# MSK AND MENTAL HEALTH

#### **Prevalence of MSK Conditions:**

• Over 20 million people in the UK live with MSK conditions, such as arthritis and back pain.

#### **Impact on Mental Health:**

- Individuals with MSK conditions often experience chronic pain, limited mobility, and disability, impacting their mental well-being.
- People with chronic pain conditions like MSK conditions are more likely to experience anxiety and depression.
- Recent ONS statistics indicate that around 1 in 6 adults in the UK experienced moderate to severe depressive symptoms

#### **Physical Activity and Mental Health**

• Physical activity can help manage MSK conditions and improve mental health, yet individuals with MSK conditions often face barriers to regular exercise.

## **Access to Support and Services**

 Access to mental health support is crucial for individuals with MSK conditions, but there can be barriers such as long waiting times and limited availability of specialised services.

### **Integrated Care Approach**

• Integrated care that addresses both physical and mental health is essential for effectively managing MSK conditions and improving overall well-being.