

Orthopaedic Physiotherapy Screening Clinic and Multidisciplinary Service (OPSC & MDS)

Patient Information Sheet

The Orthopaedic Physiotherapy Screening Clinic (OPSC) is part of the Department of Orthopaedics at The Prince Charles Hospital. The OPSC service aims to improve access to multidisciplinary management and to decrease waiting times for patients requiring consultation with an orthopaedic specialist.

OPSCs have been established as part of the orthopaedic outpatient services throughout QLD Health. The clinic is suitable for patients referred with musculoskeletal conditions who do not need immediate surgery and who may benefit from well-coordinated multidisciplinary management.

All referrals to the orthopaedic outpatients department are assessed by the orthopaedic service and screened for suitability for an appointment with the OPSC. The clinics are staffed by musculoskeletal physiotherapists who perform a comprehensive assessment and develop a multidisciplinary management plan. The OPSC is supported by a multidisciplinary team which includes physiotherapy, occupational therapy, pharmacy, psychology and dietetics.

If there are any concerns regarding the patient's condition the musculoskeletal physiotherapist will discuss this with an orthopaedic specialist. Further investigations may be requested or the patient's referral may be upgraded for an earlier review in an orthopaedic clinic.

Patients are followed up at the OPSC to evaluate their progress and the effect of the management plan implemented. Patients who still require a consultation with the orthopaedic specialist will maintain their original position on the waiting list.

Implementation of this service in Queensland Health has resulted in a reduction of waiting times for patients, delivered good clinical outcomes and provided high rates of satisfaction from patients, referrers and orthopaedic specialists.

For further information please contact:

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