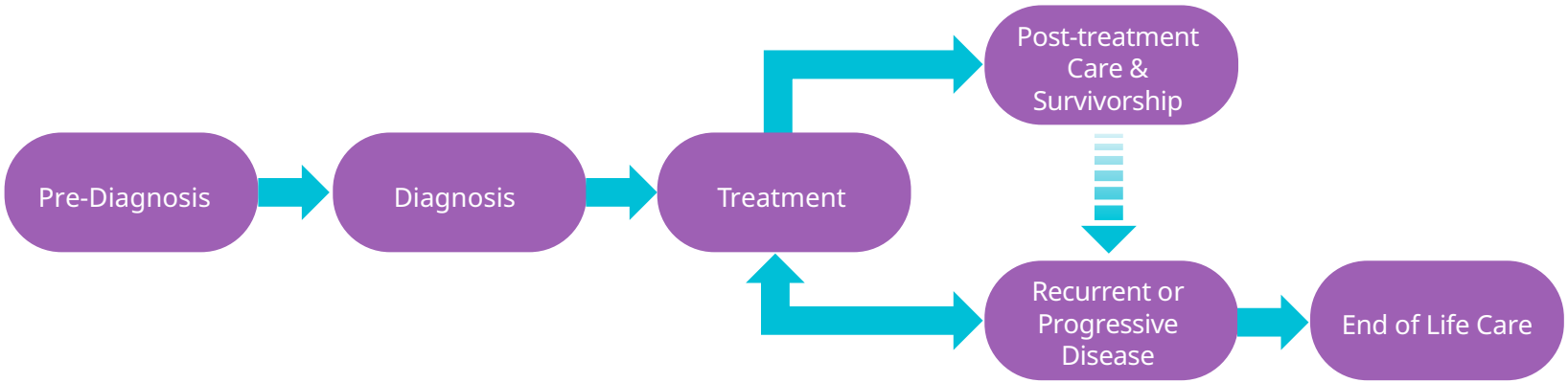
BC CANCER
Provincial Health Services Authority

Breast Cancer Clinical Care Pathway

Overarching Pathway



Primary Care Practitioners
(Family Practice)

Indigenous Cancer Care (15, 16, 17)

Supportive Care
(Psychosocial Oncology, Pain & Symptom Management/Palliative Care, Cancer Rehabilitation)

Non-Oncology Care Providers

This figure represents a general pathway of care that most people with cancer will experience. It shows

- The major phases of a cancer journey
- How a person might progress through each phase
- Key supportive services that are available throughout each person's cancer journey

Please visit the Clinical Pathways Web page for

- Tumour Group Clinical Pathways
- Patient Companion Guide
- Methodology Reports

Target Population

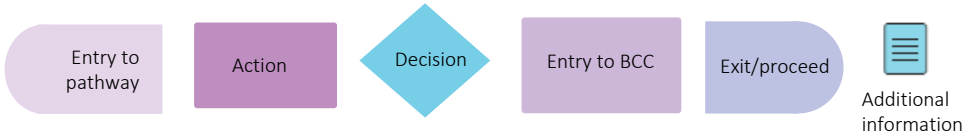
The target population for this pathway include health care providers such as primary care practitioners, oncologists, specialists, nurses, and other members of a health care team including allied health providers. Healthcare administrators across BC Cancer and the health authorities may also benefit from this resource for systems and operational planning.

Pathway Disclaimer

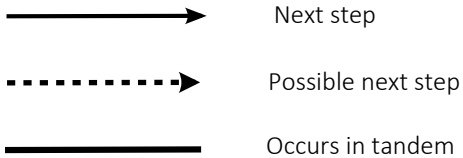
This pathway is an informational resource, intended to provide a high-level overview of the treatment journey a patient in British Columbia may receive. This pathway is not a substitute for medical advice and clinical judgment is still required as not all care trajectories will follow the proposed steps outlined in the pathway. This resource may not reflect all available evidence as research continues to evolve rapidly and BC Cancer is not responsible for any incomplete information. Furthermore, BC Cancer and those involved in developing this pathway are not liable for any incidental or consequential outcomes related to the information in this pathway. Anyone using the information provided in this pathway does so at their own risk.

Pathway Map Legend

Shape Guide



Line Guide



Pathway Map Considerations

This pathway is intended as a high-level resource and therefore does not include specific recommendations on specific systemic therapy protocols or radiation therapy doses. Instead, additional information can be sought via the inserted hyperlinks to resources that may aid a clinician in their treatment planning. The level of detail for each pathway was guided by the tumor group lead and intentionally kept high-level and represents the overall ideal pathway of care for a patient in general. Each patient will have individual needs and each cancer centre may have variation in the way care is delivered, but overall the intent was to represent the pathway that the majority of patients will follow.

General Resources

Indigenous Patient Navigator Referral Form (2): http://www.phsa.ca/aboriginal-health-site/Documents/IPN%20Fillable%20Referral%20Form.pdf
Supportive Care (3): http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/our-services/services/supportive-care
Compassionate Access Program (CAP) (4): https://cap.phsa.ca/
Breast Chemotherapy Protocols (5): http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/health-professionals/clinical-resources/chemotherapy-protocols/breast
Manufacturer Patient Assistance Programs (6): http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/systemic-therapy-site/Documents/Policy%20and%20Forms/Patient%20assistance%20programs.pdf
BC Cancer Research Clinical Trials (7): https://www.bccrc.ca/dept/cid/clinical-trials
Smoking Cessation Program (8): http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/health-professionals/clinical-resources/smoking-cessation-program
Alcohol Reduction (9): https://www.bccancer.bc.ca/prevention/alcohol/reduce-your-risk
MDC Referral Form (10): http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/books/Documents/Clinical%20Care%20Pathways/Patient%20Conference%20Order.pdf
Pharmacy Contact Info (11): http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/health-professionals/clinical-resources/pharmacy#Contact--info
Language & Translation Services (12): http://www.phsa.ca/health-professionals/professional-resources/language-services/translation
BC Cancer Library (13): http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/our-services/services/library
Health Connect Registry (14): https://www.healthlinkbc.ca/find-care/health-connect-registry
Indigenous Cancer Control (15): https://www.bccancer.bc.ca/our-services/services/indigenous-cancer-control
San'yas Indigenous-Specific Anti-Racism Training (16): https://sanyas.ca/
Indigenous-Specific Anti-Racisim (ISAR) Self-Directed Learning (17): https://centreforlearning.bcmhsus.ca/project/isar
Provisional Funding Algorithms (18): https://www.cda-amc.ca/find-reports#tab-1912

Abbreviations

ADH: Atypical Ductal Hyperplasia
ALH: Atypical Lobular Hyperplasia
BCS: Breast Conserving Surgery
CDK: Cyclin-Dependent Kinase
ER: Estrogen Receptor
HER: Human Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor
IO: Immuno-Oncology
LCIS: Lobular Carcinoma In Situ
RT: Radiation Therapy
ST: Systemic Therapy
MBC: Metastatic Breast Cancer
MDC: Multidisciplinary Conference/Discussion
MRP: Most Responsible Provider
PCP: Primary Care Provider
PDL: Programmed Cell Death Ligand
PFC: Patient & Family Counseling
PR: Progesterone Receptor
PSMPC: Pain & Symptom Management & Palliative Care
TNBC: Triple Negative Breast Cancer

Additional Information

To learn more about how the Clinical Care Pathways are developed, visit the Methodology Report.

Other Tumour Group Clinical Care Pathways can be found on the BC Cancer Website.

This work was supported by grant funding provided by the Health System Redesign Program.

Breast Cancer Clinical Care Pathway

Pre-Diagnosis

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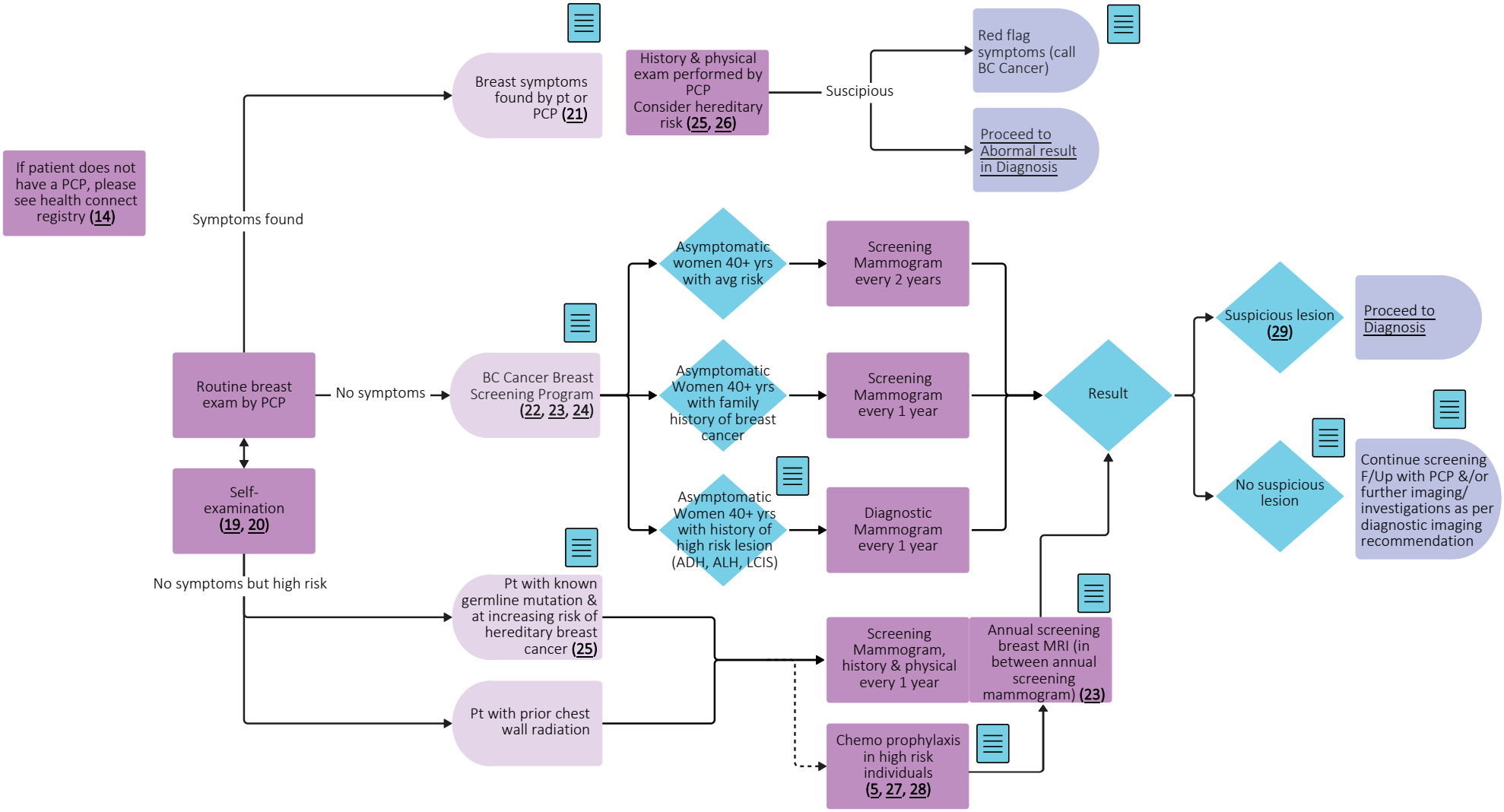

