

National Clinical Director Musculoskeletal Services

NHS England

Medical Directorate

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**To: Individuals who lead the commissioning of MSK services for their CCG**

**Gateway Reference: 08619**

**Date: 06/12/2018**

**Re: Research into musculoskeletal (MSK) provision within CCGs**

Dear colleagues,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Work and Health Unit (WHU). WHU is a UK joint government unit which brings together the Department for Work and Pensions and the Department of Health and Social Care. They have commissioned an independent research company, IFF Research, to investigate the current state of occupational health provision in the UK. As part of this study, they have a particular focus on musculoskeletal (MSK) services that address the health needs of working age people.

**They are conducting a short online survey of individuals within a CCG with a good understanding of commissioning MSK services, for example the MSK lead.**

You can access the survey here: <https://www.iffresearch.com/surveys/15912ccg/>

**It will take around 20 minutes to complete, with the option to pause and complete it over multiple sessions. Completing the survey will provide WHU with vital evidence to inform future policy and provision decisions.**

The survey will help the Work and Health Unit build up a better picture of musculoskeletal services in the UK. The contribution of each CCG will be on an anonymous basis, and all data will be handled in line with GDPR (for more information please visit [www.iffresearch.com/gdpr](http://www.iffresearch.com/gdpr))

**We have listed some questions that CCG contacts might find helpful to consider before taking the survey, which can be found at the end of this letter.**

If you have any queries for IFF Research regarding the research please contact Sam Stroud or Zainab Hazel on 020 7250 3035. If you would like to verify the authenticity of the research you can contact Maisie Payne at the Work and Health Unit, via [Maisie.Payne@DWP.GSI.GOV.UK](mailto:Maisie.Payne@DWP.GSI.GOV.UK).

Thank you, in anticipation of your help.

**Professor Peter Kay**



**National Clinical Director Musculoskeletal Services**

**NHS England**

***Some questions that it may be helpful to consider before the taking the survey:***

	<b>Our questions:</b>	<b>Space for your notes:</b>
<b>Most used MSK services</b>	<p>Of the musculoskeletal services commissioned by your CCG, which are the top 3 most used in terms of use by working age, not including repeat usage?</p> <p>If you work for a <u>lead CCG</u>, please think about your top 3 community-based <u>and</u> top 3 hospital-based musculoskeletal services</p>	
<b>Capacity</b>	<p>What is the current overall capacity of musculoskeletal provision commissioned by your CCG in terms of the maximum number of individuals it could be provided to over the course of one month?</p>	
<b>Waiting times</b>	<p>Over the last 12 months, on average, how many individuals were on a waiting list for the top 3 musculoskeletal services on a monthly basis?</p>	
	<p>Is there a target waiting time for individuals seeking to access the top 3 musculoskeletal services? If so, what is the target waiting time?</p>	
	<p>What is the actual median average waiting time for individuals seeking to access the top 3 musculoskeletal services?</p>	
<b>Cost</b>	<p>What is the cost of the top 3 musculoskeletal services used by working age people to the CCG on a per user, per year basis?</p>	
<b>Referral pathways</b>	<p>To the best of your knowledge, what are the referral pathways for the top 3 musculoskeletal services and what proportion are referred through these pathways?</p>	
	<p>To the best of your knowledge, what is the proportion of individuals referred on to secondary care service after discharge from musculoskeletal provision?</p>	