Anesthesiology. 2012 Mar;116(3):522-38.</p> <p>Miller AL, Beckman JA. (2013). Which patient should have a preoperative cardiac evaluation (stress test)? In: Fleisher L. Evidence-based practice of anesthesiology (3rd ed., pp. 61-70). Philadelphia (PA): Elsevier Saunders.</p> <p>Schiefermueller J, Myerson S, Handa AI. Preoperative assessment and perioperative management of cardiovascular risk. Angiology. 2013;64(2):146-50.</p> <p>Sheffield KM, McAdams PS, Benarroch-Gampel J, Goodwin JS, Boyd</p>	<p>ASA guideline</p>

		<p>appropriate if the results would change management prior to surgery, could change the decision of the patient to undergo surgery, or change the type of procedure that the surgeon will perform.</p>	<p>CA, Zhang D, Riall TS. Overuse of preoperative cardiac stress testing in medicare patients undergoing elective noncardiac surgery. <i>Ann Surg.</i> 2013; 257(1):73-80.</p> <p>Almanaseer Y, Mukherjee D, Kline-Rogers EM, Kesterson SK, Sonnad SS, Roges B, Smith D, Furney S, Ernst R, McCort J, Eagle KA. Implementation of the ACC/AHA guidelines for preoperative cardiac risk assessment in a general medicine preoperative clinic: improving efficiency and preserving outcomes. <i>Cardiology.</i> 2005;103(1):24-9.</p> <p>Cinello M, Nucifora G, Bertolissi M, Badano LP, Fresco C, Gonano N, Fioretti PM. American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association perioperative assessment guidelines for noncardiac surgery reduces cardiologic resource utilization preserving favorable outcome. <i>J Cardiovasc Med.</i> 2007;8(11):882-8.</p> <p>Augoustides JG, Neuman MD, Al-Ghofaily L, Silvey G. Preoperative cardiac risk assessment for noncardiac surgery: defining costs and risks. <i>J Cardiothorac Vasc Anesth.</i> 2013;27(2):395-9.</p> <p>Falcone RA, Nass C, Jermyn R, Hale CM, Stierer T, Jones CE, Walters GK, Fleisher LA. The value of preoperative pharmacologic stress testing before vascular surgery using ACC/AHA guidelines: a prospective randomized trial. <i>J Cardiothorac Vasc Anesth.</i> 2003;17(6):694-8.</p> <p>Poldermans D, Boersma E. Beta-blocker therapy in noncardiac surgery. <i>N Engl J Med.</i> 2005;353:412-4.</p>	
Surgical	<p>Don't routinely administer colloid (dextrans, hydroxylethyl starches, albumin) for volume resuscitation without appropriate indications.</p> <p><i>American Society of Anesthesiologists</i></p>	<p>There is no evidence from multiple randomized controlled trials and recent reviews/meta-analyses that resuscitation with colloids reduces the risk of death compared to crystalloids. Colloids offer no survival benefit and are considerably more expensive than crystalloids; their continued routine use in clinical practice should therefore be questioned. Recent perioperative data on the use of colloids in certain populations remain controversial; nevertheless, there is consensus on the avoidance of the routine use of colloids for volume resuscitation in the general surgical population given the overwhelming amount of evidence in the literature of possible harm when used in un-indicated patients. Health care providers should refer to the current evolving literature when faced</p>	<p>Committee on Standards and Practice Parameters, Apfelbaum JL, Connis RT, Nickinovich DG; American Society of Anesthesiologists Task Force on Preanesthesia Evaluation, Pasternak LR, Arens JF, Caplan RA, Connis RT, Fleisher LA, Flowerdew R, Gold BS, Mayhew JF, Nickinovich DG, Rice LJ, Roizen MF, Twersky RS. Practice advisory for preanesthesia evaluation: an updated report by the American Society of Anesthesiologists Task Force on Preanesthesia Evaluation. <i>Anesthesiology.</i> 2012 Mar;116(3):522-38.</p> <p>Perel P, Roberts I, Pearson M. Colloid versus crystalloid for fluid resuscitation in critically ill patients (Review). <i>The Cochrane Collaboration, the Cochrane Library</i> 2009;3.</p> <p>Perel P, Roberts I, Ker K. Colloids versus crystalloids for fluid resuscitation in critically ill patients. <i>Cochrane Database Syst Rev.</i> 2013 Feb 28;2.</p> <p>Perel P, Roberts I. Colloids versus crystalloids for fluid resuscitation in critically ill patients. <i>Cochrane Database Syst Rev.</i> 2012 Jun 13;6.</p> <p>Perel P, Roberts I. Colloids versus crystalloids for fluid resuscitation in</p>	<p>Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews</p>

