Interventional and intraoperative magnetic resonance imaging

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Authors' objectives
To provide an overview of the use of real-time magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) during interventional and surgical procedures with respect to safety, efficacy/effectiveness, cost, and utilisation within Canada. The report will be used to assist Capital Health in future planning decisions on interventional/intraoperative MRI capacity within the health region.

Authors' conclusions
Interventional and intraoperative MRI is a high cost, developmental technology for which no major safety concerns have been identified to date. Due to its recent genesis, the scope, applicability, efficacy, and cost effectiveness of this technology have not been established. Concurrently controlled studies assessing the impact of interventional/intraoperative MRI on patient management and outcomes will provide the information required to resolve the question of whether interventional/intraoperative MRI has a broader clinical application beyond its current use in the research setting. As more interventional/intraoperative MRI systems are installed, such trials may become feasible.

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