

# Musculoskeletal services in Powys Teaching Local Health Board

*“There are over 200 different types of arthritis and musculoskeletal conditions”<sup>1</sup>*

Musculoskeletal conditions are the most common type of self-reported illness, and account for almost 20% of all GP consultations in the UK<sup>1,2</sup>

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

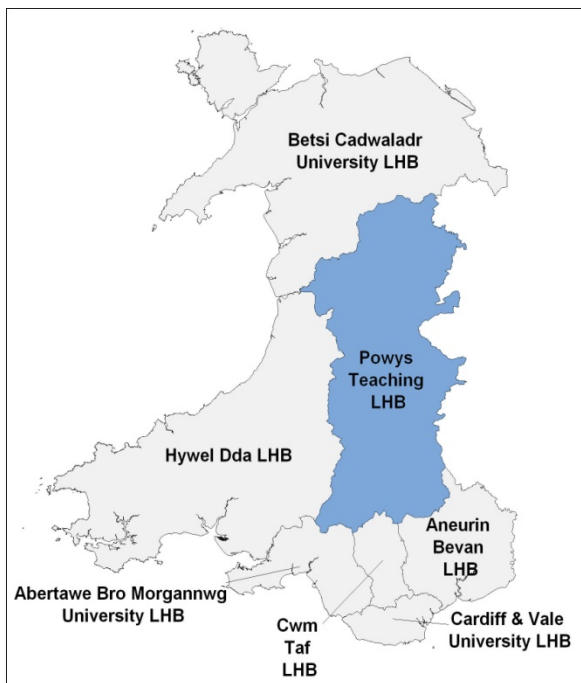
Approximately 27,000 people living with arthritis in the UK are under the age of 25<sup>2</sup>

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

<sup>2</sup>Arthritis Care, *FAQs*, 2011, accessed via:

<http://www.arthritiscare.org.uk/AboutArthritis/FAQs>

<sup>3</sup>ARMA, *FOI requests*, 2012, saved in folder



Expenditure on musculoskeletal conditions at Powys<sup>3</sup>:

2008/09	£15,374,000
2009/10	£16,059,000
2010/11	£15,647,000

## SERVICES AVAILABLE FOR PEOPLE WITH MUSCULOSKELETAL CONDITIONS:

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

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



There are no rheumatologists in Powys teaching Health Board.

Powys teaching Health Board facilitates CPD sessions for GPs and Practice Nurses which take the form of formal lectures, workshops and demonstrations. Rheumatology has been covered in previous education sessions.

All GPs contracted by the Health Board to provide drug monitoring for rheumatoid arthritis are mandated to show that they have completed continuing professional development in this area as part of the annual appraisal and enhanced service accreditation process.