

# Allied Health Professionals – Musculoskeletal Waiting Times in NHS Scotland

Quarter ending 30 September 2016

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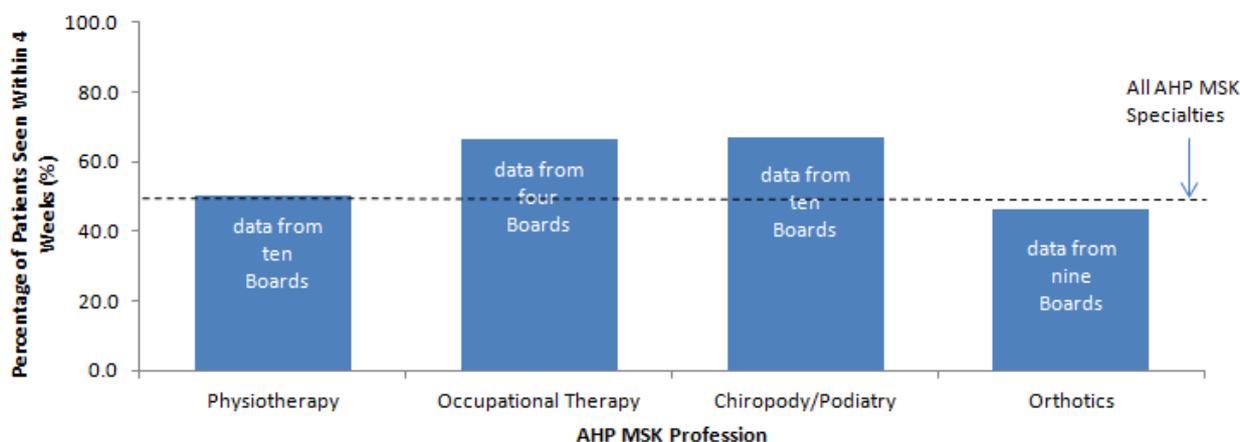
## About this release

This publication by Information Services Division (ISD) presents information on how long patients wait for Musculoskeletal (MSK) services that are delivered by Allied Health Professionals (AHP) in Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Chiropody/Podiatry and Orthotics. This publication includes waiting times information for eleven NHS Boards, but not for every indicator, for the quarter ending 30 September 2016. These data are considered developmental.

## Main Points

- Over half (53.2%) of the 69,445 patients who had a first clinical appointment with an AHP MSK service were seen within 4 weeks. This is similar to quarter ending 30 June 2016 when 52.6% of patients were seen within 4 weeks.
- Nine out of ten patients were seen within 18 weeks.
- 93,110 people were referred to AHP MSK services compared to 95,355 for the quarter ending 30 June 2016.

### Percentage of patients seen within 4 Weeks



## Background

MSK problems include a diversity of complaints and diseases localised in joints, bones, cartilage, ligaments, tendons, tendon sheaths, bursa and muscles. MSK problems also include outpatient pre or post orthopaedic surgery, peripheral nerve lesions (e.g. carpal tunnel, sciatica) or complication of fracture/dislocation/trauma.

The Scottish Government has determined that at least 90% of AHP MSK patients should wait no longer than 4 weeks from receipt of referral from a patient or health or social care professional. See [NHSScotland Waiting Times Guidance](#) for more information. The guidance target should be met by each profession individually within each Board.

Progress continues to be made with NHS Boards who are developing their IT systems in order to provide the data. Last quarter only nine Boards were included. The eleven NHS Boards providing AHP MSK data this quarter are; NHS Ayrshire & Arran, NHS Borders, NHS Dumfries & Galloway, NHS Fife, NHS Forth Valley, NHS Grampian, NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde, NHS Lanarkshire, NHS Lothian, NHS Shetland and NHS Western Isles.

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## Further Information

Further information can be found on the [AHP MSK Waiting Times pages of the ISD website](#). You may also be interested in our other [waiting times information](#).

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