Diagnosis (pg. 1)

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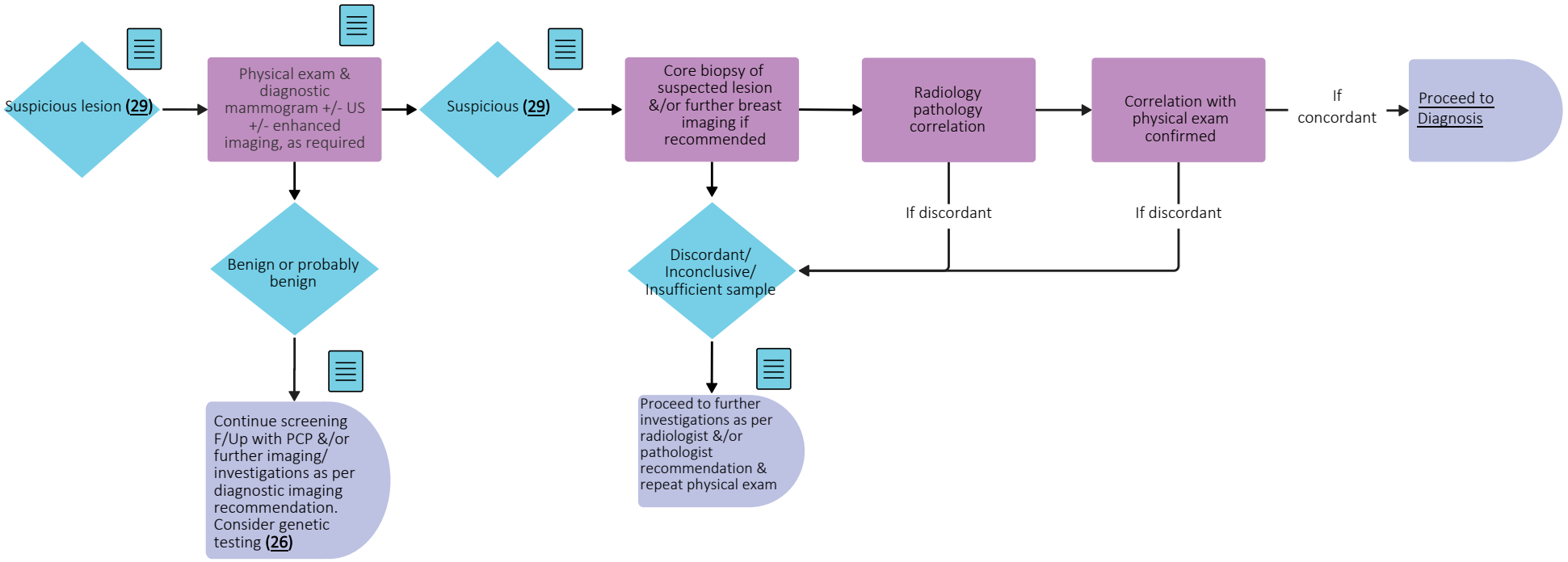

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Breast Cancer Clinical Care Pathway

Diagnosis (pg. 2) (42, 43, 44)

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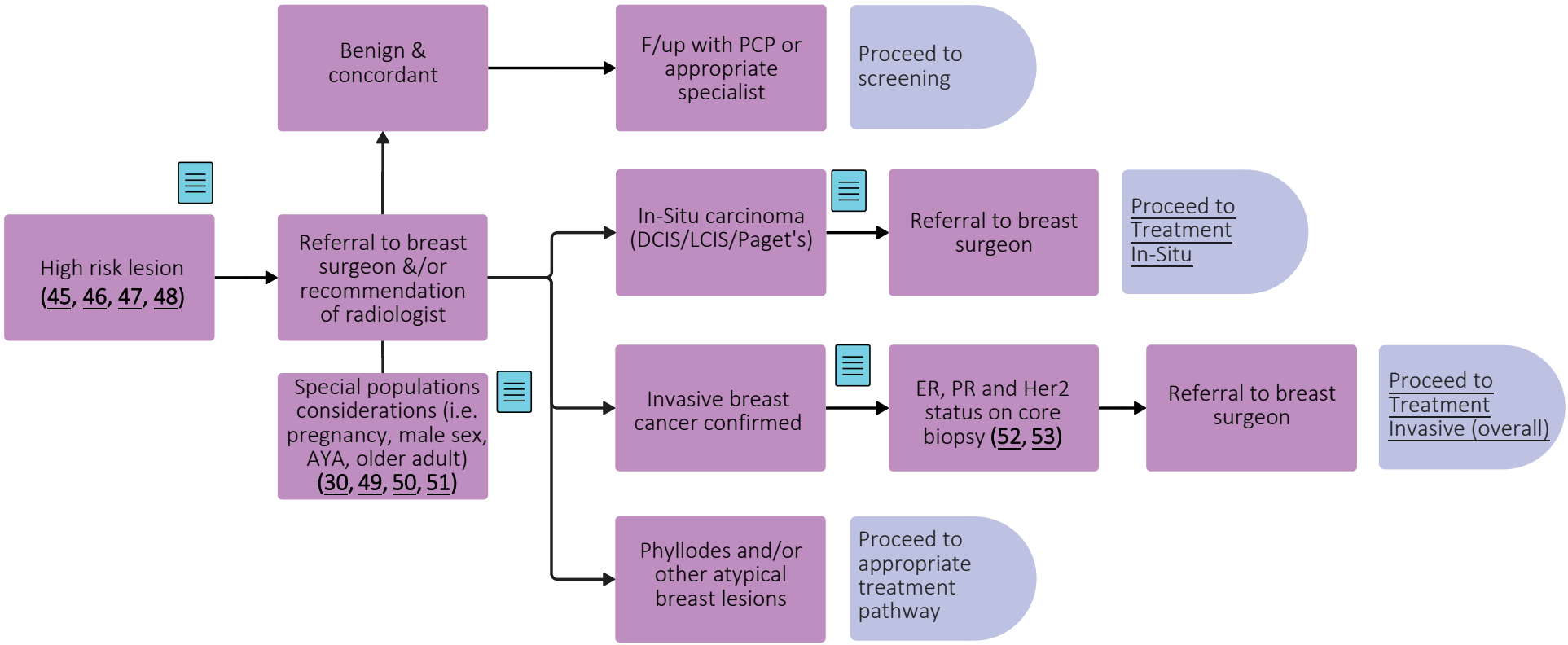

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Breast Cancer Clinical Care Pathway

Treatment (In situ: DCIS)

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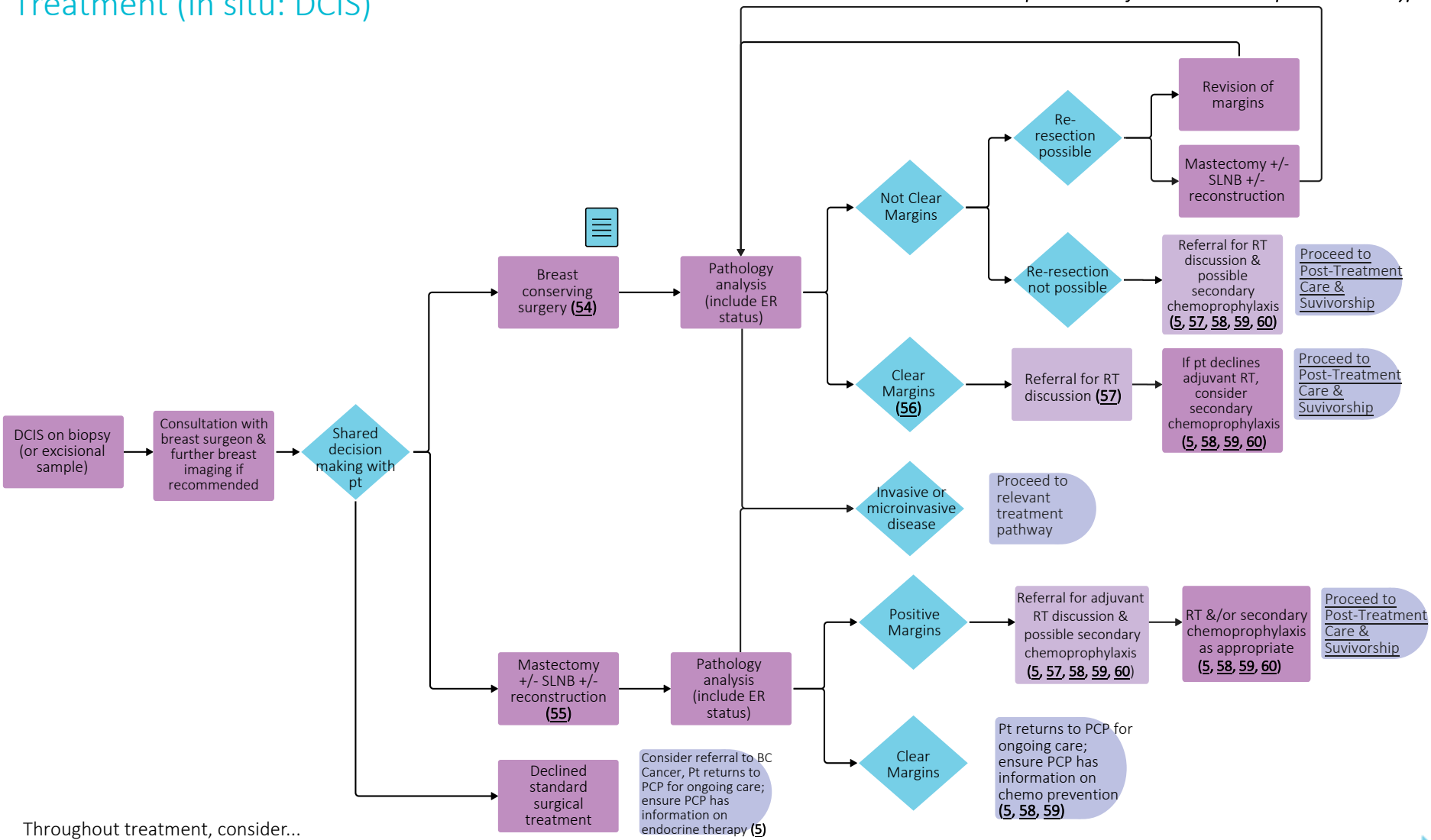

