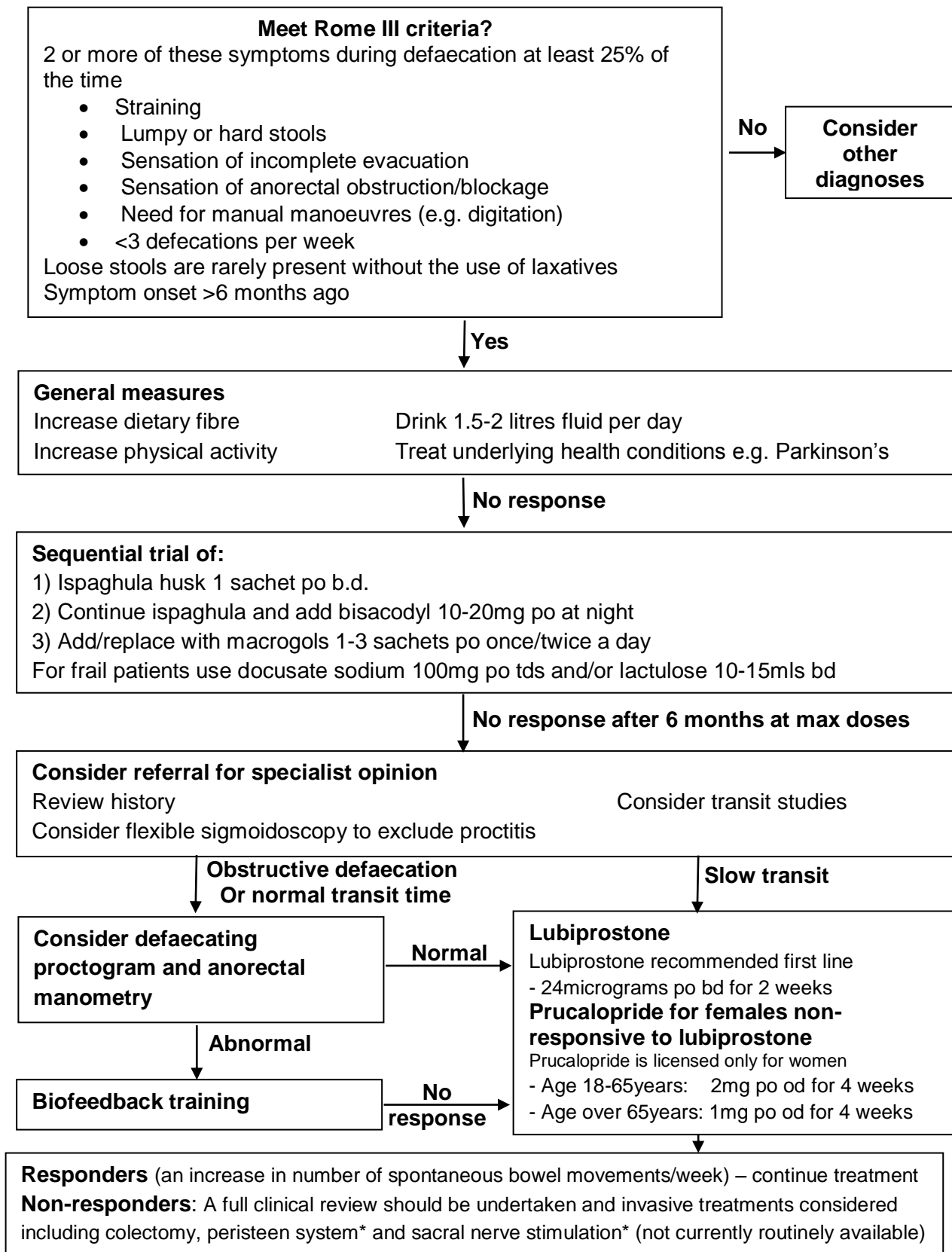


Clinical guideline

Management of chronic idiopathic constipation in adults



Lubiprostone for chronic idiopathic constipation

Indication

Lubiprostone is indicated for chronic idiopathic constipation in adults in whom treatment with at least 2 different laxatives from different classes at the highest tolerated doses for at least 6 months has failed to provide adequate relief and invasive treatment is being considered

NICE technology appraisal

This treatment has been assessed via NICE technology appraisal 318

Use within Wirral University Teaching hospital

The role of lubiprostone is highlighted in the flow chart on page 1.

It should be used by clinicians with experience of managing constipation.

It is recommended to be used before prucalopride as

- i) It is marginally cheaper
- ii) It can be used in men as well as women
- iii) It is reported to be better tolerated by patients
- iv) Response rates appear to be more favourable although it is hard to draw clear conclusions on this point due the variable nature of trial end points

Prescription and assessment of response

Lubiprostone is initially prescribed for a 2 week trial. After 2 weeks efficacy should be assessed and the prescription only continued in responders.

The primary end point for assessment of response is an increase in spontaneous bowel movements/week.

Dosing, contraindications, precautions, side-effects and drug interactions

Refer to the BNF.

Prucalopride for chronic constipation

Indication

Prucalopride is recommended as an option to treat chronic constipation in **women only** in whom treatment with at least 2 different laxatives from different classes at the highest tolerated doses for at least 6 months has failed to provide adequate relief and invasive treatment is being considered

NICE technology appraisal

This treatment has been assessed via NICE technology appraisal 211

Use within Wirral University Teaching hospital

The role of prucalopride is highlighted in the flow chart on page 1.

It should be used by clinicians with experience of managing constipation.

It is recommended to be used after using lubiprostone as

- i) It is marginally more expensive
- ii) It can only be used in women
- iii) It is reported to be less well tolerated

Prescription and assessment of response

Prucalopride is initially prescribed for a 4 week trial. After 4 weeks efficacy should be assessed and the prescription only continued in responders.

The primary end point for assessment of response is an increase in spontaneous bowel movements/week.

Dosing, contraindications, precautions, side-effects and drug interactions

Refer to the BNF.