		<p>with specific conditions like sepsis, traumatic brain injury, acute renal injury and burns thereby creating a forum for discussion among the care providers of the efficacy of such a treatment in that individual patient.</p> <p>Nevertheless, it is important to note that the endpoint in most studies is mortality and morbidity. There is insufficient data to adequately address the need of colloids over crystalloids for other endpoints of interest like hypotension, need for blood transfusion, length of hospital stay, etc. Further research may be required to delineate the existence of any particular benefits of colloids over crystalloids.</p>	<p>critically ill patients. Cochrane Database Syst Rev. 2011 Mar 16;(3):CD000567.</p> <p>Perel P, Roberts I. Colloids versus crystalloids for fluid resuscitation in critically ill patients. Cochrane Database Syst Rev. 2007 Oct 17;(4):CD000567.</p> <p>Roberts I, Alderson P, Bunn F, Chinnock P, Ker K, Schierhout G. Colloids versus crystalloids for fluid resuscitation in critically ill patients. Cochrane Database Syst Rev. 2004 Oct 18;(3):CD000567.</p> <p>Kruer RM, Ensor CR. Colloids in the intensive care unit. Am J Health Syst Pharm. 2012 Oct 1;69(19):1635-42.</p> <p>NATA: Network for Advancement and Transfusion Alternatives. Crystalloids versus colloids: the controversy [Internet]. NATA. 2013 [cited 2013 Sep 20]. Available from: http://www.nataonline.com/np/158/crystalloids-versus-colloids-controversy.</p> <p>Reinhart K, Perner A, Sprung CL, Jaeschke R, Schortgen F, Johan Groeneveld AB, Beale R, Hartog CS; European Society of Intensive Care Medicine. Consensus statement of the ESICM task force on colloid volume therapy in critically ill patients. Intensive Care Med. 2012;38(3):368-83.</p>	
Surgical Infectious disease	<p>Don't routinely use topical antibiotics on a surgical wound.</p> <p><i>American Academy of Dermatology</i></p>	<p>The use of topical antibiotics on clean surgical wounds has not been shown to reduce the rate of infection compared to the use of non-antibiotic ointment or no ointment. Topical antibiotics can aggravate open wounds, hindering the normal wound-healing process. When topical antibiotics are used in this setting, there is a significant risk of developing contact dermatitis, a condition in which the skin becomes red, sore, or inflamed after direct contact with a substance, along with the potential for developing antibiotic resistance. Only wounds that show symptoms of infection should receive appropriate antibiotic treatment.</p>	<p>Dixon AJ, Dixon MP, Dixon JB. Randomized clinical trial of the effect of applying ointment to surgical wounds before occlusive dressing. Br J Surg. 2006 Aug;93(8):937-43.</p> <p>Smack DP, Harrington AC, Dunn C, Howard RS, Szkutnik AJ, Krivda SJ, Caldwell JB, James WD. Infection and allergy incidence in ambulatory surgery patients using white petrolatum vs bacitracin ointment. A randomized controlled trial. JAMA. 1996 Sep 25;276(12):972-7.</p> <p>Campbell RM, Perlis CS, Fisher E, Gloster HM Jr. Gentamicin ointment versus petrolatum for management of auricular wounds. Dermatol Surg. 2005 Jun;31(6):664-9.</p> <p>Sheth VM, Weitzul S. Postoperative topical antimicrobial use. Dermatitis. 2008 Jul-Aug;19(4):181-9.</p> <p>Gehrig KA, Warshaw EM. Allergic contact dermatitis to topical antibiotics: epidemiology, responsible allergens, and management. J Am Acad Dermatol. 2008 Jan;58(1):1-21.</p>	RCTs
Surgical Cardio-vascular	<p>Don't perform cardiac imaging as a preoperative assessment in patients scheduled to undergo low- or</p>	<p>Noninvasive testing is not useful for patients undergoing low-risk noncardiac surgery or with no cardiac symptoms or clinical risk factors undergoing intermediate-risk noncardiac surgery. These types of testing do</p>	<p>Hendel RC, Berman DS, Di Carli MF, Heidenreich PA, Henkin RE, Pellikka PA, Pohost GM, Williams KA. ACCF/ASNC/ACR/AHA/ASE/SCCT/SCMR/SNM 2009 appropriate use criteria for cardiac radionuclide imaging: a report of the American College of Cardiology Foundation Appropriate Use Criteria Task</p>	ACC/AHA guidelines

	intermediate-risk noncardiac surgery. <i>American Society of Nuclear Cardiology</i>	not change the patient's clinical management or outcomes and will result in increased costs. Therefore, it is not appropriate to perform cardiac imaging procedures for noncardiac surgery risk assessment in patients with no cardiac symptoms, clinical risk factors, or who have moderate to good functional capacity.	Force, the American Society of Nuclear Cardiology, the American College of Radiology, the American Heart Association, the American Society of Echocardiography, the Society of Cardiovascular Computed Tomography, the Society for Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance, and the Society of Nuclear Medicine. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2009;53:2201-29. Fleisher LA, Beckman JA, Brown KA, Calkins H, Chaikof EL, Fleischmann KE, Freeman WK, Froehlich JB, Kasper EK, Kersten JR, Riegel B, Robb JF. ACC/AHA 2007 guidelines on perioperative cardiovascular evaluation and care for noncardiac surgery: a report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Task force on Practice Guidelines (Writing Committee to Revise the 2002 Guidelines on Perioperative Cardiovascular Evaluation for Noncardiac Surgery). J Am Coll Cardiol. 2007;50:e159-242.	