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Breast Cancer Clinical Care Pathway

Treatment (Invasive) Overall

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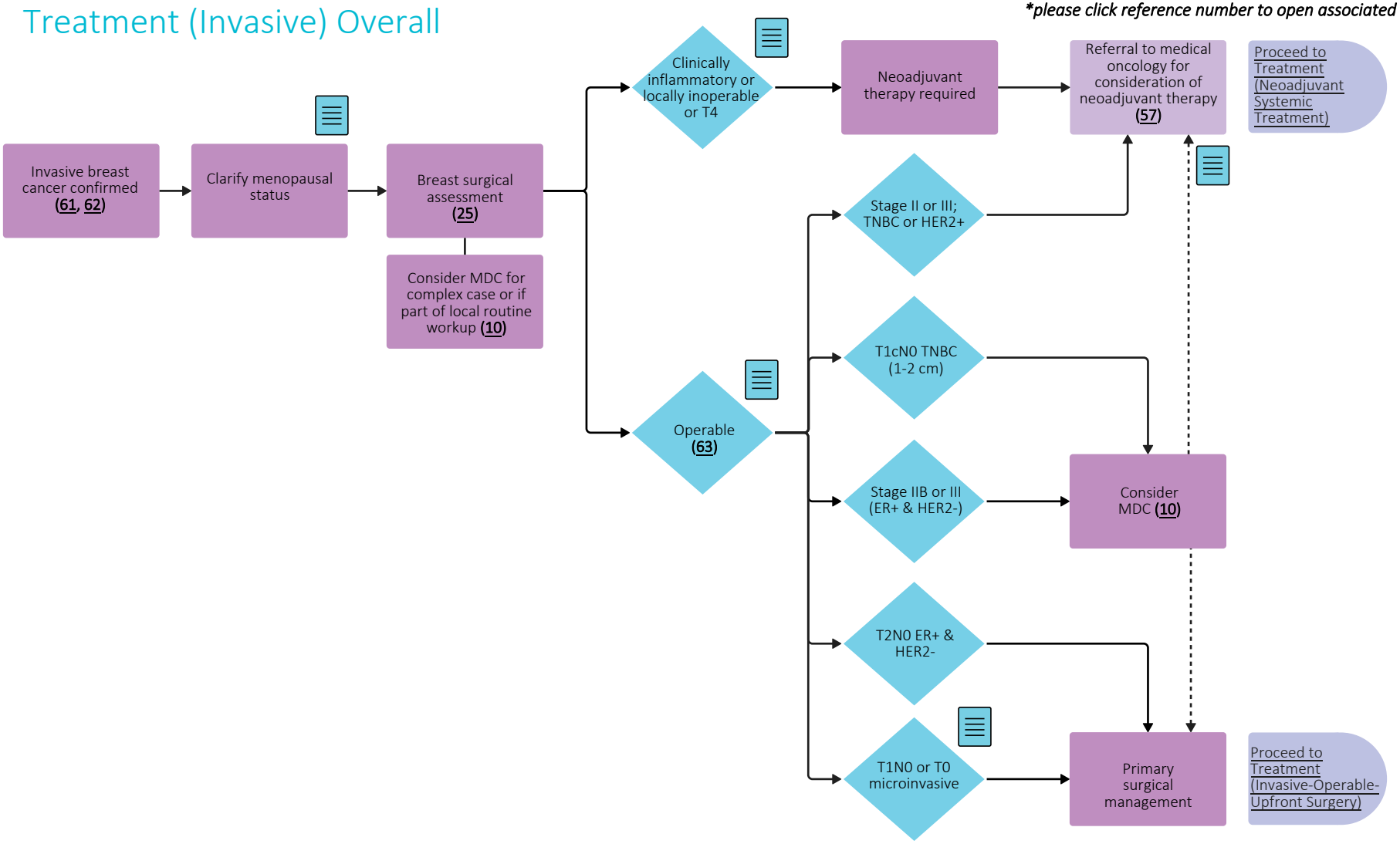

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Treatment (Neoadjuvant Systemic Treatment) (Pg. 1)

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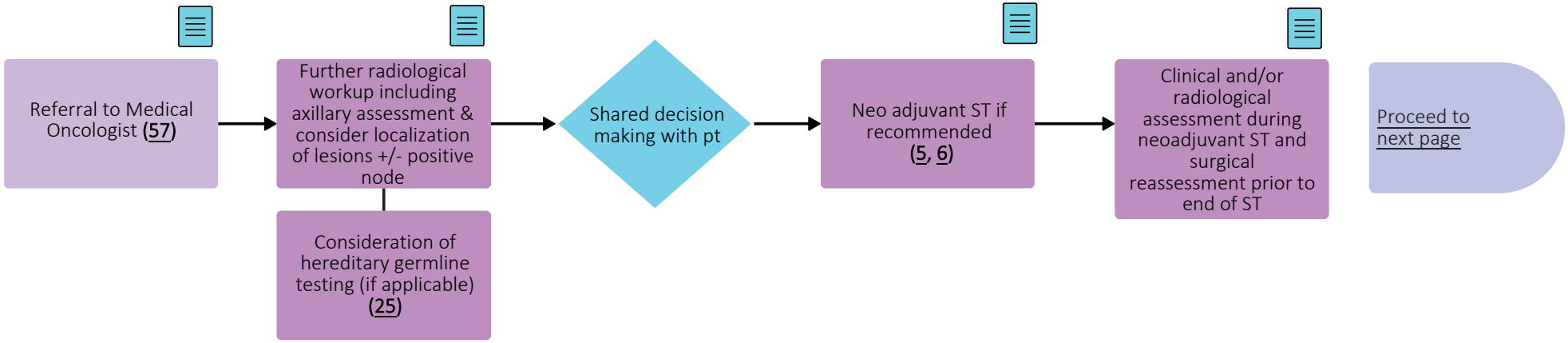

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Treatment (Neoadjuvant Systemic Treatment) (Pg. 2)

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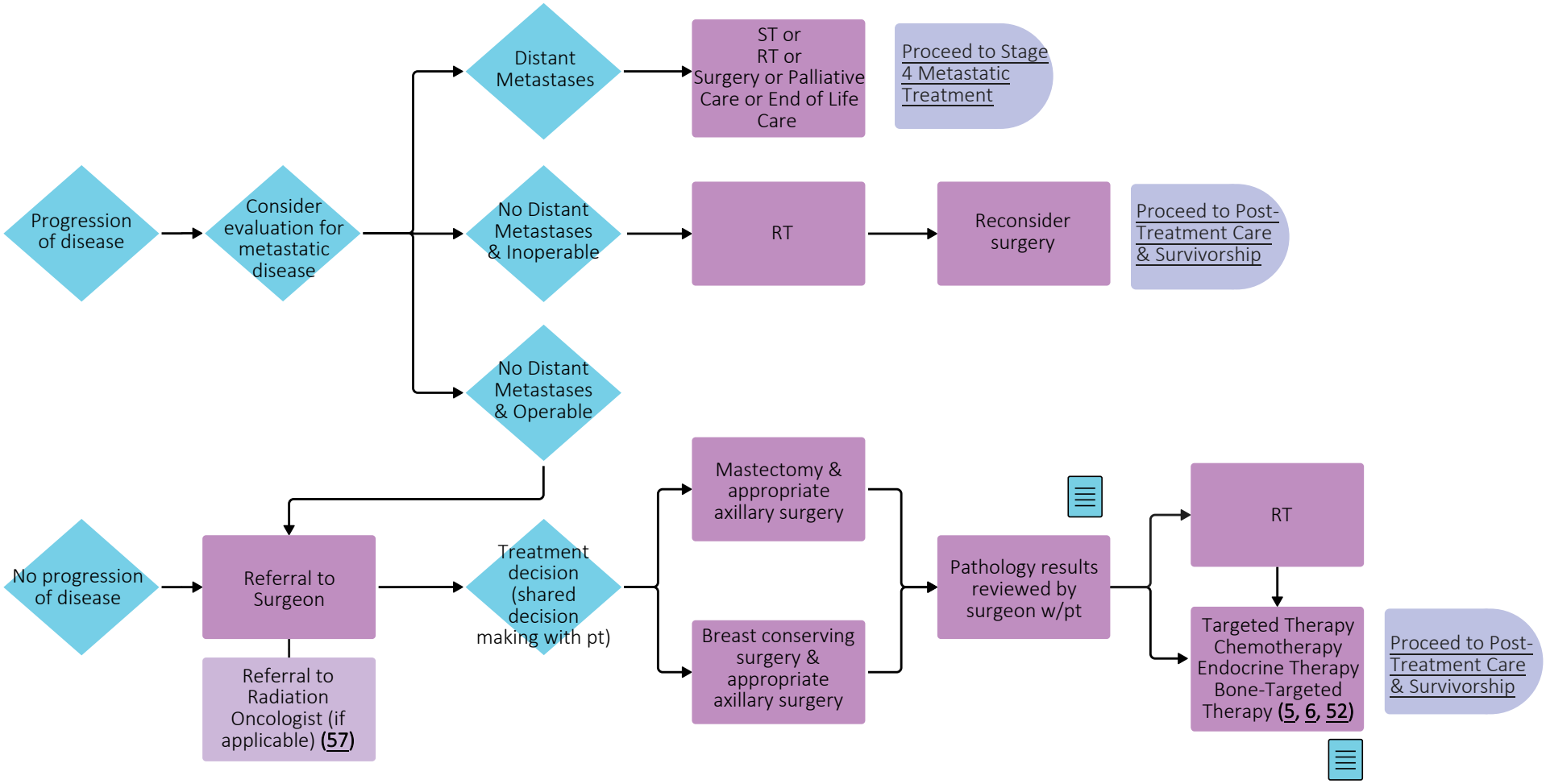

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Treatment (Invasive- Operable-Upfront Surgery) Pg 1

