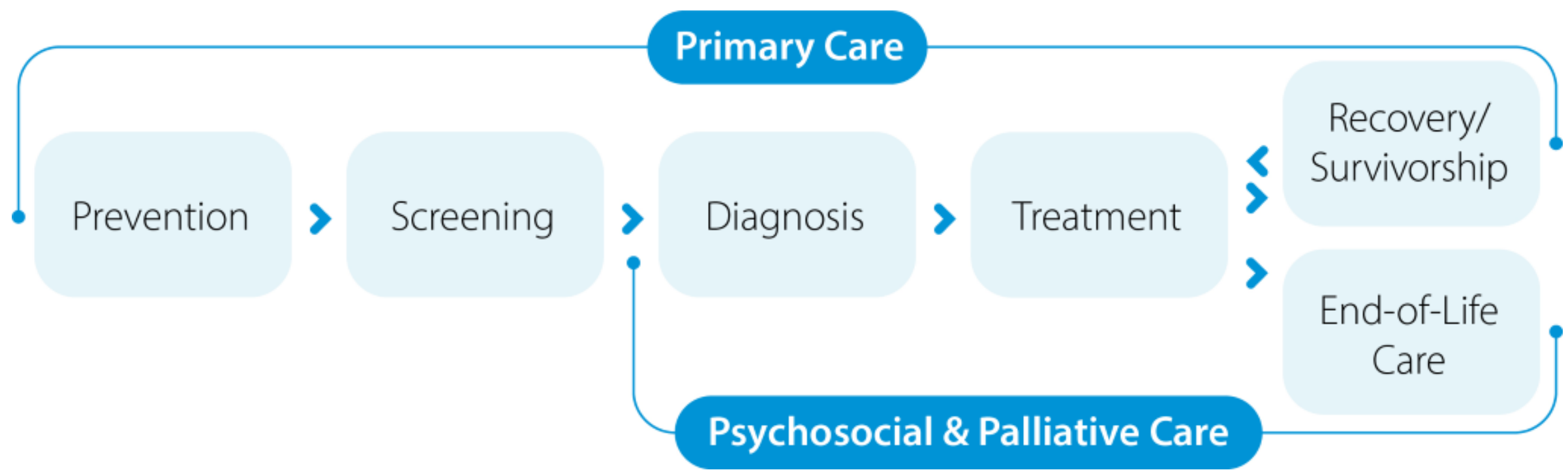


Esophageal Cancer Treatment Pathway Map

Version 2023.01



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Ontario Health
Cancer Care Ontario

Target Population

Patients with a confirmed esophageal cancer diagnosis who have undergone the recommended diagnostic and staging procedures as outlined in the **Esophageal Cancer Diagnosis Pathway Map**.

Pathway Map Considerations

- Counseling and treatment for smoking cessation should be initiated early on in the pathway and continued by care provider throughout the pathway as necessary [Smoking Cessation Information for Healthcare Providers](#).
- Primary care providers play an important role in the cancer journey and should be informed of relevant tests and consultations. Ongoing care with a primary care provider is assumed to be part of the pathway map. For patients who do not have a primary care provider, [Health Care Connect](#) is a government resource that helps patients find a doctor or nurse practitioner.
- Throughout the pathway map, a shared decision-making model should be implemented to enable and encourage patients to play an active role in the management of their care. For more information see [Person-Centered Care Guideline](#) and [EBS #19-2 Provider-Patient Communication](#).*
- Hyperlinks are used throughout the pathway map to provide information about relevant Ontario Health (Cancer Care Ontario) tools, resources and guidance documents.
- The term ‘health care provider’, used throughout the pathway map, includes primary care providers and specialists, e.g. family doctors, nurse practitioners, and emergency physicians.
- Multidisciplinary Cancer Conferences (MCCs) may be considered for all phases of the pathway map. For more information on Multidisciplinary Cancer Conferences, visit [MCC Tools](#).
- For more information on wait time prioritization, visit [Surgery](#).
- Clinical trials should be considered for all phases of the pathway map.
- Sexual health should be considered throughout the care continuum. Healthcare providers should discuss sexual health with patients before, during and after treatment as part of informed decision-making and symptom management. See [Psychosocial Oncology Guidelines Resources](#).
- Before initiating gonadotoxic therapy (e.g. surgery, systemic, radiation), healthcare providers should discuss potential effects on fertility with patients and arrange referral to a fertility specialist if appropriate. See [Ontario Fertility Program](#).
- Psychosocial oncology (PSO) is the interprofessional specialty concerned with understanding and treating the social, practical, psychological, emotional, spiritual and functional needs and quality-of-life impact that cancer has on patients and their families. Psychosocial care should be considered an integral and standardized part of cancer care for patients and their families at all stages of the illness trajectory. For more information, visit [EBS #19-3](#).*

