



Patients with bone and joint pain, including conditions such as arthritis, are now able to book an appointment with the First Contact practitioner, rather than waiting to see a GP or being referred to hospital.

A First contact Practitioner (FCP) is an experienced physiotherapist who has the advanced skills necessary to assess, diagnose and recommend appropriate treatment or referral for musculoskeletal (MSK) problems on a patient's first contact.

By making it easier for patients to access an FCP Service, patients will have quicker access to diagnosis and treatment, helping them to manage their conditions more effectively and recover faster, so they can get back to normal life quickly.