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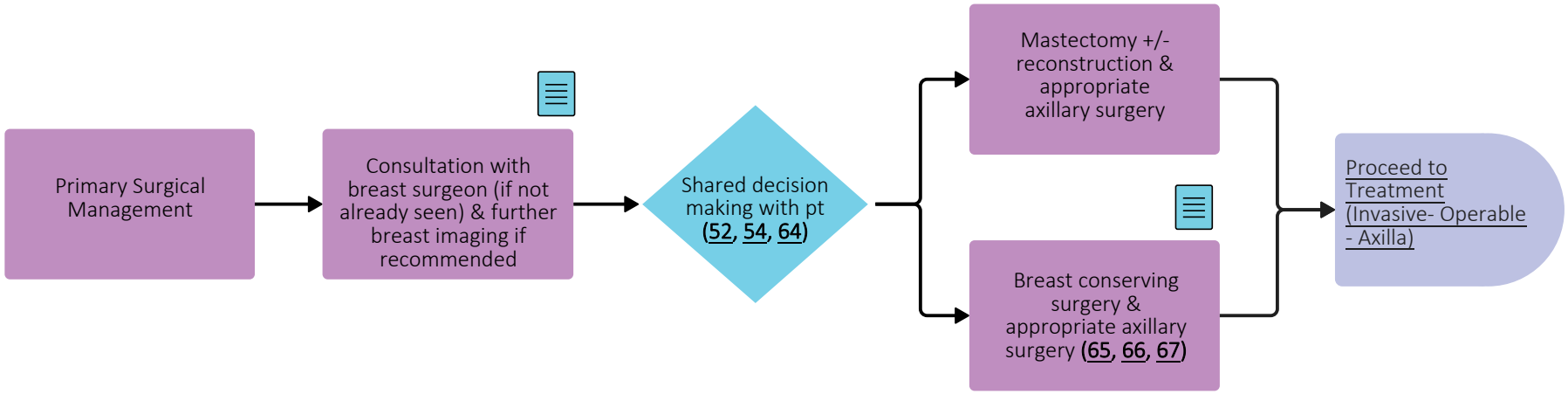

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Treatment (Invasive- Operable - Axilla)

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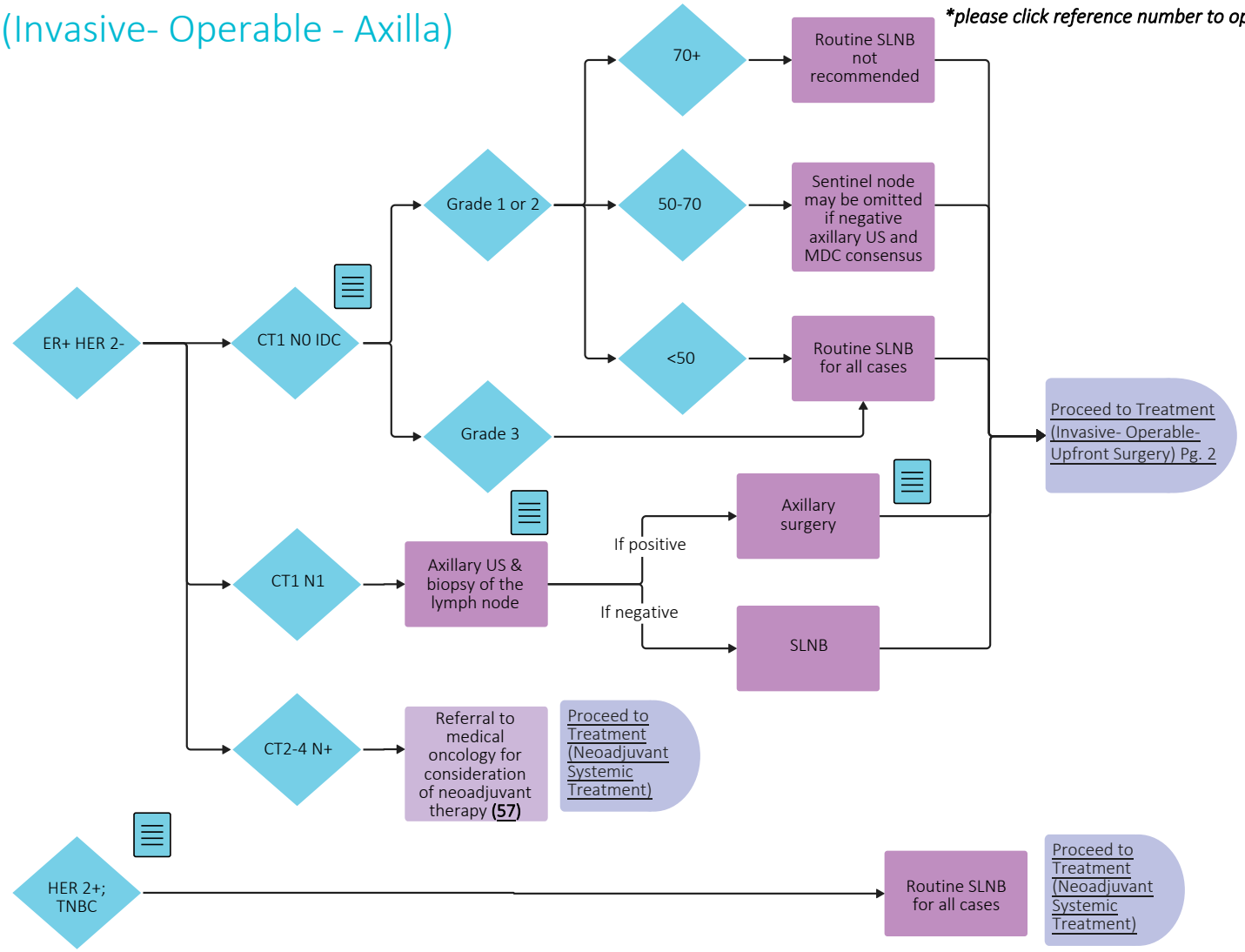

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Treatment (Invasive- Operable-Upfront Surgery) Pg 2

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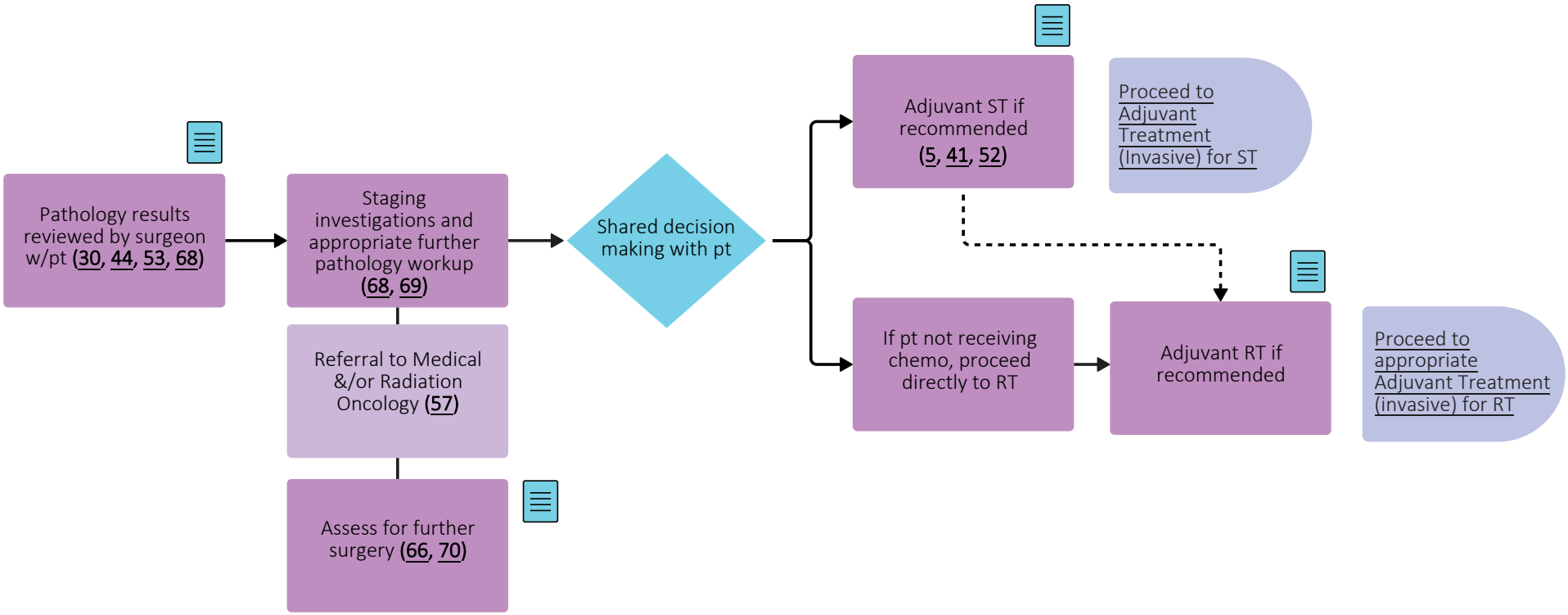

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Adjuvant Treatment (Invasive) for ST Pg 1

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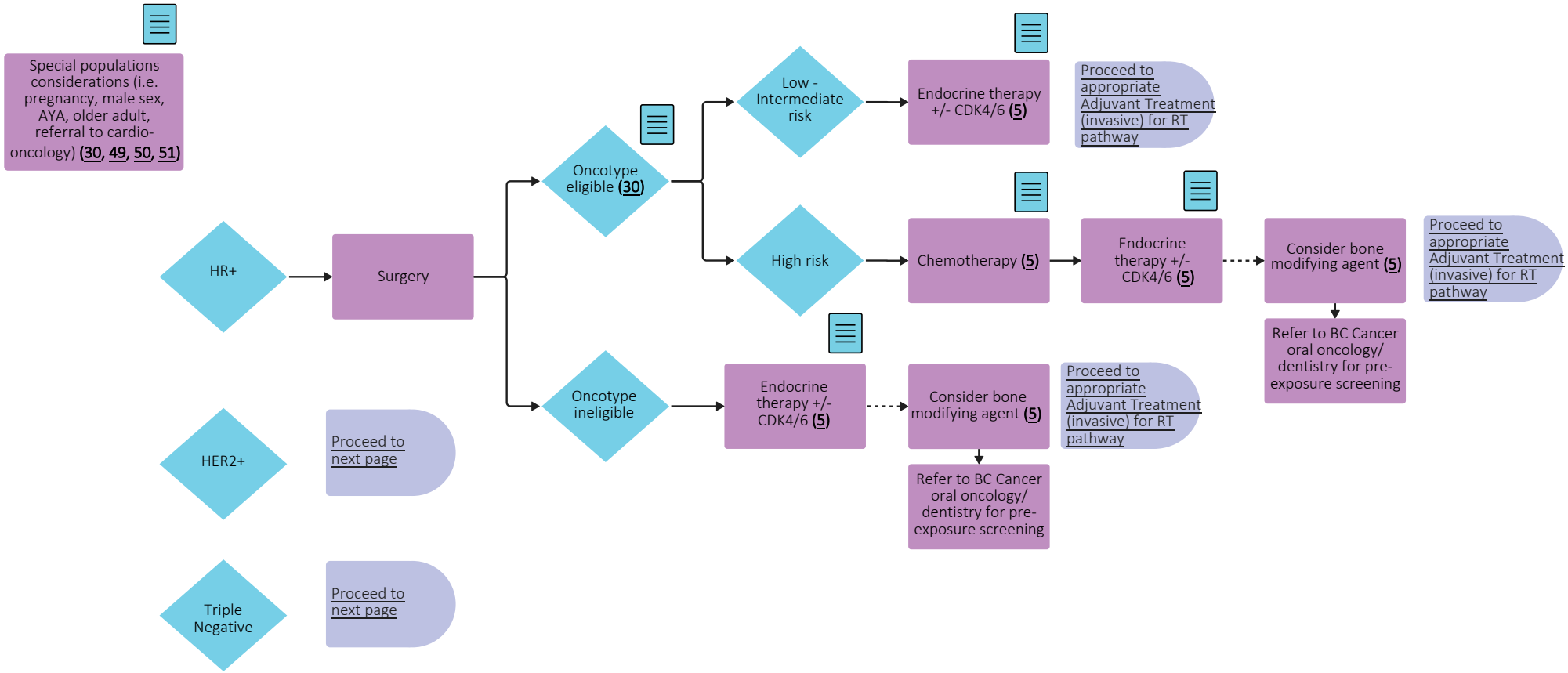