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Topic area(s)	Recommendation	Rationale and comments	References	Source
Urologic Pediatric	Don't perform ultrasound on boys with cryptorchidism. <i>American Urological Association</i>	Ultrasound has been found to have poor diagnostic performance in the localization of testes that cannot be felt through physical examination. Studies have shown that the probability of locating testes was small when using ultrasound, and there was still a significant chance that testes were present even after a negative ultrasound result. Additionally, ultrasound results are complicated by the presence of surrounding tissue and bowel gas present in the abdomen.	Tasian G, et al. Diagnostic performance of ultrasound in nonpalpable cryptorchidism: a systematic review and meta-analysis. Pediatrics. 2011;127(1):119-28.	Systematic review and meta-analysis
Urologic	Don't prescribe testosterone to men with erectile dysfunction who have normal testosterone levels. <i>American Urological Association</i>	While testosterone treatment is shown to increase sexual interest, there appears to be no significant influence on erectile function. The information available in studies to date is insufficient to fully evaluate testosterone's efficacy in the treatment of men with erectile dysfunction who have normal testosterone levels.	American Urological Association. Management of erectile dysfunction clinical practice guideline. http://www.auanet.org/content/clinical-practice-guidelines/clinical-guidelines.cfm?sub=ed .	AUA guideline
Urologic	Don't order creatinine or upper-tract imaging for patients with benign prostatic hyper-plasia. <i>American Urological Association</i>	When an initial evaluation shows only the presence of lower urinary tract symptoms, if the symptoms are not significantly bothersome to the patient or if the patient doesn't desire treatment, no further evaluation is recommended. Such patients are unlikely to experience significant health problems in the future due to their condition and can be seen again if necessary. (While the patient can often	American Urological Association. Management of the benign prostatic hyperplasia clinical practice guideline. http://www.auanet.org/content/guidelines-and-quality-care/clinical-guidelines.cfm?sub=bph .	AUA guideline

		tell the provider if the symptoms are bothersome enough that he desires additional therapy, another possible option is to use a validated questionnaire to assess symptoms. For example, if the patient completes the International Prostate Symptom Scale and has a symptom score of 8 or greater, this is considered to be "clinically" bothersome.)		
Urologic	Don't treat an elevated PSA with antibiotics for patients not experiencing other symptoms. <i>American Urological Association</i>	It had previously been suggested that a course of antibiotics might lead to a decrease in an initially raised PSA and reduce the need for prostate biopsy; however, there is a lack of clinical studies to show that antibiotics actually decrease PSA levels. It should also be noted that a decrease in PSA does not indicate an absence of prostate cancer. There is no information available on the implications of deferring a biopsy following a decrease in PSA.	Heldwein FL, et al. Antibiotics and observation have a similar impact on asymptomatic patients with a raised PSA. <i>BJU Int.</i> 2011;107(10):1576-81. Stopliglia RM, et al. Prostate specific antigen and prostate cancer diagnosis: antibiotic versus placebo prospective randomized clinical trial. <i>J Urol.</i> 2010;183(3):940-4.	RCT
Urologic	Don't place, or leave in place, urinary catheters for incontinence or convenience or monitoring of output for non-critically ill patients (acceptable indications: critical illness, obstruction, hospice, perioperatively for < 2 days for urologic procedures; use weights instead to monitor diuresis). <i>Society of Hospital Medicine (Adult)</i>	Catheter-associated urinary tract infections are the most common (frequently occurring) health care-acquired infection. Use of urinary catheters for incontinence or convenience without proper indication or specified optimal duration of use increases the likelihood of infection and is commonly associated with greater morbidity, mortality and health care costs. Published guidelines suggest that hospitals and long-term care facilities should develop, maintain, and promulgate policies and procedures for recommended catheter insertion indications, insertion and maintenance techniques, discontinuation strategies, and replacement indications.	Hooton TM, et al. Diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of catheter-associated urinary tract infection in adults. <i>Clin Infect Dis.</i> 2010;50(5):625-63. Saint S, et al. Catheter-associated urinary tract infection and the Medicare rule changes. <i>Ann Intern Med.</i> 2009;150(12):877-84. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Joint Commission. Standards for hospital care, surgical Care Improvement Project (SCIP), SCIP-Inf-9; Performance measure name: urinary catheter removed on postoperative day 1 (POD 1) or postoperative day 2 (POD 2) with day of surgery being day zero. 2013. 2013 Joint Commission National Hospital Inpatient Quality Measures Specification Manual, version 4.11.	IDSA guideline, Joint Commission
