

Participant Information Leaflet: Patient/Service User

Standardising Data Collection in Musculoskeletal Services: Patient Survey

You are being invited to take part in a research study on standardising musculoskeletal data collection in routine clinical practice. Before you decide to take part it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what taking part in the survey will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully.

Ethical approval for this study has been obtained from the Keele University Faculty of Medicine Research Ethics Committee (FMREC Reference No: MH-200141).

Summary of the Project

The purpose of this project is to develop consensus on a set of questions that could be collected from patients accessing care for a musculoskeletal (MSK) problem (joint, muscle or back pain/ache/symptom) when receiving treatment in a GP or Physiotherapy clinic. The set of questions would include simple questions about your pain/condition, patient reported outcome measures (PROMs) that measure the effectiveness of treatment, patient reported experience measures (PREMs) that measure patient experience and satisfaction, and any other agreed useful questions. The purpose of widespread data collection is for service evaluation to evaluate and improve individual services and to allow for comparisons across services allowing for the identification of the best performing services and any underperforming services. The set of questions needs to be kept to a minimum to ensure it is practical for use in routine practice for collection from patients, needs to be easy to understand and fill in, and be useful to patients and their clinicians to plan and evaluate a patient's individual care.

Who do we want to volunteer?

We are looking for patients/service users who are 18 years or over and who have accessed MSK services in a GP practice or Physiotherapy clinic within the last 12 months for their joint, muscle, or back problem.

What does involvement include?

To take part in the research you will need to answer an online survey which includes watching short video clips of the proposed set of questions and then answering short sections of questions to gain your feedback.

Is the survey anonymous?

Yes the survey is fully anonymised so we will not know who you are or be able to identify you in any way.

How long will the survey take?

The survey should not take more than 30 minutes to complete.

Do I have to take part?

No. Your involvement in the standardising MSK data survey study is voluntary and you do not have to take part if you do not want to.

If I agree to take part what happens next?

To agree to take part you just need to click onto the survey and complete all of the survey questions. **By commencing the survey you are consenting to take part in the research study.**

What if I change my mind?

If you change your mind after commencing the survey you can exit the survey at any point and if incomplete your survey will be excluded from the study results. Complete surveys cannot be withdrawn due to the survey being fully anonymised.

Who is doing the research?

The research is being led by Roanna Burgess a researcher at Keele University and Consultant Physiotherapist in the NHS and supported by Dr Jonathan Hill a Reader in Physiotherapy at Keele University (<https://www.keele.ac.uk/pcsc/ourpeople/jonathanhill/>).

How long will my survey responses be kept for?

The anonymised data collected by the survey will be kept on a Keele University secure server until all of the data has been analysed, the results published and the research complete. At this point all of the data within the survey software will be deleted.

Will I get to know the final results?

We will not be able to send you the results of the study as we will not know who you are or have any form of contact details for any participants. We will however publish results on our website and circulate research findings in the same way that we asked for participants to be involved in the survey via social media and Versus Arthritis communications.

Benefits of taking part in the survey

Taking part will allow you to add your views on the questions included within a patient questionnaire for use in routine clinical practice when accessing and completing treatment in an MSK service.

Risks of taking part in the survey

We do not foresee any risk to you participating in this online feedback survey.

Contact for further information

If you have any questions, concerns, require further information or have any suggestions or comments about this study please contact the lead researcher Roanna Burgess at r.m.burgess@keele.ac.uk.