* **Note.** [EBS #19-2](#) and [EBS #19-3](#) are older than 3 years and are currently listed as ‘For Education and Information Purposes’. This means that the recommendations will no longer be maintained but may still be useful for academic or other information purpose s.

Pathway Map Legend

Colour Guide

Primary Care

Palliative Care

Pathology

Surgery

Radiation Oncology

Medical Oncology

Radiology

Multidisciplinary Cancer Conference (MCC)

Psychosocial Oncology (PSO)

Endoscopy/Gastroenterology

Shape Guide

Intervention

Decision or assessment point

Patient (disease) characteristics

Consultation with specialist

Exit pathway

Off page reference

Referral

Line Guide

Required

Possible

Pathway Map Disclaimer

This pathway map is a resource that provides an overview of the treatment that an individual in the Ontario cancer system may receive.

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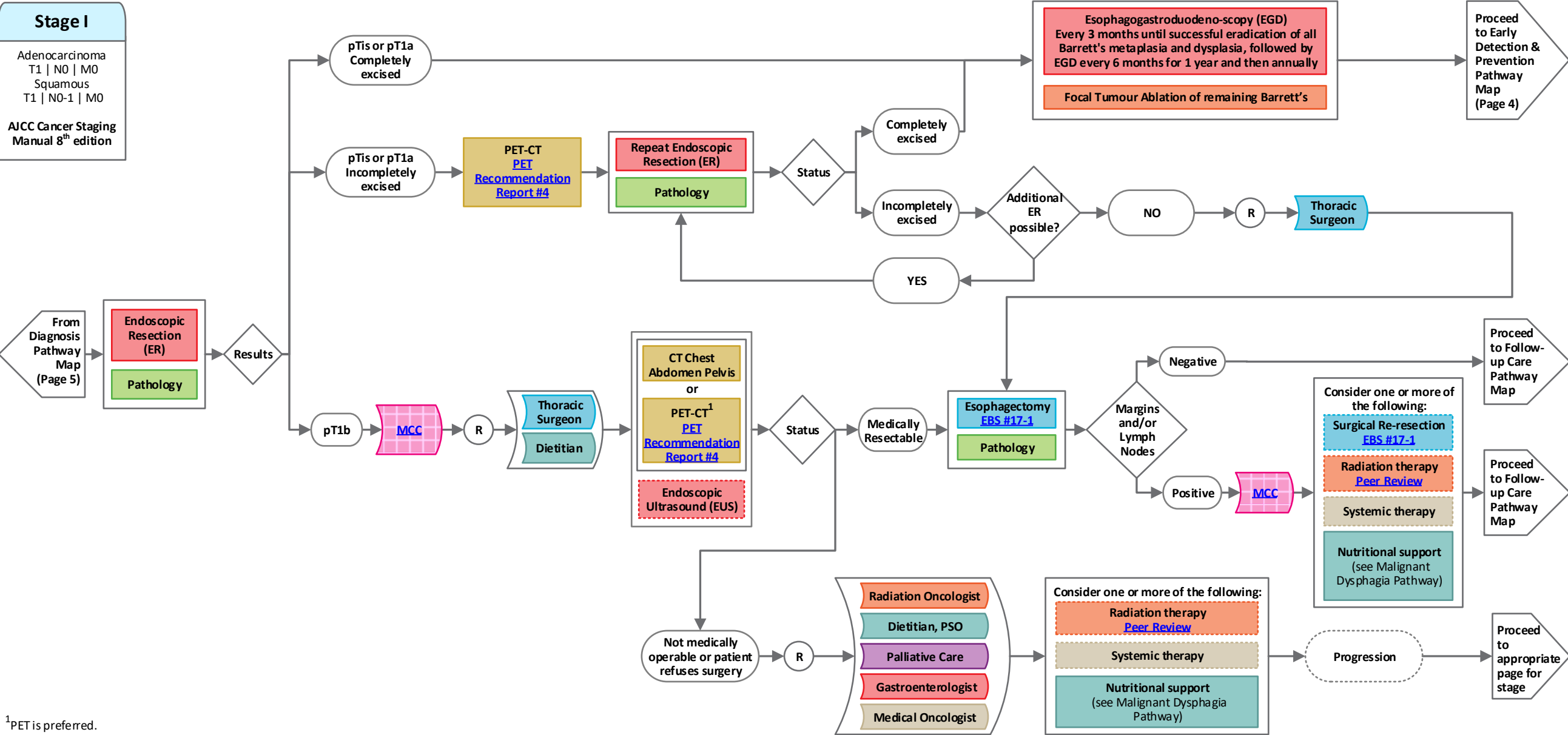
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This pathway map may not reflect all the available scientific research and is not intended as an exhaustive resource. Ontario Health (Cancer Care Ontario) and its content providers assume no responsibility for omissions or incomplete information in this pathway map. It is possible that other relevant scientific findings may have been reported since completion of this pathway map. This pathway map may be superseded by an updated pathway map on the same topic.

