## Community musculoskeletal service



At your first appointment your clinician will carry out a detailed assessment. This will include questions about your condition, its history and how it affects you. You will also be asked about any other medical problems and any medication you are taking

Your clinician will discuss their findings with you and will encourage you to be involved in decisions regarding your treatment options. You will always be given some advice and/or exercises for you to continue at home to help with your condition.

## What can I do to help myself?



Research has shown that resting for more than a day or so does not help and may actually prolong pain and disability.

You may need to modify your activities initially, but the sooner you get back to normal activity, the sooner you will feel better. Feeling a bit sore initially is also normal and often a good sign that you are making progress.

Changing your position or activity frequently throughout the day will help to prevent and reduce stiffness. Try to build up your general activity gradually.

# We value your comments

#### **Customer services**

We'd love to hear your feedback. Our customer services team handle any general enquiries or information requests, as well as comments, complaints, concerns and compliments about Trust services.

Freephone number: 0800 587 2108
Fax number: 01924 327668
Email: customer.servicesSWYT@nhs.net

If you need to change or cancel your appointment, please call us as soon as possible on 01226 644858 or via the e-referral appointments line on 0845 608 8888. You will need your password and reference number.

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#### Your feedback is welcome

We invite you to share any comments, compliments, concerns or complaints you have about our service. Please speak to a member of staff or contact our Customer Services team on 0800 587 2108. If you would like help understanding this information, please also contact us on this number.



# Community musculoskeletal service



Community musculoskeletal service 01226 644858

With **all of us** in mind.

#### What is a clinical assessment service?



Your doctor has identified you have a problem with a joint, nerve, muscle, tendon or ligament.

You have been referred to the community musculoskeletal service. Here we look at your referral and find you a service which best meets your needs.

This could be a hospital consultant or with a clinician in the community musculoskeletal service.

Screening aims to give you quicker access to the most appropriate care ensuring you receive the right care in the right place at the right time.

#### Who will assess me?



All screening and assessment is undertaken by qualified clinical staff with experience, skills and knowledge in the treatment and management of your condition.



### What will happen? How will I be treated?

You will agree with your doctor at your GP surgery a time and date for you to ring the clinical assessment service (01226 644858) where you will speak to a patient care advisor.

You will be given a password and a booking reference number at the surgery which you need to quote when you call.

During this telephone call, the patient care advisor will explain the results of your screening.

This could lead to:

- An appointment to see a doctor, an extended scope practitioner or a physiotherapist
- Referral to a hospital service

# **Choice of treatment provider**



If you need to be referred to hospital or other service provider you will have a choice of where to be treated. There are a number of hospitals that you may choose to go to.

Your patient care advisor can give you more information to support your choice.

## **Help us to help you – Get Fit First for your operation.**

You may feel great, but if you're a smoker or overweight and need routine surgery, you could be at greater risk of complications during or after your operation. The good news is these complications can often be reduced by taking care of yourself beforehand.

Barnsley Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has introduced a health and wellbeing programme to help make sure you are in the best possible health when you go for an operation, and are able to recover better afterwards.

If you are a smoker or have a body mass index (BMI) of 30+ and need a routine, non-urgent operation, you will be encouraged to help improve your health, reduce risks and stay healthy prior to and after your operation.

For more information visit:

www.barnsleyccg.nhs.uk/getfitfirst

