

# GP Referred MRI- Training Information

A reminder that the GPMRI programme is an ACC-funded service. It enables GPs who have completed the required training to directly refer patients for MRI whose knee, lumbar (L-Spine) or neck (C-Spine) injuries meet specific clinical criteria. This removes the need for patients to visit a specialist before they can access MRI and reduces the time from first assessment to diagnosis.

See HHB Health Pathways for clinical pathways and patient eligibility criteria:

1. [GPMRI – general information](#)
2. [Knee](#)
3. [Cervical spine](#)
4. [Lumbar spine](#)

The generic contract between ACC and PHOs can be viewed [here](#).

## Training outline

Agenda	Detail	Delivered by	Time allocated
<b>Introduction to the programme and clinical pathways</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Referral criteria and clinical pathways</li> <li>▪ Quality assurance process mandated by ACC - peer review of referrals and post MRI review.</li> <li>▪ Referral and claiming processes.</li> </ul>	GPMRI Clinical Lead	30 mins
<b>Radiology review</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A review of the key indicators and the support available to referrers from TRG Imaging post MRI.</li> </ul>	TRG Imaging - Radiologist	30 mins
<b>Practical session</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Each of the three, pathway focussed examination techniques are demonstrated by a skilled physiotherapist with an educator to GP ratio of 1:5.</li> <li>▪ GPs practice each of the techniques on patient models, with the oversight of the trainer and peers.</li> </ul>	Cape Physio - physiotherapists	1 hour

## Following the session

- Attendees will be given access to the Halcyon referral and claiming forms.
- CME will be logged by Health Hawke's Bay for each attendee.

## Key programme information for reference

### Eligibility

Patients who:

- are over 16 years of age.
- are able to provide informed consent for the referral (or this can be provided by the person who has the legal right to make decisions on the patient's behalf).
- have been assessed by a GP referred MRI trained GP as meeting the clinical criteria for the relevant GP MRI Clinical pathway.
- date of claim lodgment with ACC is not greater than 6 months.

### Referrals

Referrals will be made via a dedicated Halcyon form which requires the referrer to confirm the case meets the clinical criteria in the appropriate pathway.

If the referral is approved, the MRI supplier will contact the patient directly to organise a scan appointment.

### Claiming

The initial assessment of the condition against the GPMRI Clinical Pathways will be deemed to be part of a standard consultation and billed to ACC and the patient in the usual way.

GPs will be able to claim \$158 (GST inc.) for their role in the GPMRI service **after** the MRI results and management plan are given to the patient. Feedback to patients should occur within 7 -14 calendar days of receiving the MRI report (14 days where face to face, otherwise 7 days). This claim will also be made using a dedicated Halcyon form.

No co-payment should be charged to the patient for relaying the results of the MRI and the joint development of the proposed management plan or agreed next steps for the patient.