**FOI Ref: 6240**

**Category(ies): Clinical – Performance Data**

**Subject: Musculoskeletal Services**

**Date Received: 10/02/2022**

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| **Your request:** | **Our response:** |
| I am writing to request information regarding services that you provide for musculoskeletal conditions, specifically low back pain. The questions are all with regards to outpatient and/or community physiotherapy services: |
| 1. Please briefly outline the relevant services within outpatient and/or community physiotherapy that you are commissioned to provide for musculoskeletal conditions, and any services that are specific to back pain?
 | We do not have specific services for back pain, but do have spinal pathways to guide referral in to our musculoskeletal (MSK) / wider services. Our outpatient MSK pathway includes both the Clinical Assessment and Triage Service / Orthopaedic Triage Service and our MSK Physiotherapy Outpatients (provided at multiple locations across Rotherham).We also have First Contact Practitioners (based within GP practices), Orthopaedic out-patient physiotherapy and occupational therapy and locality therapy (delivered in patient’s homes), Occupational Health Physiotherapy and Women’s / Pelvic Health Physiotherapy.  |
| 1. What is the current average waiting time for a musculoskeletal physiotherapy appointment for a new referral or self-referral for non-specific lower back pain? (if you are not able to answer this specifically for low back pain please provide the figure for musculoskeletal physiotherapy more generally in your service)
 | Unable to answer this specifically for low back pain. New referral MSK Physiotherapy wait - 17 weeks based on 90th centile |
| 1. How has the waiting time for musculoskeletal physiotherapy appointments for lower back pain changed over the historical time period for which you have data? If possible, an annual figure for each of the last 5-10 years would be most helpful. (Again, please answer for general musculoskeletal physiotherapy services if you do not hold specific data for back pain).
 | Unable to answer this specifically for low back pain.

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| General MSK Physio Service waits in weeks | Median 90th centile wait |
| 2015/16 | 3.83 |
| 2016/17 | 3.99 |
| 2017/18 | 4.96 |
| 2018/19 | 5.09 |
| 2019/20 | 5.47 |
| 2020/21 | 4.73 |
| 2021/22 | 10.55 |

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| 1. How many patients are currently on your waiting list(s) for physiotherapy services for lower back pain?
 | Unable to answer. |
| 1. How many patients are currently on your waiting list(s) for physiotherapy services across all musculoskeletal conditions?

  | 2500 patients are currently awaiting their initial appointment with the MSK Physiotherapy Service. |
| 1. Does your musculoskeletal physiotherapy service(s) accept self-referrals from patients for back pain (as opposed to requiring a GP or primary care referral)?
 | No. |
| 1. What is the contract type by which you are commissioned to provide musculoskeletal physiotherapy services?

 1. If paid by activity and/or outcomes/results, please provide the unit costs used to charge the CCG (e.g. cost per physio appointment)
2. If part of a block contract, please provide the details of any KPIs (and the associated incentives) within that block contract used to measure/monitor the quality of MSK physiotherapy services
 | Block contract.KPIs for MSK Physio* 80% of referrals screened within 2 days
* 80% of MSK Physio patients assessed within four weeks
 |
| 1. How does the average healthcare spend per patient for non-specific low back pain break down across different services and costs?
 | Unable to answer. |