

Peninsula Spinal Unit Referral Pathway

The spinal pathway was set up in 2010 to manage spinal patients effectively between primary and secondary care. Patients with Cauda Equina Syndrome are to be sent without delay to the Accident and Emergency Department.

Patients with red flags / concerns about serious underlying pathology should have their referral faxed to 01392 404772.

Patients with benign spinal pain with or without referral into the limbs should be managed by their G.P initially and then referred to physiotherapy if the symptoms are not settling.

Patients with chronic low back pain must have completed a community based spinal rehabilitation programme before referral to the spinal unit.

If a secondary care referral is needed, the physiotherapist can refer into the Extended Scope Practitioner clinics. See diagram below-

PATIENT PATHWAY FOR ADULT PATIENTS PRESENTING TO GP IN PRIMARY CARE WITH SPINAL PAIN