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Adjuvant Treatment (Invasive) for ST Pg 2

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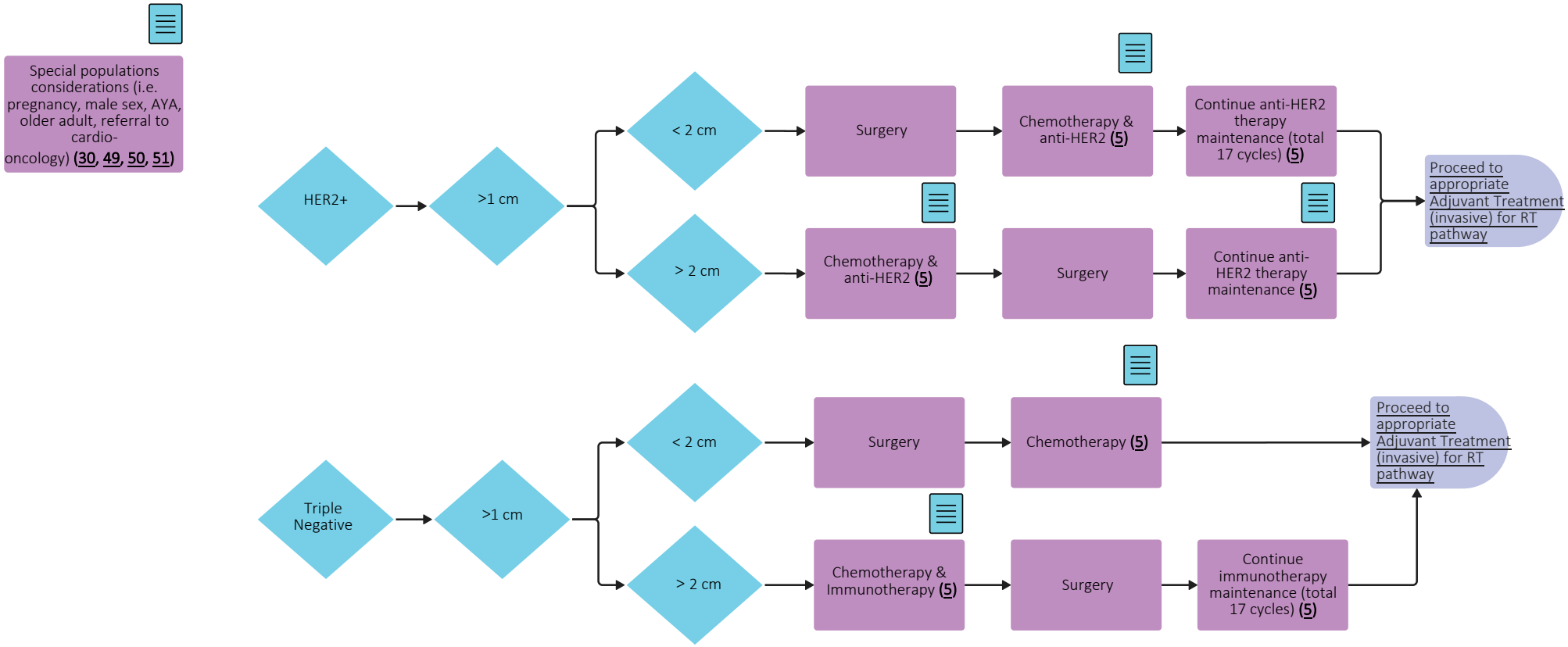

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Adjuvant Treatment (Invasive) for RT Post BCS (71)

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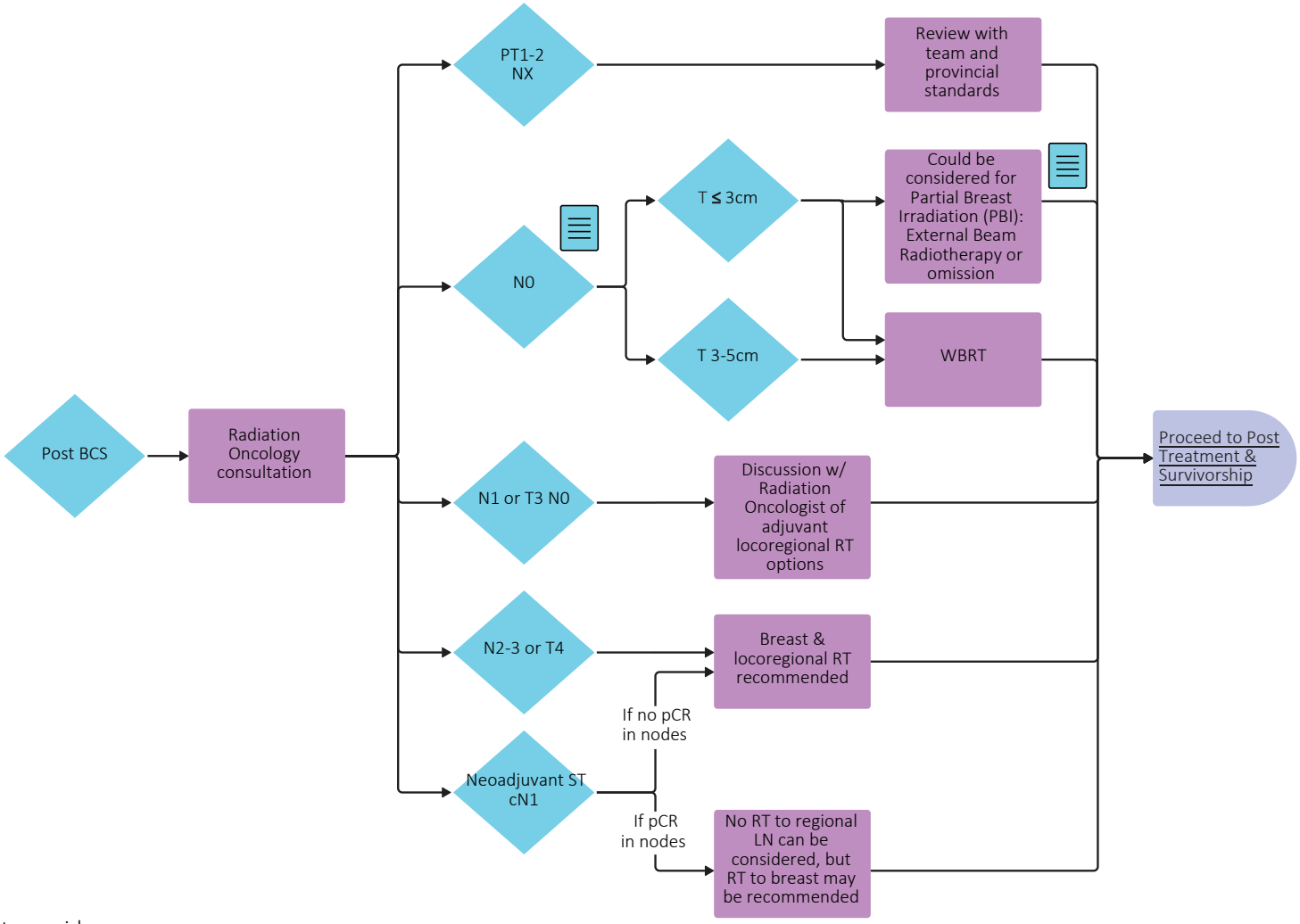

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Adjuvant Treatment (Invasive) for RT Post Mastectomy (71)

