

# ED Physiotherapy Practitioner



Created and implemented at  
Liverpool Hospital in May 2006

## Summary of Role

- Primary care specialist physiotherapist, based in ED.
- Provides specialised management for acute soft tissue injuries & bony fracture, seeing patients directly from triage.
- Ability to investigate, treat & discharge this population of patients.
- Provides referrals as appropriate to community based health care services.
- Education role with nursing & medical staff.

## Why implement this role?

It was identified that a physiotherapist is skilled to manage musculoskeletal presentations to Liverpool ED, from presentation to discharge. This will free up nursing & medical staff to manage other acutely unwell patients.

A physiotherapist based in the ED, being able to provide specialist management to musculoskeletal conditions will decrease their treatment time & lower their length of stay within the department.

Early intervention & advice from a physiotherapist can minimise the development & impact of chronic conditions.

## Impact of role

In the 6 months prior to commencing the project, 93% of sub acute patients presenting with MS conditions were discharged home. Average length of stay was 3 hrs 22 mins.

During the 5 months of the project those patients discharged home & managed primarily by the physiotherapist.

- 91% of patients seen within triage category benchmarks.
- Median Length of stay was 1hr 59mins
- 91% were discharged in <4hrs
- Median waiting time was 21mins

## Contact

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