

# Appropriateness of Classification of Priority and of Surveillance Interval for Colonoscopy in Eastern Health

## Guideline

Access to colonoscopy should be guided by priority and optimal times have been defined by the Canadian Association of Gastroenterology.

- P1: Priority 1 (Urgent):** 0–14 days
- P2: Priority 2 (Non Urgent):** 0–60 days
- P3: Priority 3 (Baseline Screening):** 0–182 days
- P4: Priority 4 (Surveillance):** Variable

## Practice Points

1. Surveillance interval (Priority 4) is dependent on prior colonoscopy results, histology from excised tissue and risk of subsequent cancer.
2. In 2017, Eastern Health hired a waitlist manager to address the issues related to access to colonoscopy.

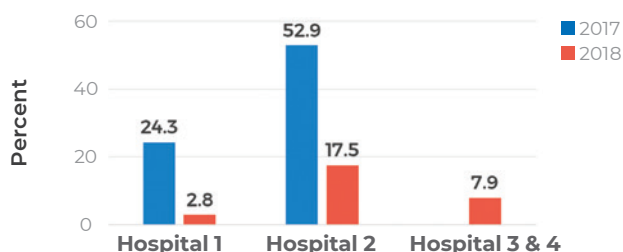
## Methods

1. Waitlist management was ongoing in the Peninsulas' hospitals during 2017 and continued in the city hospitals in 2018.
2. During the utilization review, priority rankings were assessed and reclassified and Priority 4 surveillance intervals were reviewed and modified.
3. Appropriateness of priority rankings and Priority 4 surveillance intervals were compared for 2017 and 2018.

## Appropriateness of Priority Rankings (2018)

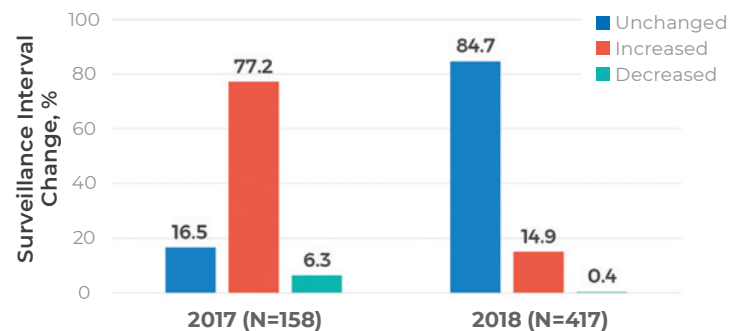
Actual Classification	Reclassification after Utilization Review			
	Priority	P1–P3	P4	Total
	P1–P3	6,317	718	7,035
	P4	37	9,254	9,291
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,354</b>	<b>9,972</b>	<b>16,326</b>	

## Percentage of Priority 1–3s Reclassified as P4s by Hospital and by Year

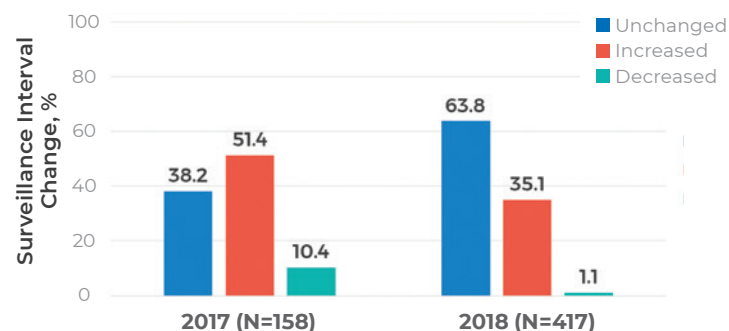


## Surveillance Interval Change in Appropriately Classified P4s by Year Following Utilization Review

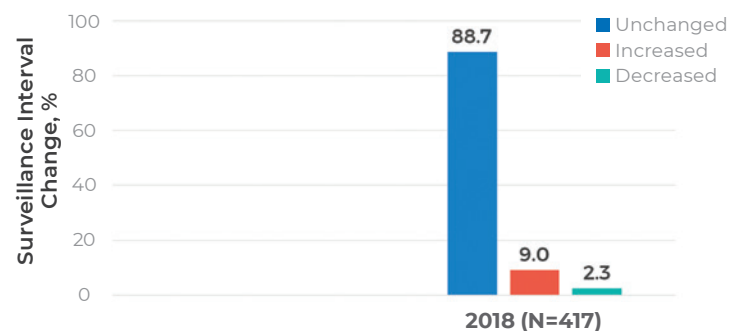
### Hospital 1



### Hospital 2



### Hospital 3 & 4



## Conclusions

1. In two hospitals, misclassification of priority was high and this was associated with surveillance intervals that were shorter than appropriate. Following utilization review, classification substantially improved as did surveillance interval.
2. In the two city hospitals, the size of the misclassification problem was small and surveillance intervals were appropriate.