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Screen for psychosocial needs, and assessment and management of symptoms. [Click here for more information about symptom assessment and management tools](#)

Consider the introduction of palliative care, early and across the cancer journey. [Click here for more information about palliative care](#)

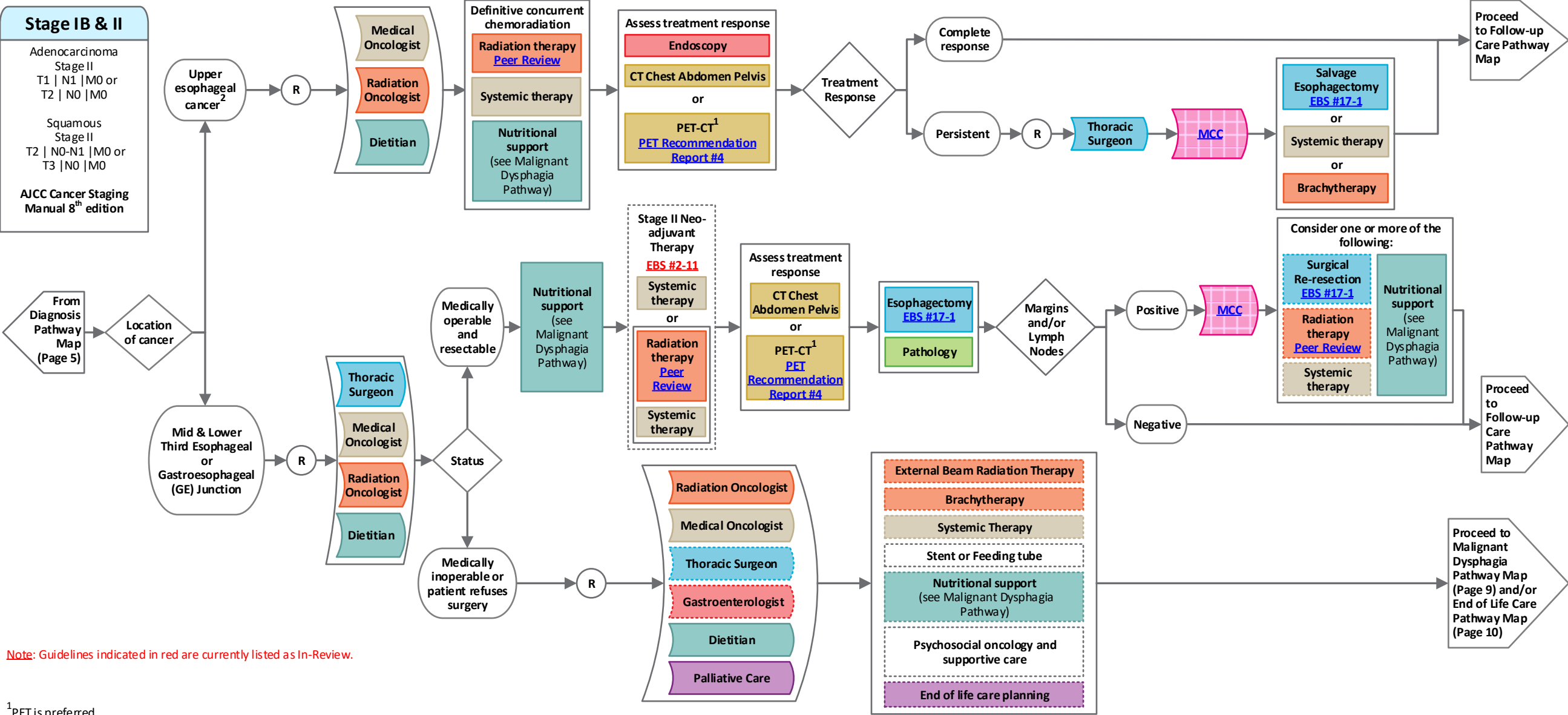


¹PET is preferred.

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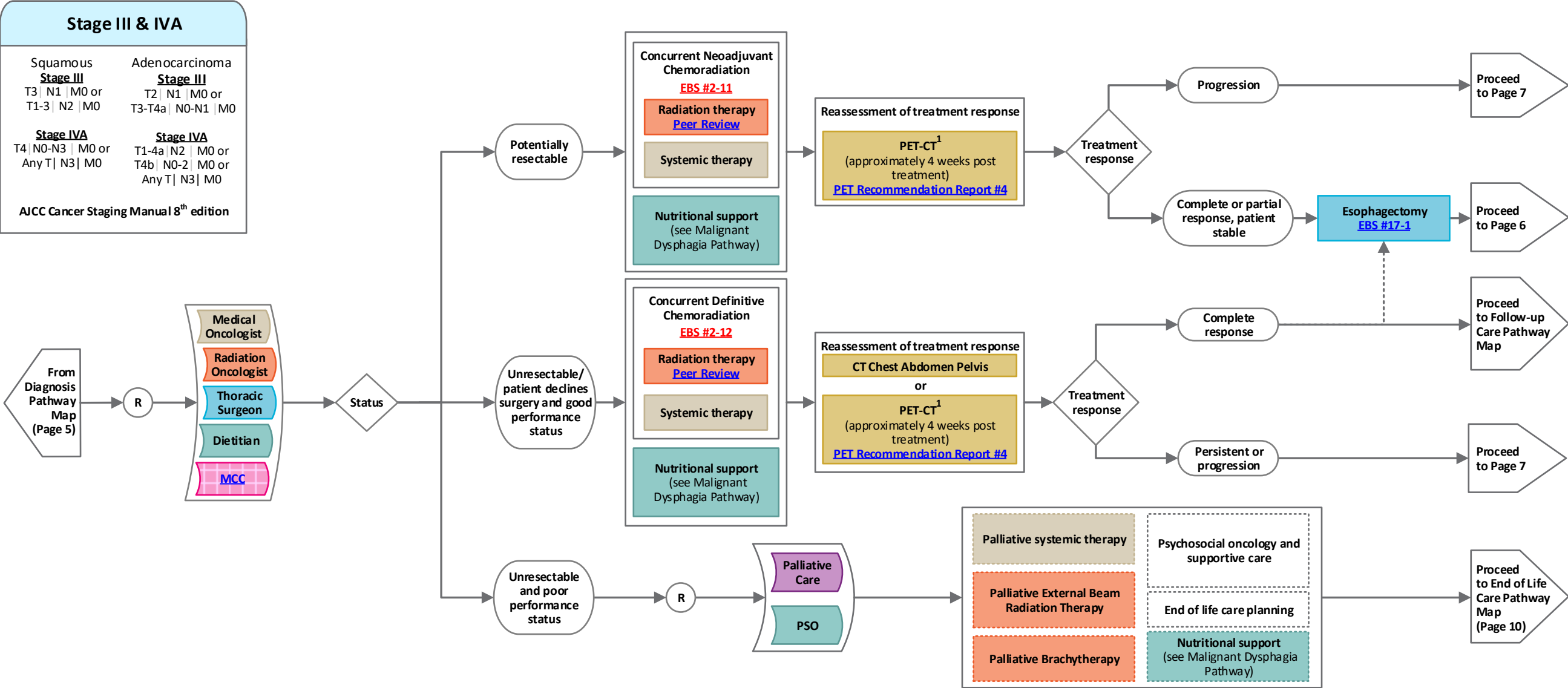
Note: Guidelines indicated in red are currently listed as In-Review.

