

The Role of Advanced Practice in Transforming Models of Care within Paediatric Orthopaedics in Scotland

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Introduction

In September 2022, Paediatric Professionals working in Orthopaedics across many Board areas came together to explore *The role of Advance Practice in transforming models of care within Paediatric Orthopaedics in Scotland*. The aim of this meeting was to provide a platform for sharing experience and expertise in relation to Advance Practice (AP) within Paediatric Orthopaedic Services.

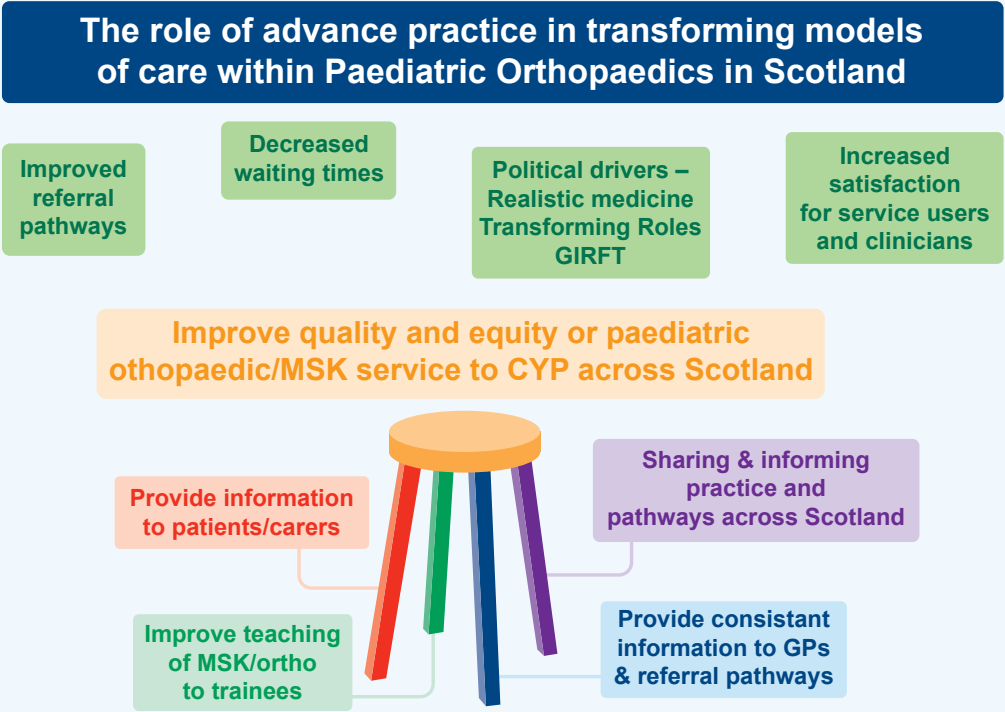
The outcome was the establishment of a Community of Practice (CoP) related to AP within Paediatric Orthopaedics across Scotland.

Methods

Agreed Aims

- Be useful and productive as a national group
- Inspire and share learning from using new models of care
- Learning & educational element

This evolved into an overarching aim of *Improve quality and equity of paediatric orthopaedic/MSK service to CYP across Scotland*



Priorities

- Sharing and informing good practice and clinical pathways across NHS Scotland
- Provide information to parents/carers through NHS Inform
- Education on MSK/ortho via NHS Education Scotland (NES)
- Investigate ways to provide consistent information to GPs & referral pathways

Results/Discussion

3 arms of activity have progressed:

1. An education Day attended by CYP Physiotherapist across Scotland working in, or towards, Advanced Practice. Content was focused sharing good practice, promoting collaboration and ensuring equity of care across Scotland.

2. 2 training sessions have been delivered to 92 GP trainees from 9 Scottish Health Boards via NES.

Feedback from October 24 & January 25

22 completed forms (39%) / 57 participants

9 of 14 Board areas represented in feedback

Trainees from ST1-3 on GP or Non-GP placement

12 completed form 5 participants

8 of 14 Board areas represented in feedback

Trainees from ST1-3 on GP or Non-GP placement

Quality of the session

4.45 Average Rating

★★★★☆

4.42 Average Rating

★★★★☆

Material delivered was useful

4.73 Average Rating

★★★★☆

4.50 Average Rating

★★★★☆

How will you change your practice because of engaging with the session?

Thorough new born examination

Having a high index of suspicion in cases that need referral

Be more confident in reassuring parents about normal variants

More thorough/confident hip examination, More considered XR requests

More appropriate referrals from primary care

Better knowledge of common msk conditions and knowing when to refer secondary care services

More confidence in assessment msk problems in children

More confident knowing when to refer and when to reassure/watchful waiting

Awareness of normal variants and when to reassure parents

More understanding of appropriate referrals

I will refer to the slides when in practice

I will look at pGALS to aid my examination skills. The talk on hip dysplasia and talipes was very helpful, especially the pictures illustrating which presentations are concerning

Feel more able to reassure patients who present with normal variants

3. Creation of content on NHS Inform, currently having 11 pages for final consultation.

This CoP combines the collective knowledge of experienced clinicians within MSK/Paediatric Orthopaedics across Scotland to improve equity and quality of care. The experience of the CoP is that there is a lack of accessible resources available to patients/families and lack of consistent training and resources for health professionals.

Currently we have the 11 following pages of content in final draft form.

First pages

- Flat Feet
- Intoeing
- Toe Problems
- Positional Talipes
- Toe Walking
- Bow Legs and knock knees
- Ganglion cysts
- Popliteal cysts
- Trigger thumb/finger
- Bottom Shuffling
- Trips and Falls (preschool)

Next steps....

Once the normal variants are done is to move on to covering common musculoskeletal conditions one joint at a time, starting with the knee:

Conclusion

The development and activity of the CoP in Paediatric Orthopaedics demonstrates how Advanced Practitioners work across the 4 Pillars of Practice, providing leadership and education, as well as their clinical knowledge, to provide a clear focus on reducing inequalities by providing high quality and accessible information for patients, families and health professionals. Ongoing audit and service development further improve delivery of care.

Clinical Practice

Knowledge skills and behaviours needed to provide high quality healthcare that is safe, effective and person centred.

Facilitating Learning

Knowledge skills and behaviours needed to enable effective learning in the workplace.

Leadership

Knowledge skills and behaviours needed to lead and fulfill management responsibilities.

Evidence Research and Development

Knowledge skills and behaviours needed to use evidence to inform practice and improve services.

References -

Realistic medicine - [Realistic Medicine – Shared decision making, reducing harm, waste and tackling unwarranted variation](#)

Transforming Roles [Transforming nursing, midwifery and health professions roles: introduction - gov.scot](#)