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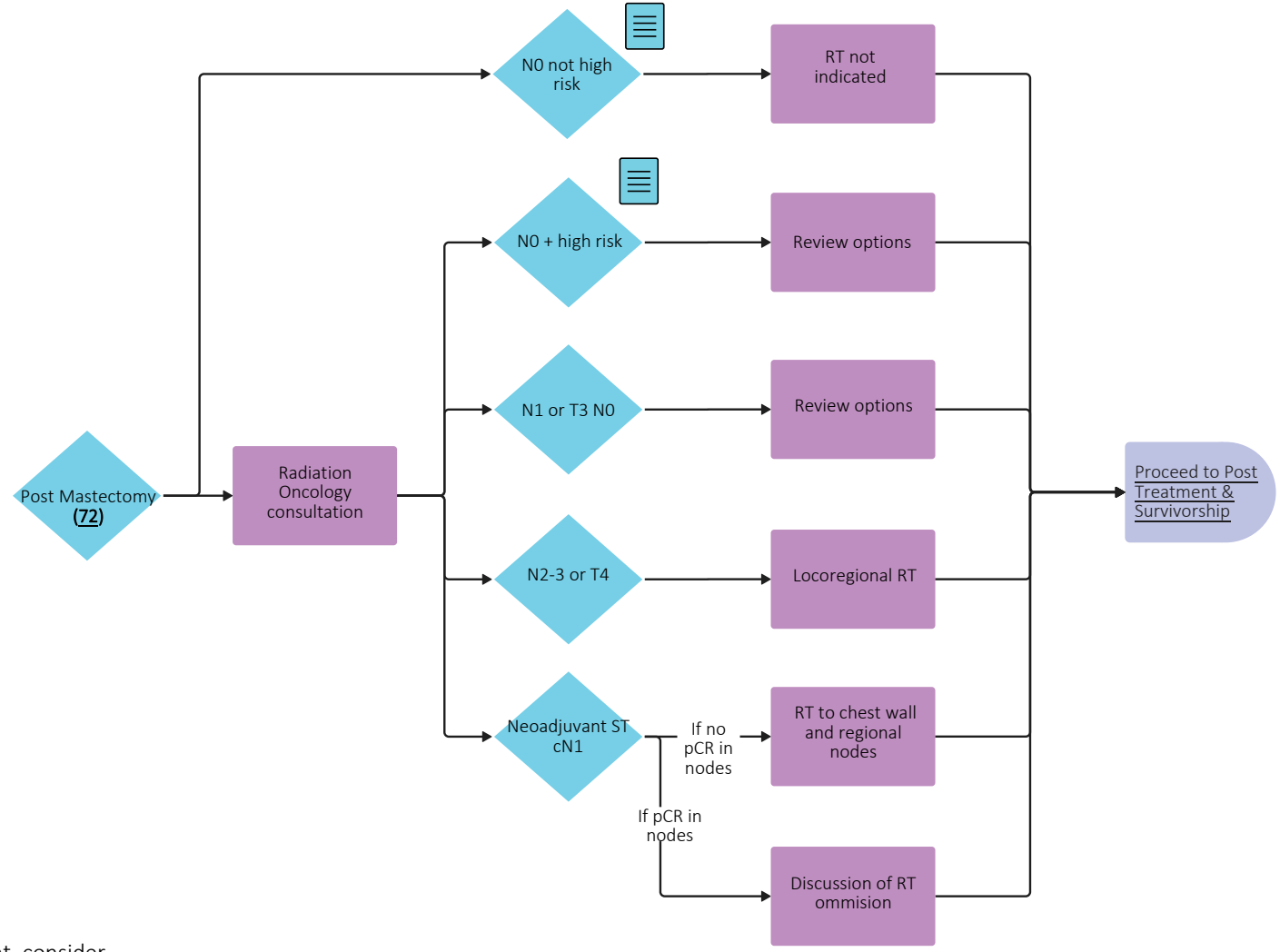

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Phyllodes Tumour Treatment Pg 1 (73)

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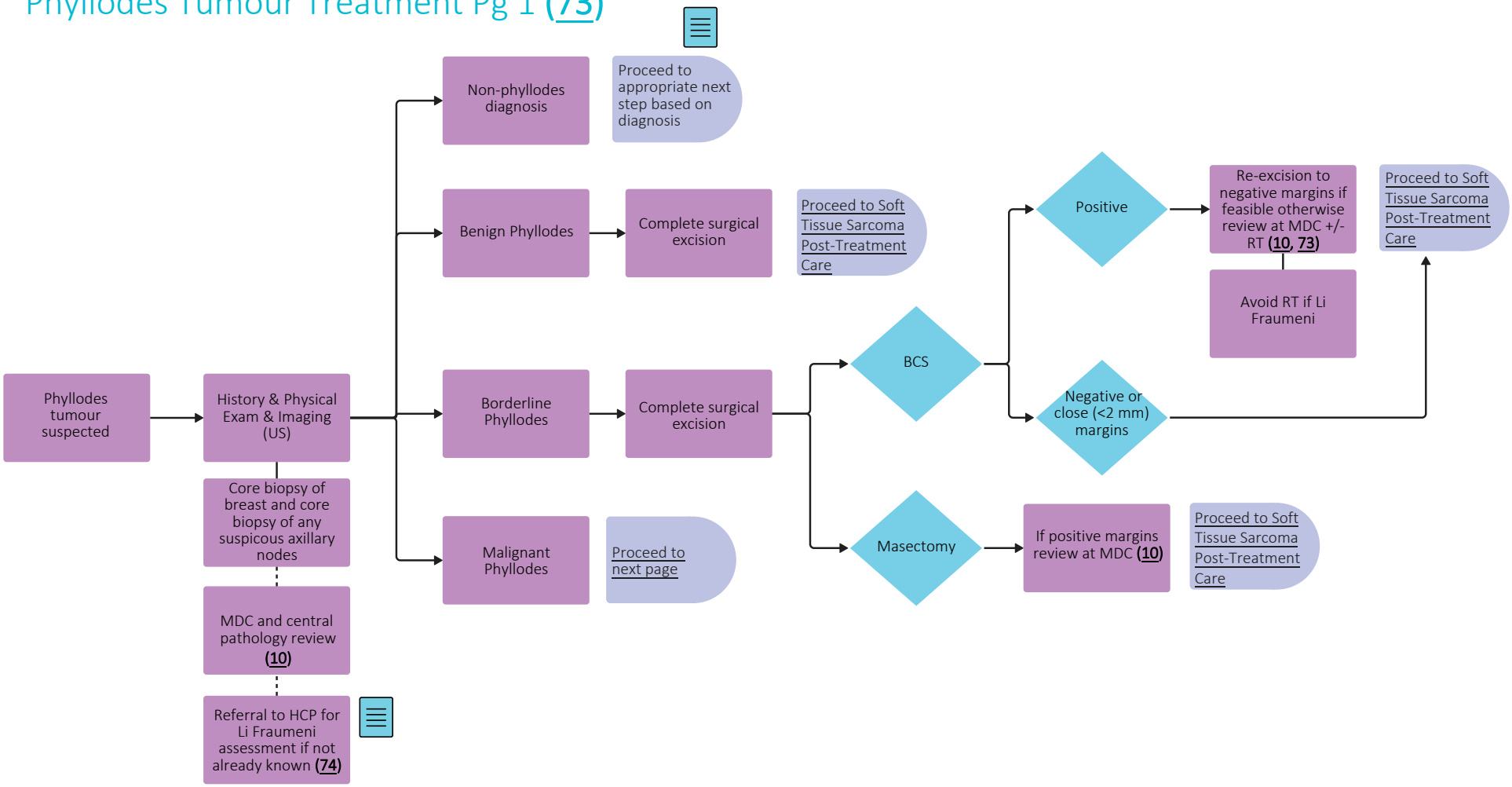

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Phyllodes Tumour Treatment Pg 2 (73)

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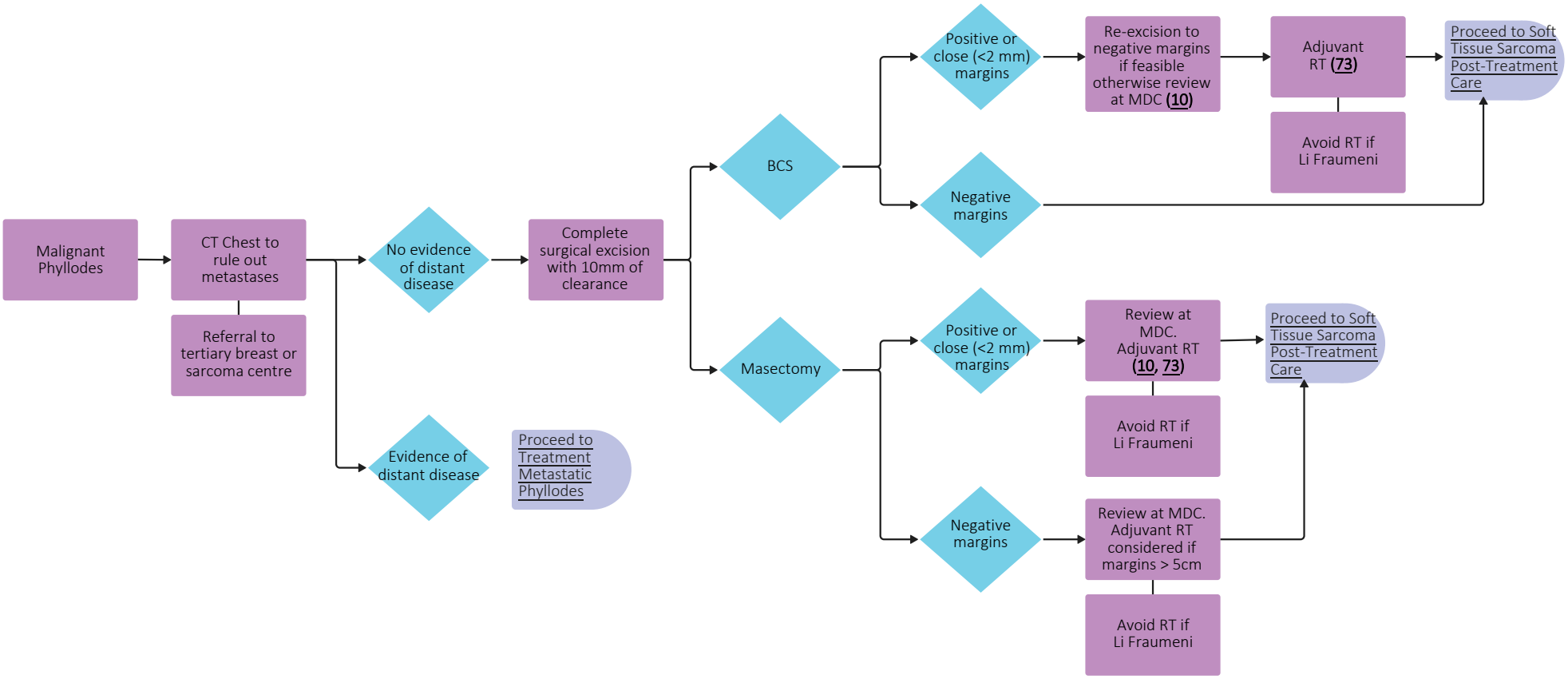

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Metastatic Phyllodes Treatment