¹PET is preferred.
²Upper Thoracic Esophagus: 20 to 25cm from upper central incisor teeth on esophagogastroduodenoscopy (EGD).

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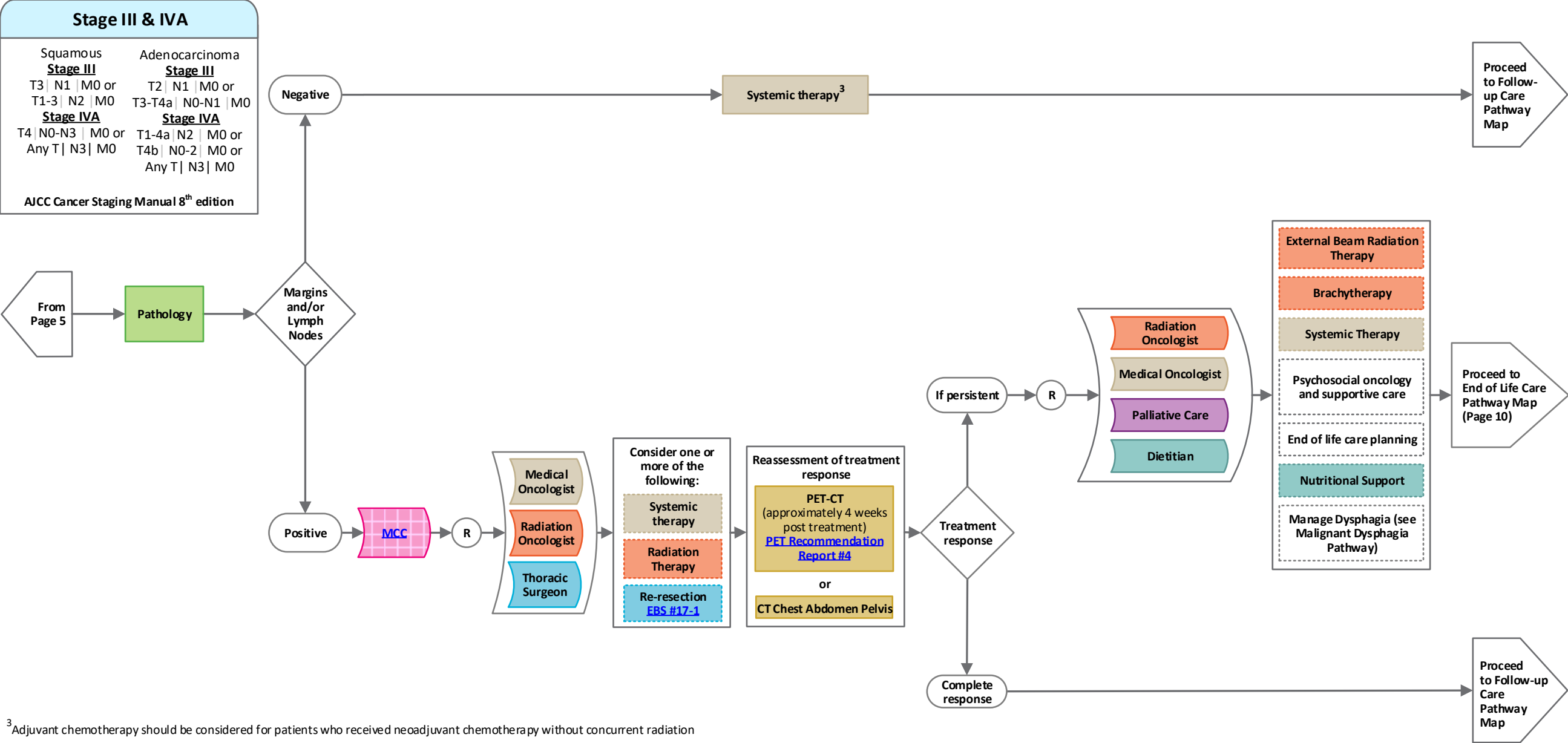
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³Adjuvant chemotherapy should be considered for patients who received neoadjuvant chemotherapy without concurrent radiation

