

**About Muscat and your referral.
Musculoskeletal assessment and treatment service.**

MUSCAT is a multidisciplinary service which triages orthopaedic referrals in South Warwickshire. To make sure we have all the necessary details to make a decision about your referral please allow **5 working days between visiting your GP and ringing for an appointment.**

Number to ring: 01926 608068. This is a direct line open weekdays from 8.30am – 4.30pm.

When you ring the above number the staff will tell you if you need to:

- Attend for an assessment with the MUSCAT team before further decisions are made about your treatment plan, and book you an appointment.
- Attend for a course of Physiotherapy and tell you how to get an appointment at a location convenient to you.
- Have further investigations e.g. X-ray, blood tests, MRI scan
- See a Podiatrist and book you an appointment.
- See an Orthopaedic Consultant and how to get an appointment.
- Or be referred to another service e.g. Backtrack.

The team of health professionals who make up the MUSCAT team are Physiotherapists and Podiatrists who have a special interest in treating and managing muscle and joint problems. They are experienced practitioners who have also had additional training in this type of work. They have links with, and access to, other specialist services and can therefore make arrangements directly with other services if necessary to help your care.

Because many muscle and joint problems can be successfully treated in Primary Care, the Muscat service's aim is to make sure you see the health professional who can best assess, advise and if necessary treat your specific problem at an early stage.

Details about what to expect if you are booked into a Muscat clinic are on the next page.

Where are the clinics held:

1. **Royal Leamington Spa Rehabilitation Hospital**, Heathcote Lane, Whitnash, CV34 6SR.
2. **Stratford Hospital**. Arden Street. Stratford-upon-Avon. CV37 6NQ. The clinics are held in the Physiotherapy Department on the 1st floor of the hospital.
3. **Ellen Badger Hospital**, Stratford Road, Shipston-on-Stour, CV36 4AX.

Parking is available on all sites. There are charges for parking at some of the locations.

Write your appointment details here:

Time/Date

Venue:

In the clinic

- Please allow approximately 1hr for your visit and bring details of any medication you are taking. You may be asked to partially undress so please wear appropriate underwear or bring shorts if it is a lower limb problem.
- You will have a thorough assessment by the member of the team and this may be a Physiotherapist or a Podiatrist depending on your problem and they will explain to you in detail the findings. There will be time to ask questions and you will receive advice and suggestions on an appropriate management/treatment plan.
- The session may involve the teaching of specific exercises, advice on how to alleviate pain, advice on how to prevent your condition getting worse and suggestions on how you can make things feel better as well as lifestyle advice. Some patients may be helped by a steroid injection and this can be carried out in the clinic by either a Physiotherapist or Podiatrist.
- Follow-up appointments with the Muscat team will be arranged if needed.
- Further courses of treatment with Physiotherapy and Podiatry are arranged if it is part of the management/treatment plan. The Muscat service can arrange further investigations such as x-rays, blood tests or an MRI scan is needed in order to diagnose your condition
- If after your assessment we think you need to see a hospital specialist your details will be passed on to Secondary Care and you will be contacted directly from their department at the Hospital.