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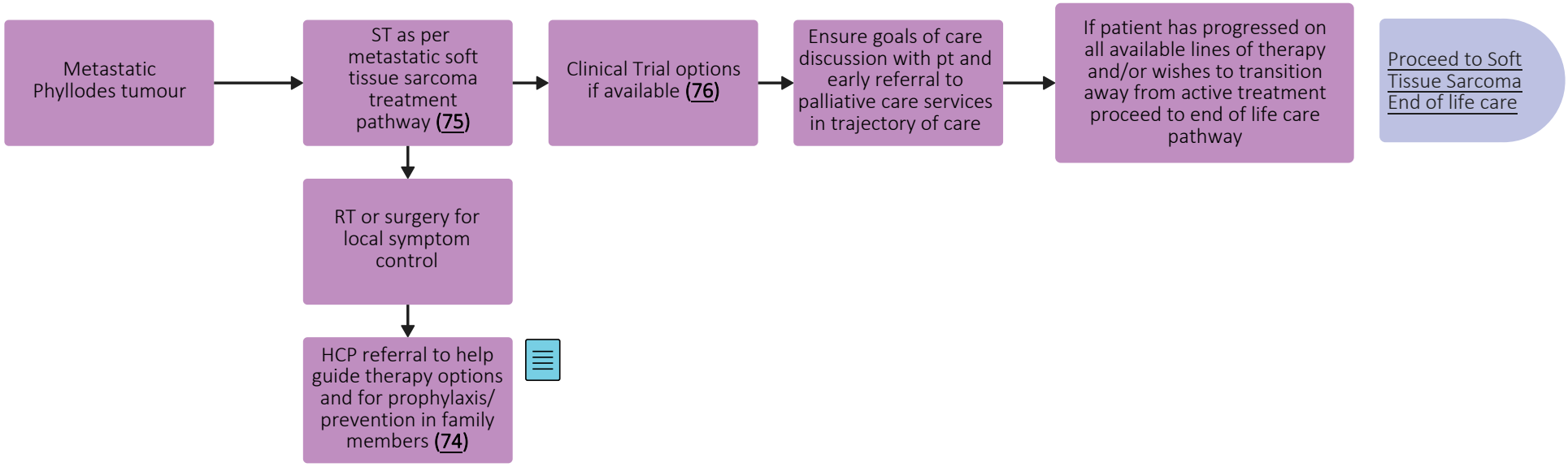

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Treatment (Stage 4 Metastatic) (Pg. 1)

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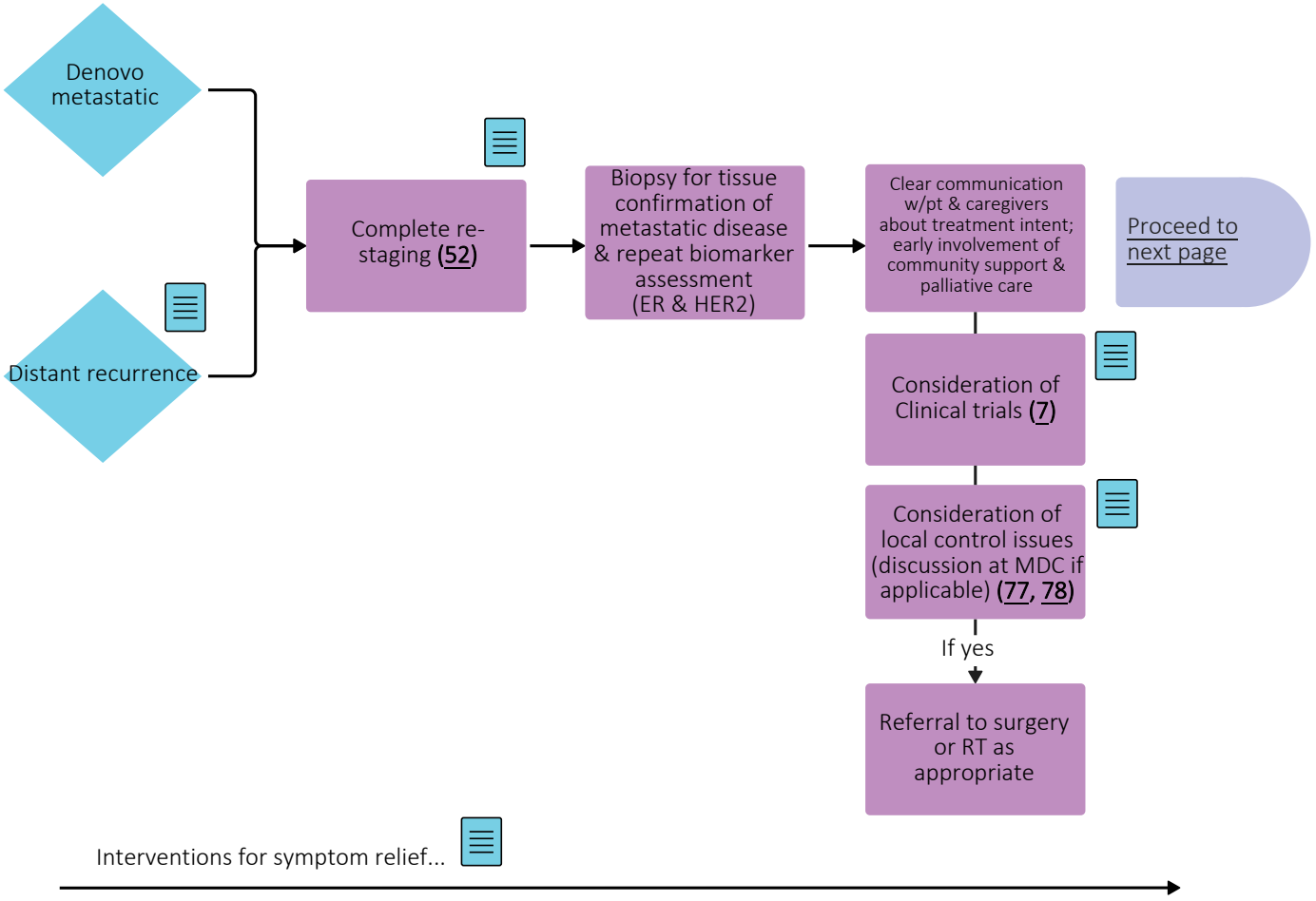

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Treatment (Stage 4 Metastatic) (Pg. 2)

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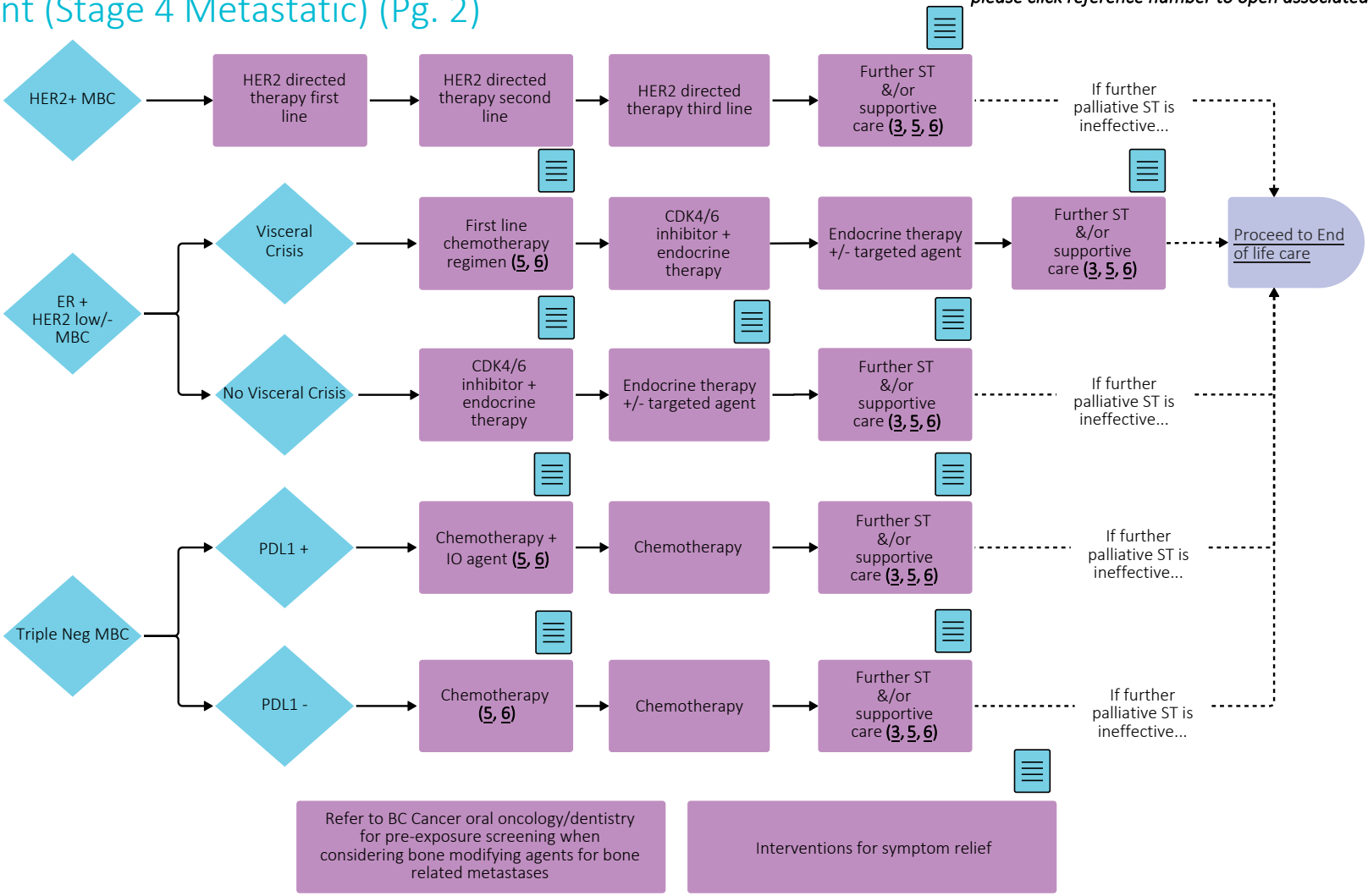

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Breast Cancer Clinical Care Pathway

