

Musculoskeletal (MSK)

December 2015 - Update

Thank you for attending our visioning event in July 2015. Your valuable input has allowed us to continue to explore Musculoskeletal (MSK) services. We hope this provides a useful update for you.



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Some of the issues/ opportunities highlighted at the visioning event:



Patients are sometimes in hospital when they don't need to be, or stay in hospital longer than required



Long waiting times for physio and MCAS (musculoskeletal clinical assessment service)



High levels of overspend on planned orthopaedic admissions and surgical procedures



Poor patient and clinician experience



Lots of opportunities to improve

We want to:



Improve patient/carer experience



Encourage self-care



Ensure that patients are given an independent offer of choice



Reduce waiting times



Upskill our staff



Reduce unnecessary referrals into hospital

(See visioning event storyboard for more info on what we hope to achieve)

Our partners

- Patients, carers and community
- GP practices
- Commissioners and providers
- National and regional MSK experts

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We CAN make change that makes a difference.

For example



In January 2015 patients had to wait up to 26 weeks for a physio appointment.



The average waiting time is now 4 weeks for physio patients registered with a GP in West Lancashire, Southport and Formby.

MCAS (musculoskeletal clinical assessment service) has moved from planned care back into Community & Continued Care Directorate as of 1st December 2015

We are trying to make more improvements

Since our visioning event, we have set Southport & Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust a number of milestones and gateways which we hope they will meet in order for us to see improvements for patients, carers and the workforce.

The three gateways are December 2015, March 2016 and July 2016 – dates for when we will assess progress against each milestone.

It is envisaged that the new integrated multidisciplinary musculoskeletal service will incorporate elements of the following:

- Biomechanical assessment & orthotic provision
- Routine MSK physiotherapy
- Pre-operative mini-assessment
- ESP (extended scope practitioner) podiatry

Following stakeholder engagement it is anticipated that the service will be re-named, if you have any ideas, please let us know. At this stage, the redesigned MCAS is not included in the community procurement.

The milestones are on a range of specific issues, such as:

- Primary care education to upskill local GPs and practice staff e.g. STarT Back approach uses a simple tool to match patients to treatment packages appropriate for them.
- Decommissioning nerve conduction studies service in Preston to offer something local and nearby in the future
- On-going review of waiting lists e.g. current wait time for MCAS for routine appointment is approximately 7 weeks. We want this to be a maximum of 4 weeks
- Introduce e-referrals to work more efficiently
- Develop new website focused on MSK and Complex pain, providing accessible information to encourage self-care among patients and the local community
- Pilot musculoskeletal specialist primary care clinics in Skelmersdale and Southport/ Formby
- Develop pathways for joint injections with west Lancashire GPs and the local hospital
- Continue to engage with all stakeholders; considering the needs of people from protected groups as set out in the Equality Act 2010.

Next steps

With the above milestones and gateways now in place, we will continue to work with the trust and other colleagues and partners to make improvements.

If you would like to any further information on this service redesign please contact Amanda.gordon@westlancashireccg.nhs.uk and Terry.hill@southseftonccg.nhs.uk