

Meeting Agenda

Sixth Meeting of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Axial Spondyloarthritis

SIXTH MEETING OF THE APPG ON AXIAL SPONDYLOARTHRITIS: <i>Axial SpA and Mental Health: Assessing the Relationship & Identifying Opportunities for Improvement</i>	
1. Start of Meeting Welcome and introductions from Tom Randall MP. Tom to set out the scope of the meeting and provide an update on developments since the previous meeting.	17:30 (5 minutes)
2. Recognising the Need to Prioritise Mental Health Support: An Update from NASS Dr Dale Webb (CEO, NASS) to provide a brief overview of NASS's work in supporting members in recent months and to reflect on the urgency of identifying practical opportunities to improve mental health support in axial SpA.	17:35 (5 minutes)
PRESENTATIONS	
3. Presentation 1: Living with Axial SpA – Mental Health Reflections (Paul Curry, NASS Trustee) An overview of the psychological impact that living with axial SpA has had, alongside considerations on the level of support that has been available from services.	17:40 (7 minutes)
4. Presentation 2: The Emotional Impact of Axial Spondyloarthritis: Early findings from a systematic review of qualitative studies and a search of social media (Dr Sophia Steer, Consultant Rheumatologist, King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust) Exploration of new research into the relationship between axial SpA and mental health, including the early findings from an ongoing systematic review of social media content, and the opportunities for improving outcomes for individuals.	17:47 (10 minutes)
5. Presentation 3: Exploring Current Practice (Dr Ben Thompson, Consultant Rheumatologist, Newcastle Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust) An overview of current mental health support available for those with axial SpA and considerations for how best practice could be rolled out more widely across the country.	17:57 (10 minutes)
6. Presentation 4: The Work of the Mental Health Professionals (Dr Max Henderson, Associate Professor of Psychiatry, Leeds Institute of Health Sciences) Consideration of the link between physical and mental health and the impact that long-term conditions can have on employment and broader determinants of wellbeing.	18:07 (8 minutes)
7. Presentation 5: MSK and Mental Health (Sue Brown, CEO, The Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Alliance) Overview of the importance of high-quality mental health support in MSK and an outline of ARMA's priorities for the area.	18:15 (5 minutes)
GROUP DISCUSSION	
8. Question & Answer Session Dr Dale Webb to facilitate a group discussion on the presentations, focusing on the below topic areas: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are people's own experiences of axial SpA and mental health, and the support that has been available for them when they have needed it? 2. What mental health support should be in place for those with axial SpA and are there examples from other disease areas that can be utilised to help achieve this? 3. How can local services and commissioners be supported to address the existing gaps in axial SpA mental health provision and 'build back better' after the pandemic? 4. How can Trusts build the business case for incorporating mental health support within existing rheumatology teams? 	18:20 (35 minutes)
9. Summary of Next Steps Tom Randall MP provide a summary of the key discussion areas and to set out next steps that the APPG plans to take.	18:55 (5 minutes)
10. Meeting Close	19:00