Post Treatment Care & Survivorship

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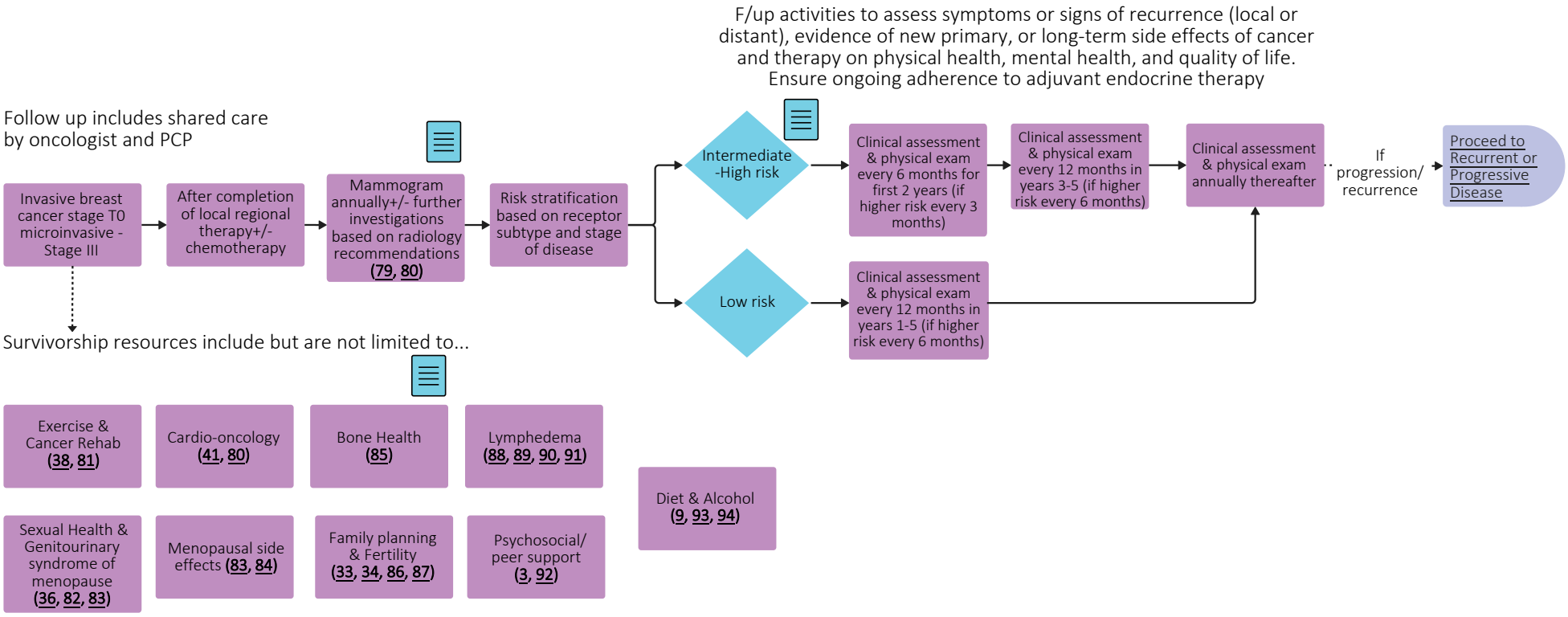

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Breast Cancer Clinical Care Pathway

Recurrent or Progressive Disease

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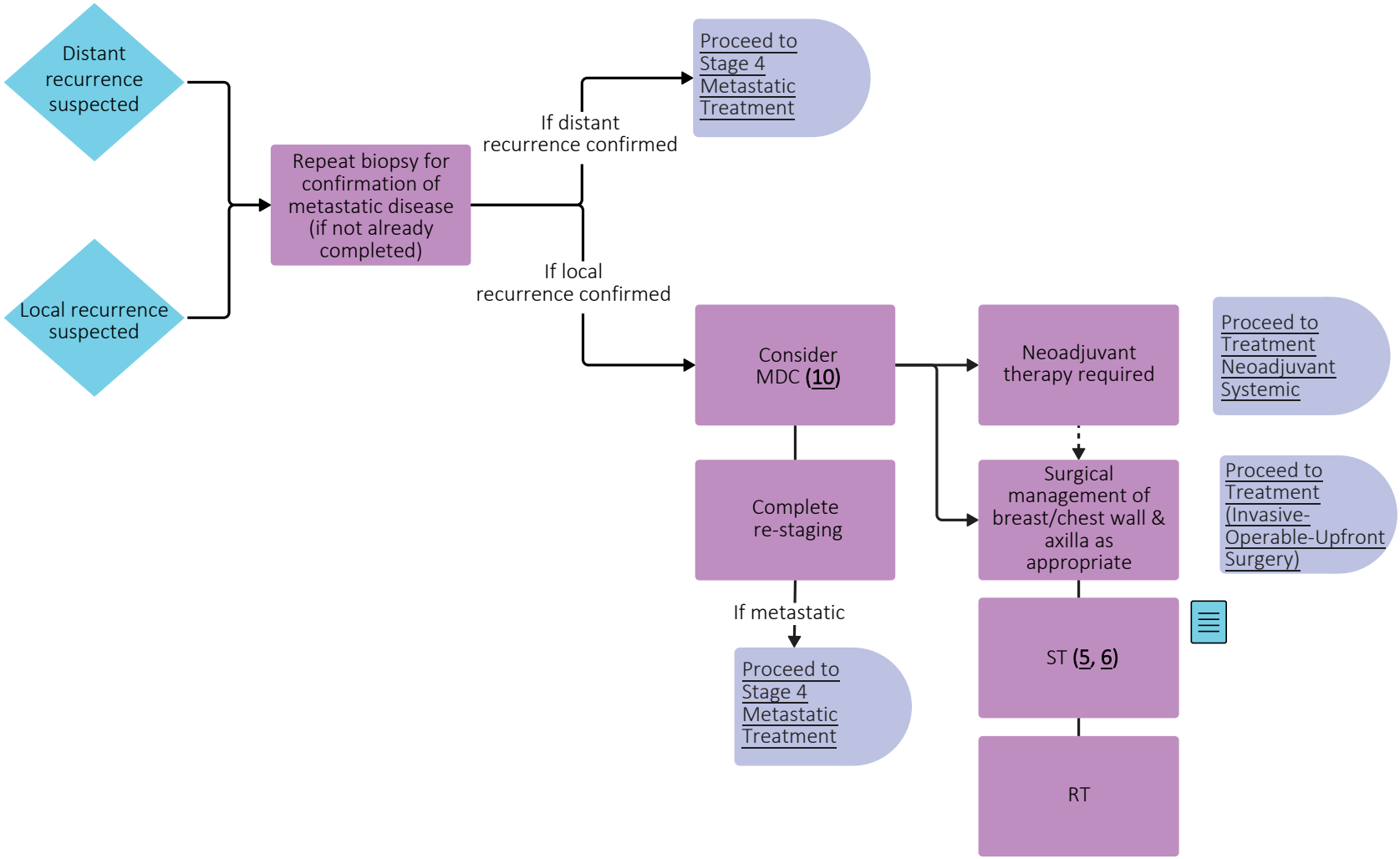


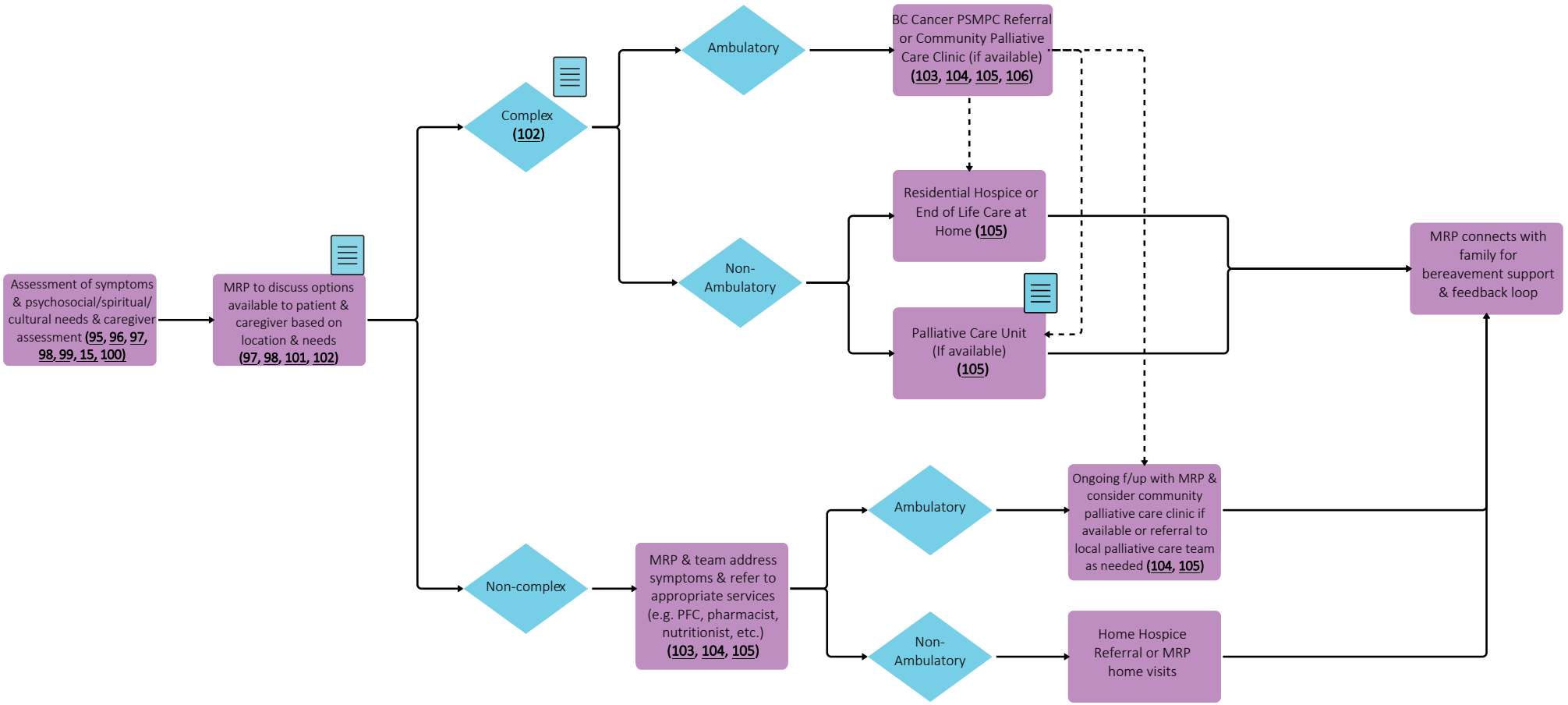
Throughout treatment, consider...

Regular symptom & performance status assessment (31); Oral oncology/dentistry; Supportive care (3, 32); Sexual & reproductive health (33, 34, 35, 36); Co-morbidity management & medication review; Risk factor mitigation; Clinical trials (where applicable) (7); Goals of care (37); Cultural safety (2, 15, 16, 17); Involvement of PCP; Consider eligibility for genetic testing based on tumor characteristics, Family history and ancestry (26); Exercise support (38); Consideration of special populations: pregnancy, AYA, male sex, older adults (39); Referral to cardio-oncology (40, 41)

Breast Cancer Clinical Care Pathway

End of Life Care

*please click reference number to open associated hyperlinks



Throughout treatment, consider...

Goals of Care Discussions & Consideration of Cultural Safety (2, 15, 16, 17, 101, 102, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111)

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Family Practice & GPO
Indigenous Cancer Control
Nursing Community of Practice (NCoP)
Patient and Family Experience Team & Supportive Care
Radiation Therapists
Surgical Oncology Network
Provincial Pharmacy, Pathology & Medical Imaging Teams

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