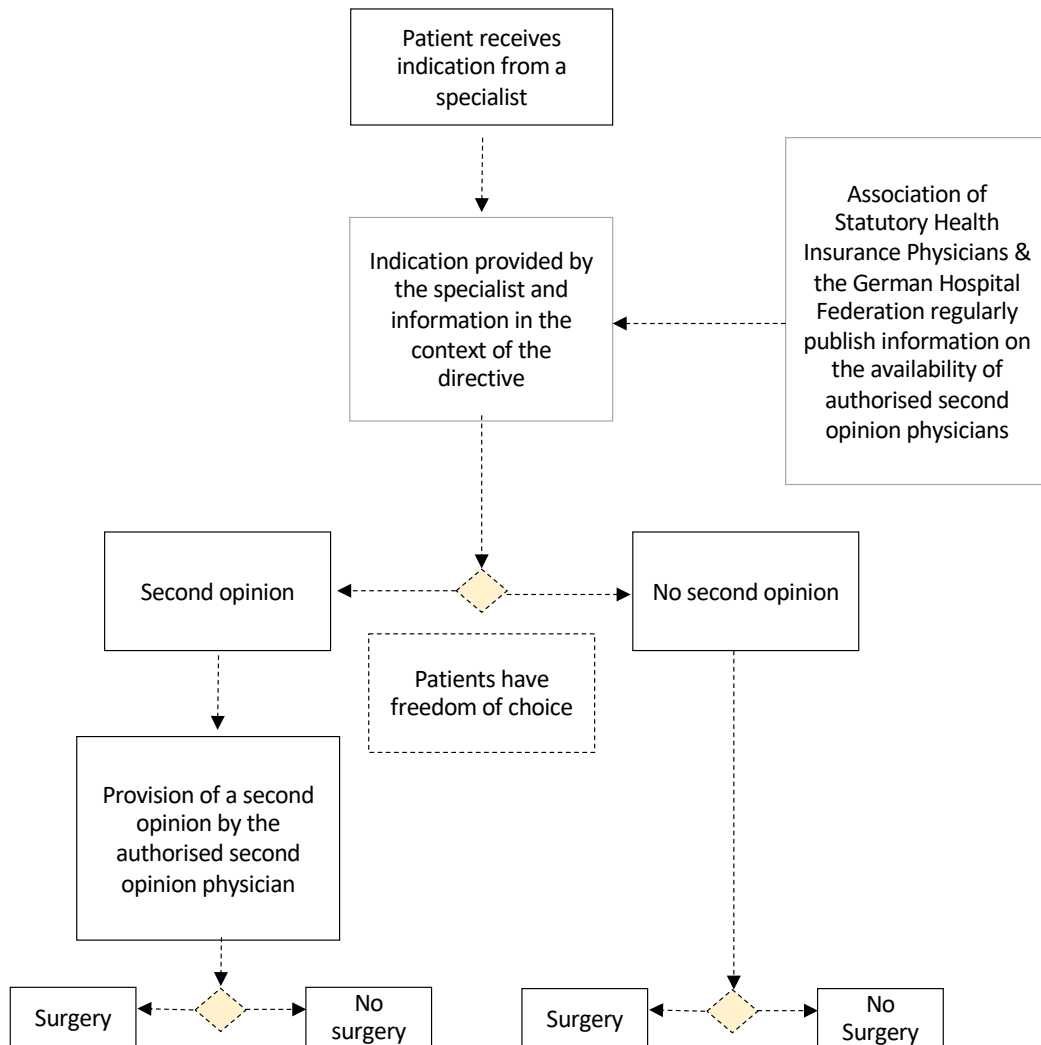


Supplementary Material 1: Procedure of the SOD



The physician who provides a recommendation for SOD-covered types of surgery must inform the patients at least ten days before planned surgery regarding the following items:

- her/his right to obtain a second opinion from an authorised second-opinion physician
- provision of information on available authorised second-opinion physician
- informing that the second opinion cannot be provided by physician or institution designated to perform the procedure
- provision decision-making aids
- handing out a patient information sheet
- informing about the availability of medical report documents for the authorised second-opinion physician

Requirements for the second medical physician

- Specialised medical practice
- at least 5 years of full-time practice
- Special qualification: a post-doctoral lecture or an examiner-certification
- Information and counselling on possible alternative therapies or courses of action that an informed decision with regard to the necessity of performing the recommended intervention