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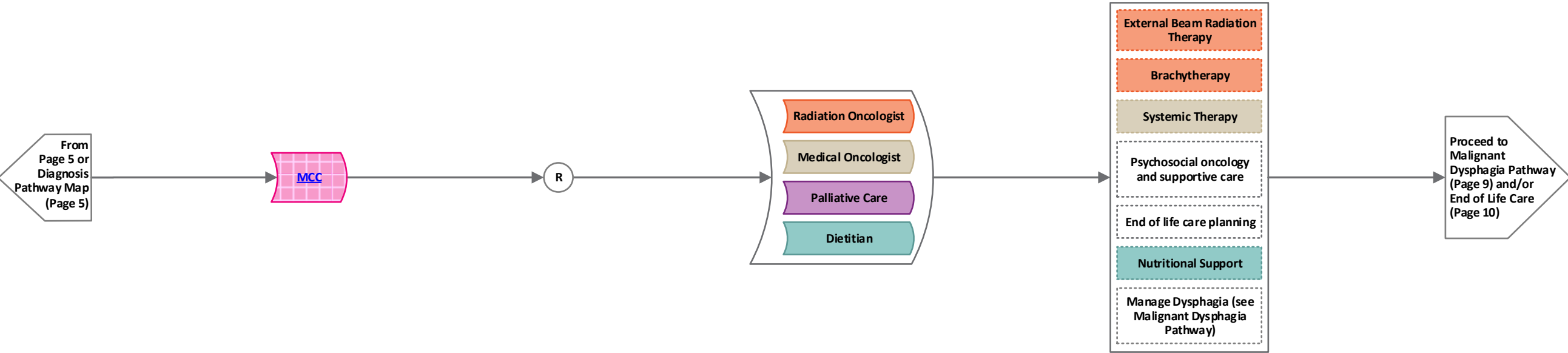
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Stage IVB

