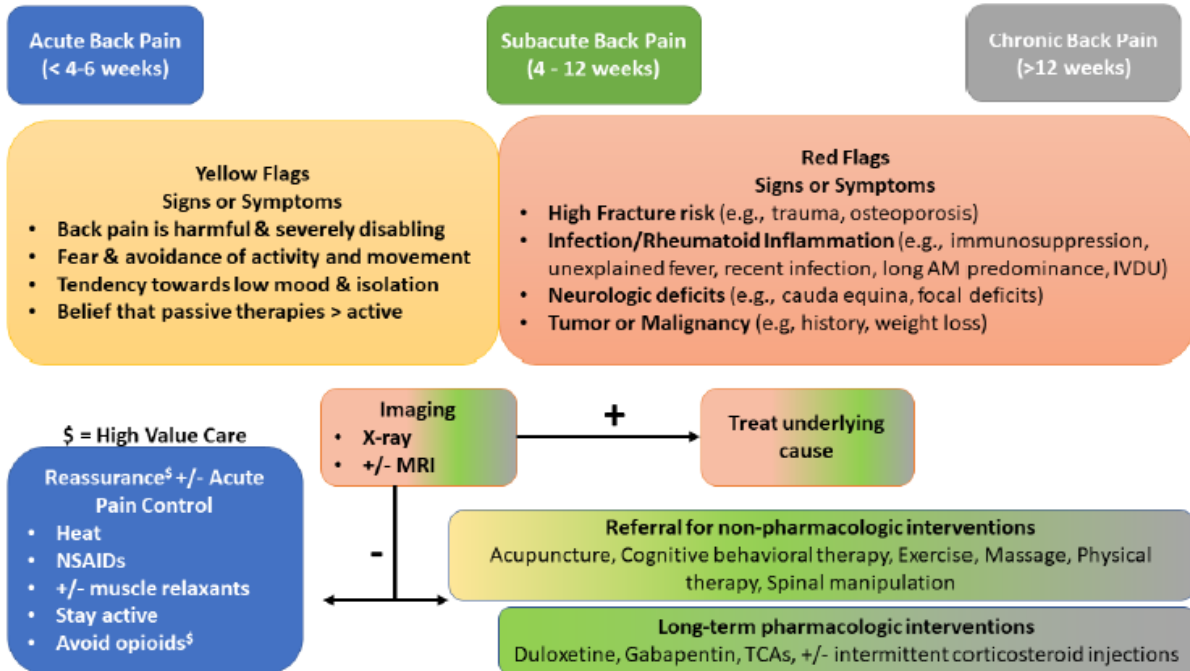


Management of Low Back Pain



Role for spinal surgery

- Decompression (e.g., spinal stenosis, herniated disc, cord compression, cauda equina, cervical myelopathy, progressive chronic radiculopathy)
 - Progressive and/or debilitating acute neurologic symptoms (motor > sensory)
 - If acute motor loss, needs surgery acutely
 - If chronic progressive neurologic changes, less urgent
 - Pain that fails conservative therapy
- Re-align (e.g., severe scoliosis, spondylolisthesis)
 - Progressive pain w/ failure of conservative therapy
 - Debilitating functionality
- Stabilization (e.g., high risk fracture, spondylolisthesis, pars defect)
 - Progressive pain, failing conservative therapy
 - Development of neurologic features beneath decompression