



A regular update from Dorset County Hospital's Orthopaedic Team

Dorset Orthopaedic News

Welcome to the first edition of Dorset Orthopaedic News

The Dorset Orthopaedic Unit has doubled in size over the last seven years, increasing from four to eight consultants. We now offer a broad spectrum of sub-specialist orthopaedic consultants - the most recent addition being hands and foot and ankle surgery - and are able to provide a comprehensive orthopaedic service.

Whilst current targets have stretched limited operative capacity within the hospital, we now have the go ahead to build two theatres, bringing the complement to four designated orthopaedic and trauma theatres. We believe this will 'future proof' our needs and allow us to serve our population in a timely fashion.

In order to build upon and improve communication between our unit and GPs we will be producing this regular newsletter. Through this newsletter we will keep you abreast of our current capacity and real waiting times from referral to treatment as well as present interesting educational cases, reviews of current practices and provide an opportunity for patient feedback and outcome audits. Any comments upon content and format etc would be most welcome. Please send comments or queries to Communications Manager Susie Palmer on susie.palmer@dchft.nhs.uk or 01305 254683.

Mr Peter Ward
Clinical Director
Musculoskeletal Services

Recent Audit Projects

DVT rates for total hip and total knee replacements 2008:

Total Hip Replacement **0.8%** Total knee Replacement **1.0%**

PE rate for total hip and total knee replacements 2008:

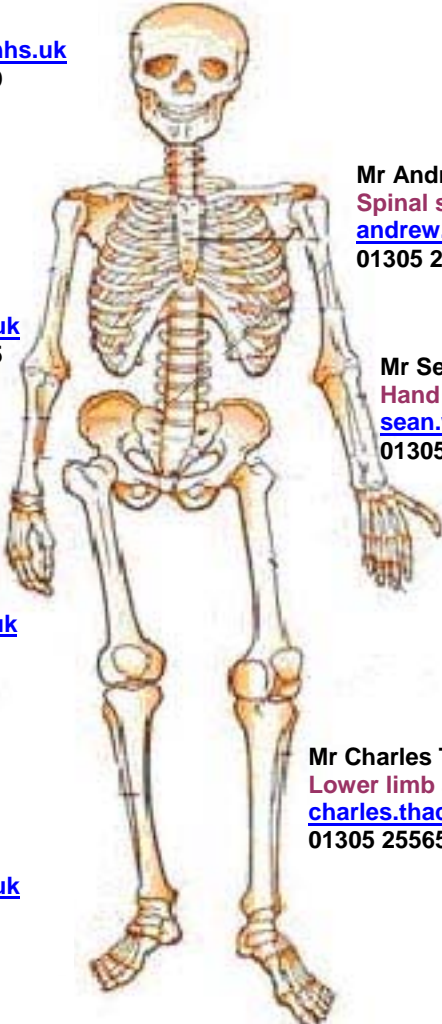
Total hip replacement **0.25%** Total knee replacement **0.65%**

Last quartile infection rate for total hip replacement: 0%

28-day re-admission rates for total knee replacement patients for orthopaedic reasons for 2007-2008: 0.3%

Day case foot and ankle surgery infection rate August 2007 to August 2008: 0.9%

Current Specialty Waiting Times




Outpatient wait 3.4 weeks	Mr Nicholas Fernandez Shoulder surgery nick.fernandez@dchft.nhs.uk Secretary:01305 255549				
Referral to Treatment 10.9 weeks					
Outpatient wait 2.7 weeks	Mr Peter Ward Hip revision peter.ward@dchft.nhs.uk Secretary:01305 255515		Mr Andrew Hilton Spinal surgery andrew.hilton@dchft.nhs.uk 01305 255546		Outpatient wait 5.7 weeks
Referral to Treatment 12.5 weeks					Referral to Treatment 13.1 weeks
Outpatient wait 5.9 weeks	Mr Ian Barlow knee surgery ian.barlow@dchft.nhs.uk 01305 255413		Mr Sean Walsh Hand surgery sean.walsh@dchft.nhs.uk 01305 254483		Outpatient wait 5.4 weeks
Referral to Treatment 14.1 weeks					Referral to Treatment 12.2 weeks
Outpatient wait 3.8 weeks	Mr Nicholas Savva Foot and ankle nick.savva@dchft.nhs.uk 01305 253171		Mr Charles Thacker Lower limb arthroplasty charles.thacker@dchft.nhs.uk 01305 255655		Outpatient wait 1.9 weeks
Referral to Treatment 11.3 weeks					Referral to Treatment 9.7 weeks

The 18-week patient pathway has been a significant hurdle for Orthopaedics and we thank you for helping us to achieve improved access times by accommodating variants for external providers.

New Foot and Ankle Website

The Foot and Ankle Team at Dorset County Hospital are pleased to announce the launch of their new website at <http://www.dchft.nhs.uk/footandankle/index.html>. This site, part of the main DCH website, contains information for doctors, patients and other healthcare professionals. It includes an advice sheet on radiographs required prior to clinic appointments for General Practitioners, information leaflets in a printable PDF format for patients and useful links to education and information websites.

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Foot and Ankle Orthopaedic Team

Welcome to the web pages for the Foot and Ankle Orthopaedic Team at Dorset County Hospital.

These pages are designed to allow patients, GPs and other medical professionals to seek information about foot and ankle conditions and operations. We have written patient information leaflets, care pathways and protocols as well as rehabilitation guides. There are also links to other useful websites.

We aim to enhance multi-disciplinary communication and hence improve patients' outcomes and satisfaction with their care.

There are several members of the team, including:

**Mr Nick Savva FRCS (Tr&Orth)
Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon**

**Matt Flux BSc MCSP
Extended Scope Practitioner Physiotherapist**

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Coming Up in the Next Issue of Orthopaedic News ...

- **Focus on Slipped Upper Femoral Epiphysis**