

Information for patients and carers about the Derbyshire musculoskeletal clinical assessment and treatment service (MSK CATS)

Why am I being referred to the musculoskeletal clinical assessment and treatment service? (MSK CATS)

Your doctor is referring you to the MSK CATS in order for your condition to be directed to the most appropriate service to manage your condition.

This service deals with complex problems, which can affect the muscles and joints of the body.

What happens next?

Your doctor will send your referral straight to MSK CATS.

Your doctor will give you details of what will happen with your referral. You will receive a telephone feedback phone call from the MSK CATS service once your referral has been reviewed.

An Advanced Physiotherapy Practitioner (APP) will look at your case to determine the correct service for your condition. When a member of the administration team calls you, they will tell you what your next steps are. These could be:

- setting up a face-to-face appointment for an expert assessment, or;
- setting up a face-to-face appointment with other services such as outpatient physiotherapy or podiatry if you need it, or;
- booking a consultant hospital appointment

In some cases the team may need further information from you in order to process your referral. If this is needed then you may get an additional telephone call.

If you need an appointment, you will be offered a day, time and place that is best for you.

How will we contact you?

Calls from MSK CATS will be made Monday - Friday between 9.00am and 5.00pm. The number they will call you from might come up as 'unknown' or 'number withheld'.

If you want a copy of any of the information that they give you over the phone just ask the person on the call and they will send it to you.

Find out more at www.mskderbyshire.org.uk