



## Freedom of Information request & West Norfolk CCG response

### WN273 – Hip Replacements and NICE Guidelines (Sept 14)

**1. Could you tell me if West Norfolk CCG follows the NICE guidelines for hip replacements?**

NHS West Norfolk CCG's commissioning practices for hip replacements currently adhere to NICE guidance.

We are currently in the final stages of a collaborative review with other local CCGs into the local threshold criteria and policy for hip replacements. This review has been undertaken to give full consideration to the best available evidence relating to clinical effectiveness e.g. NICE guidance, the content of which will inform our local policy.

**2. Could you also tell me the average length of wait in doctor's surgeries for physiotherapy?; and**

At present, there are two referral pathways to physiotherapy from general practice:

**I. Low back pain pathway**

This allows patients to choose between osteopaths, chiropractors, and physiotherapy support. Within this pathway, there is currently a two-week wait on average.

**II. Community physiotherapy services**

This referral pathway is currently under significant pressure, but is meeting the 18 week referral to treatment standard. We are currently conducting a review of this referral pathway.

**3. What are the outcomes of local policy on bone and joint health?**

NHS West Norfolk CCG does not currently have a specific local policy on bone and joint health. Notwithstanding this, we have developed a robust pathway to ensure optimal outcomes for our patients' bone health. The pathway has facilitated improved local access to bone scanning (DXA service) by utilising a mobile screening service for osteoporosis and support for patients.