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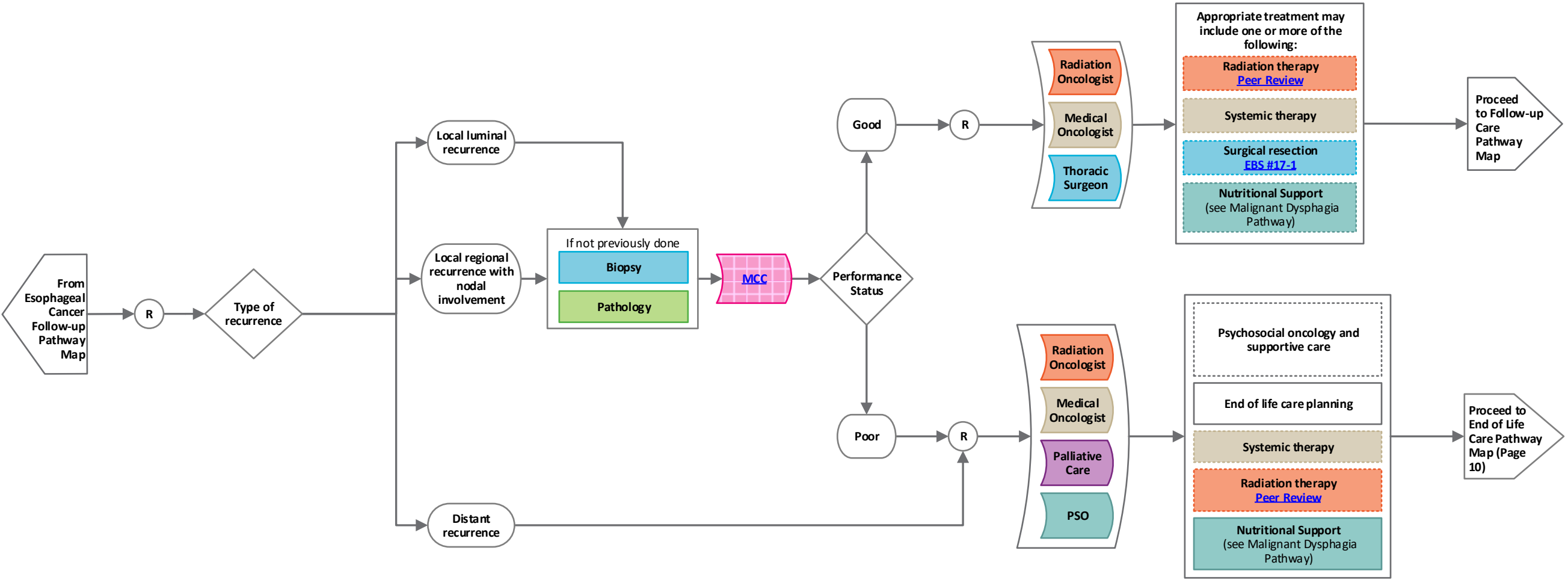
AJCC Cancer Staging
Manual 8th edition



