

## Protocol authorisation for non-medical referrers

### MSK advanced physiotherapist requesting

Reference: RAD\_RP\_IRMER\_NMR27

Version: 2

Date approved 23/07/2024

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<b>Protocol name</b>
<b>Musculoskeletal Physiotherapist Advanced Practitioner Requesting</b>
<b>Rationale</b>
Patients with pelvis, hip, knee, ankle and foot musculoskeletal pathology are frequently independently assessed by advanced physiotherapists in clinic. As part of their assessment imaging maybe required.
<b>Patients to whom protocol will apply</b>
Adult (16 years and over) patients attending hip and knee orthopaedic out-patient clinics where initial assessment has been undertaken by an advanced physiotherapist and where imaging is required to facilitate clinical decision making (particularly regarding surgical intervention, referral or in the assessment of postoperative pathology)
<b>Inclusion and exclusion criteria</b>
<b>Exclusion:</b>
Patients <16 y of age.
Patients seen without the joint working consultant led orthopaedic out-patients clinics.
Patient with implantable device
<b>Clinical assessments to be undertaken prior to decision to request imaging (please attach any flowcharts/other documents as necessary)</b>
All patients undergo a clinical work-up including history, focussed MSK assessment of spine and lower limb joints and neurological assessment where indicated. Other relevant investigations are undertaken including bloods with discussion with consultant and GP where required.
All patients being considered for MRI will have contraindications for MRI assessed.
<b>Additional documents attached?</b>
No
<b>Description of who will be making these assessments</b>
Advanced practitioner physiotherapists specifically authorized and approved (in writing) for this role by the CSU lead clinician and the relevant consultants.
<b>Details of imaging to be requested</b>
Musculoskeletal MRI (including spinal imaging)
Musculoskeletal US

**NOTE – Version control managed in Q-Pulse, all printed documents must be checked against Q-Pulse version to ensure that it is current.**

**Form of words to be used on request**

NON-MEDICAL requester and job role

Clinical details of patient

Exact details of imaging requested

Clinical question

**Audit standards for annual recertification**

100% of requested imaging should use the stipulated form of words including the name and grade of the non-medical assessing the patient.

0% patient miss-identification/incorrect requesting

CSU annual audit of appropriateness of requesting