

Musculoskeletal services in Aneurin Bevan Local Health Board

“There are over 200 different types of arthritis and musculoskeletal conditions”¹

Musculoskeletal conditions are the most common type of self-reported illness, and account for almost 20% of all GP consultations in the UK^{1,2}

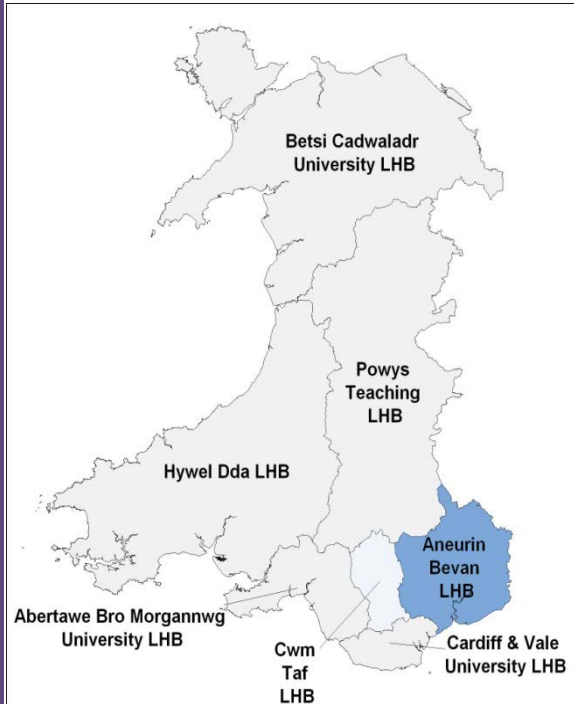
“In Wales £90 million is spent each year on incapacity benefits to individuals suffering with back pain”¹

Approximately 27,000 people living with arthritis in the UK are under the age of 25²

¹Welsh Assembly Government, *Service Development and Commissioning Directives: Arthritis and Chronic Musculoskeletal Conditions*, 2007

²Arthritis Care, *FAQs*, 2011, accessed via: <http://www.arthritiscare.org.uk/AboutArthritis/FAQs>

³Aneurin Bevan Local Health Board, *FOI response*, 2012



Expenditure on musculoskeletal conditions at Aneurin Bevan³:

2009/10	£64,223,000
2010/11	£65,275,000

There have been nine rheumatologists at Aneurin Bevan Local Health Board over the last three years.

All newly diagnosed patients are given Arthritis UK information packs and booklets. They are also encouraged to join patient support groups through the websites of the individual organisations.

Includes musculoskeletal conditions within definition of long-term conditions



Identified all long-term conditions patients



Audit of outcomes for patients with musculoskeletal conditions



A list of all clinical guidelines and protocols for musculoskeletal conditions



Received information about the Service Development and Commissioning Directives for arthritis and chronic musculoskeletal conditions



Works with voluntary and community organisations to support patients with musculoskeletal problems



SERVICES AVAILABLE FOR PEOPLE WITH MUSCULOSKELETAL CONDITIONS:

- Pain management service
- Physiotherapy service
- Inflammatory arthritis service
- Community falls service
- Education for GPs about how to manage patients with suspected rheumatoid arthritis
- Information for patients on self care