

# Psoriatic Arthritis Pathway

## Refer to Pennine MSK Partnership for Urgent Specialist Review

### If persistent:

- Synovitis involving peripheral joints
- Symmetrical polyarthritis
- Dactylitis
- Tenosynovitis
- Asymmetric Oligoarthritis
- Sacroileitis/ Spondylitis
- Enthesitis

Enquire whether skin or nail psoriasis or if a family history of PsA/psoriasis.

[https://www.psoriasis-association.org.uk/media/InformationSheets/PsA\\_Diagnosis.pdf](https://www.psoriasis-association.org.uk/media/InformationSheets/PsA_Diagnosis.pdf)



### Triage straight to Rheumatologist

If GP has documented:

- Any symptoms from box 1
- Swollen joints, esp hands/ feet
- +ve RF/ Anti- CCP/ HLA-B27
- Rapid onset
- Prolonged early morning stiffness
- High risk PsA suspected

### For Appointment with GPwSI/ within 3/52

MSK Ax: N<sup>o</sup> of tender/swollen joints & any outstanding Ix  
 FBC, ESR, U&E's, LFT's, RF, ANA, HLA-B27. CCP  
 X-rays chest, hands and feet; MRI pelvis/Lx if indicated  
 Review analgesia/ NSAID's  
 USS synovitis/ active inflammation/ Enthesitis  
 IM/ IAJ/ oral corticosteroids as appropriate according to Patient Group Directive  
 Invite to participate in National Early Inflammatory Arthritis Audit

### Review by Rheumatologist within 2/52 if PsA suspected

Baseline disease activity assessment IM/ IAJ/ oral corticosteroids  
 Commence Methotrexate according to treatment protocol unless contraindicated Information regarding diagnosis & treatment route  
 If not already done so. invite pt to participate in National Early Inflammatory Arthritis Audit

### Virtual Biologics MDT Review

If >3 tender/ swollen joints despite optimal treatment

+

Eligible for biologic drug  
 Rheumatology consultant opinion required if Biologic not appropriate

OR

Side effects/ intolerant to treatments or extra-articular disease/ co-morbidities detected

### NURSE LED CARE IF PsA CONFIRMED

#### Patient Education

Shared clinical decision-making via combination treatment protocols

#### Shared care monitoring with GP according to DMARD protocols

DMARD initiations as recommended by prescriber  
 Dose titration according to nurse led dose titration protocols

#### IM/IAJ/oral corticosteroids according to PGD Record baseline Psoriasis extent/ severity and PsARC

Offer 4-6 weekly review until < 3 tender/ swollen joints using PsARC assessment tool  
 If PsARC identifies < 3 tender/ swollen joints 3-6 monthly review

#### If disease stable for 12 months, annual review

Annual review for all patients to:

Include assessment of disease progression (PsARC, Psoriasis extent/ severity, XR hands & feet for progression indicators), QoL (MSK-HQ), & CV risk (lipid profile; RBS; BP & risk factors)

### Ongoing support for self-care

Advice line access

[Versus Arthritis Programme](#)

[PAPAA Resources](#)

### Spinal/ Hip Pain

Refer to Spondyloarthropathy pathway

### MDT referrals

As appropriate:

Occupational Therapy  
 Podiatry  
 Physiotherapy  
 Psychology  
 Dietician  
 Social worker

If psoriasis extent and severity prominent and not already under the care of a **Dermatologist**, prompt GP to make referral

### Referral to Orthopaedic Surgeon

If irreversible damage unresponsive to conservative