

MSK Services  
(Physio, Orthopaedic Triage & Pain Management)  
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## **COVID-19 MSK Services Update**

Dear GPs,

We hope that this message finds you all in good health in spite of the challenges of COVID19 and the inevitable impact that it has had on you all.

Following latest national and local guidelines I am pleased to report that we have been asked to start planning for the 'Recovery Phase' of the BCHC MSK Service.

With this in mind we will initially be aiming to commence what will be a very different looking service from our previous 'norm' as we will be looking to minimise face to face appointments and offer patients initial video-based assessments with electronic support resources. Whilst this is not the ideal scenario for patients (or staff), it is intended as an interim measure whilst the effects of the pandemic are continued to be monitored with a view to moving to a more 'normal service' at some, as yet undefined, time in the future.

We realise that, over the recent weeks since the closure of our service, you may have had patients with MSK conditions contacting you and that you will have not been able to fully deal with these so this announcement will hopefully come as a welcome change. We also understand that some practices have been keeping lists of MSK patients to refer on to us once our doors reopen. In order for us to best gauge the potential demand on our re-emerging service, we would therefore ask that, if you do have any such lists of patients or have any new patients presenting themselves to your practices from now on, that you forward the referrals to us as soon as possible.

Please submit all referrals via email to [mskbchc.referrals@nhs.net](mailto:mskbchc.referrals@nhs.net) and note that we will be ceasing to accept any postal or faxed referrals after 01 July 2020 as per previously agreed.

We look forward to being able to work with you again. Please feel free to contact our advice line 0121 466 7600 should you have any queries regarding the above or any other matter relating to MSK Patients and we will be happy to help.

Kind regards,



Duncan KINGHAM  
MSK Head of Service