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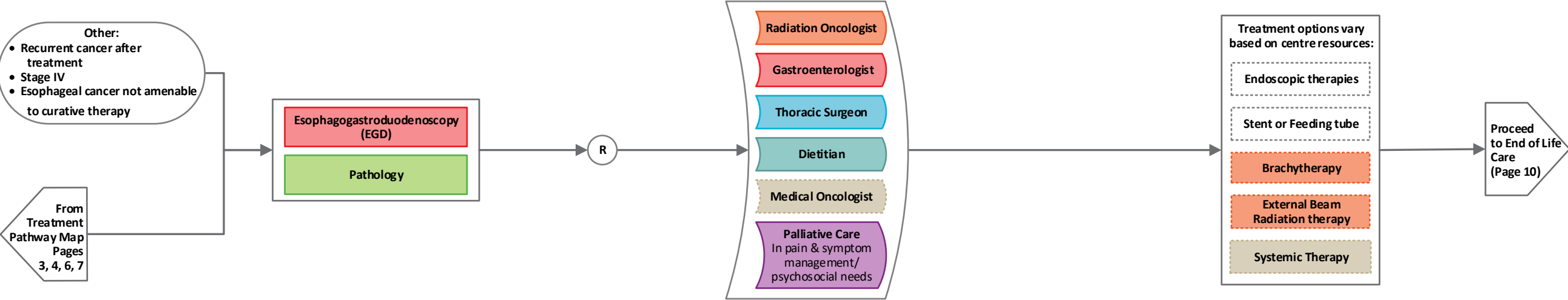
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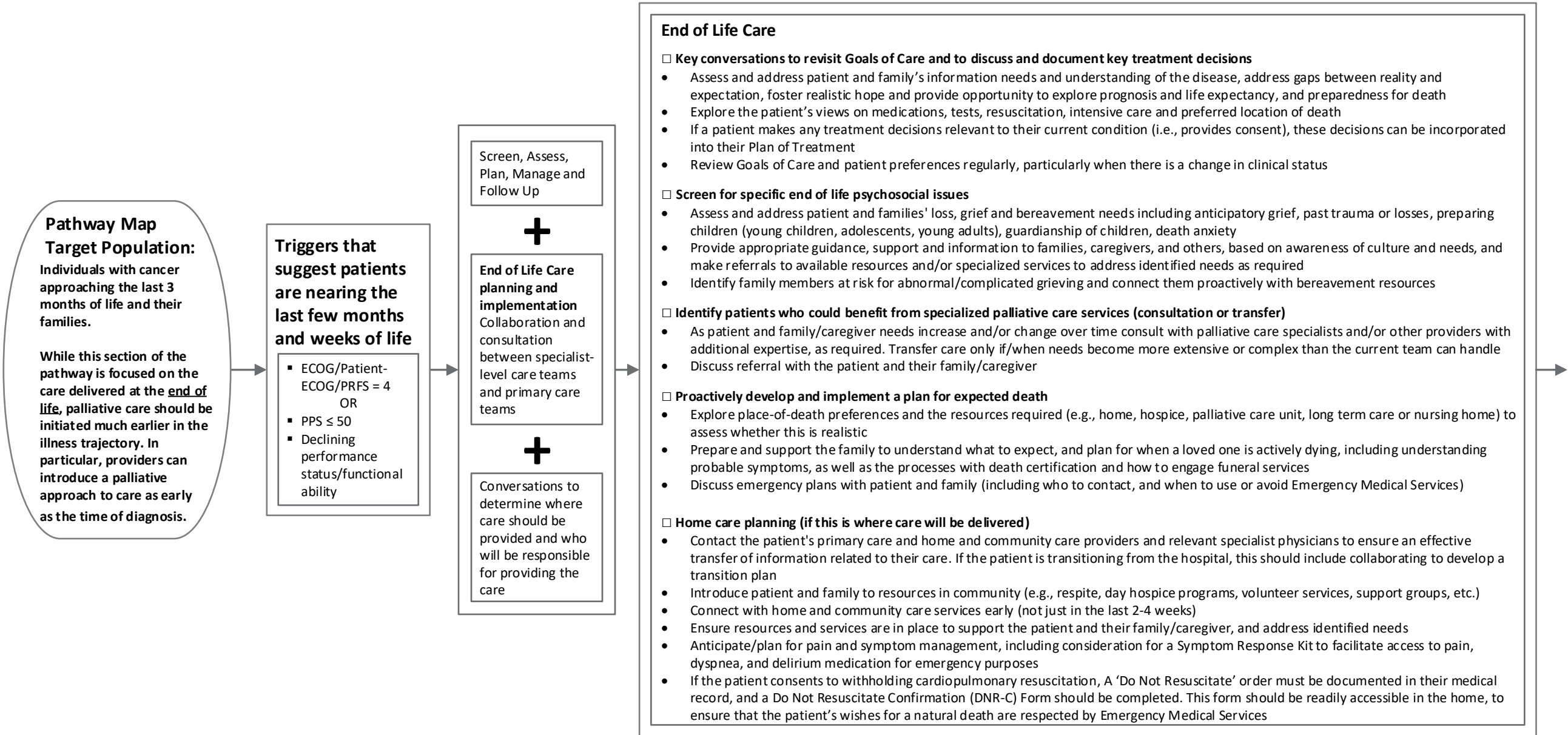
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