Urologic Oncologic	Don't initiate management of low-risk prostate cancer without discussing active surveillance. <i>American Society for Radiation Oncology</i>	Patients with prostate cancer have a number of reasonable management options. These include surgery and radiation, as well as conservative monitoring without therapy in appropriate patients. Shared decision-making between the patient and the physician can lead to better alignment of patient goals with treatment and more efficient care delivery.	Dahabreh IJ, Chung M, Balk EM, Yu WW, Mathew P, Lau J, Ip S. Active surveillance in men with localized prostate cancer: a systematic review. <i>Ann Intern Med.</i> 2012 Apr 17;156(8):582-90. Wilt TJ, Brawer MK, Jones KM, Barry MJ, Aronson WJ, Fox S, Gingrich JR, Wei JT, Gilhooly P, Grob BM, Nsouli I, Iyer P, Cartagena R, Snider G, Roehrborn C, Sharifi R, Blank W, Pandya P, Andriole GL, Culkin D, Wheeler T; Prostate Cancer Intervention versus Observation Trial (PIVOT) Study Group. Radical prostatectomy	Systematic review

		<p>The American Society for Radiation Oncology has published patient-directed written decision aids concerning prostate cancer and numerous other types of cancer. These types of instruments can give patients confidence about their choices, improving compliance with therapy.</p>	<p>versus observation for localized prostate cancer. <i>N Engl J Med.</i> 2012 Jul 19;367(3):203-13.</p> <p>Bill-Axelsson A, Holmberg L, Ruutu M, Garmo H, Stark JR, Busch C, Nordling S, Häggman M, Andersson SO, Bratell S, Spångberg A, Palmgren J, Steineck G, Adami HO, Johansson JE; SPCG-4 Investigators. Radical prostatectomy versus watchful waiting in early prostate cancer. <i>N Engl J Med.</i> 2011 May 5;364(18):1708-17.</p> <p>Thompson I, Thrasher JB, Aus G, Burnett AL, Canby-Hagino ED, Cookson MS, D'Amico AV, Dmochowski RR, Eton DT, Forman JD, Goldenberg SL, Hernandez J, Higano CS, Kraus SR, Moul JW, Tangen CM; AUA Prostate Cancer Clinical Guideline Update Panel. Guideline for the management of clinically localized prostate cancer: 2007 update. <i>J Urol.</i> 2007 Jun;177(6):2352-6.</p> <p>Klotz L, Zhang L, Lam A, Nam R, Mamedov A, Loblaw A. Clinical results of long-term follow-up of a large, active surveillance cohort with localized prostate cancer. <i>J Clin Oncol.</i> 2010 Jan 1;28(1):126-31.</p> <p>Stacey D, Bennett CL, Barry MJ, Col NF, Eden KB, Holmes-Rovner M, Llewellyn-Thomas H, Lyddiatt A, Légaré F, Thomson R. Decision aids for people facing health treatment or screening decisions. <i>Cochrane Database Syst Rev.</i> 2011 Oct 5;10:CD001431.</p>	
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- AAN = American Academy of Neurology
- AAO-HNSF = American Academy of Otolaryngology–Head and Neck Surgery Foundation
- AAP = American Academy of Pediatrics;
- ACC = American College of Cardiology
- ACCP = American College of Chest Physicians
- ACEP = American College of Emergency Physicians
- ACOG = American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
- ACR = American College of Radiology
- ACS = American Cancer Society
- AGS = American Geriatrics Society
- AHA = American Heart Association
- AHRQ = Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
- ANA = antinuclear antibody
- ASA = American Society of Anesthesiologists
- ASCCP = American Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology
- ASCP = American Society for Clinical Pathology
- AUA = American Urological Association
- CAD = coronary artery disease
- CT = computed tomography
- DEXA = dual-energy x-ray absorptiometry
- DMARD = disease-modifying antirheumatic drug

DVT = deep vein thrombosis
GERD = gastroesophageal reflux disease
HPV = human papillomavirus
IDSA = Infectious Diseases Society of America
MRI = magnetic resonance imaging
NICE = National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence
NOF = National Osteoporosis Foundation
NSAID = nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug
Pap = Papanicolaou
PE = pulmonary embolism
PSA = prostate-specific antigen
RCT = randomized controlled trial
USPSTF = U.S. Preventive Services Task Force
V/Q = ventilation/perfusion.