

## **Why have I been referred into the Musculoskeletal Interface Service (MIS) ?**

Your GP feels that you may have a problem with your bones, joints, spine, soft tissue, muscles or ligaments (a musculoskeletal problem).

### **Getting an appointment ?**

After the appointment with your GP, the practice will send a referral to MIS through the Choose and Book electronic referral system.

To confirm your appointment, you need to contact us on **01782 673643** with your unique booking reference number (UBRN) and password.

Your appointment with the MIS will last up to 30 minutes and you could be seen by any of our musculoskeletal practitioners. They will ask you about your problem, examine you and suggest treatment.

You will either be seen in one of our general musculoskeletal clinics or in a specialist back pain clinic.

## **Where will I be seen ?**

We hold clinics throughout North Staffordshire, including the Haywood Hospital, Bentilee Neighbourhood Centre, Leek Moorlands Hospital, Longton Cottage Hospital, Hartshill Orthopaedic Surgery Unit and Milehouse Clinic.

### **Who will I see ?**

You will be seen by one of our Advanced Musculoskeletal (MSK) Practitioners. These may be Consultant Rheumatologists, Extended Scope Practitioners (ESPs), Rehabilitation Doctors, Consultant Physiotherapists, or GPs with a special interest (GPSIs).

### **What to Wear ?**

During your appointment you might be required to carry out a number of movements to determine the cause of your pain.

It may be necessary for you to partially undress for the physical examination. We recommend you wear loose fitting clothing and underwear that you are comfortable being assessed in.

Following your appointment we will send a letter back to your GP. You may also receive:

### **Tests**

You may be referred for investigations such as X-rays, blood tests or scans. The MSK practitioner will discuss this with you. These should help us to diagnose and treat you.

### **Treatment**

At your appointment you may be offered and given treatment such as: medication, an injection or self-management advice. We may refer you to another service for treatment, such as physiotherapy.

Sometimes we need to wait for test results before deciding on your treatment. Once these are available, we will contact you by letter or phone, or we will see you in clinic again to let you know the test results, or to arrange any treatments you might need.

### **Discharged back to GP with advice**

If the MSK practitioners feel you can be managed by your GP we will send a letter back to your GP with a guidance on treatment..

### **What if I need an operation ?**

If it is necessary for you to have an operation this will be discussed with you. The PCT choice and referral centre will contact you to arrange an appointment at a hospital of your choice.

### **How to cancel an appointment ?**

If you are unable to keep your appointment then please let us know as soon as possible so your appointment can be offered to someone else. We can be contacted on **01782 673643**.

If you do not attend you will not be offered another appointment unless your GP asks us to.



For more information please visit our website at:-

<http://www.haywoodrheumatology.org.uk>

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**NHS**



## **Musculoskeletal Interface**

### **Service (MIS)**

## **A Guide**

## **For Patients**

