



## **CLOSURE OF DANCE, SPORTS & EXERCISE MEDICINE SERVICE AT ROYAL NATIONAL ORTHOPAEDIC HOSPITAL**

Following a comprehensive service review, a decision has been taken to close the Dance, Sports & Exercise Medicine Service at the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Trust.

This decision for planned closure in 2020 was made in the best interests of patients and their need to be treated in a resilient service in the medium to long term. It is consistent with the future proposed configuration of services in North Central London, with the intention to concentrate specialised services in fewer centres, where more patients can be treated within a fully staffed, sustainable service.

The timeline for service closure has had to be accelerated by the resignation of the service's sole consultant. The service will now close on the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019. As a result, no further appointments can be booked in Dance, Sports and Exercise Medicine clinics. We are reviewing our existing caseload to ensure patients are referred to an appropriate service.

Suggested alternative NHS providers include:

- Institute of Sport, Exercise and Health (ISEH) at University College London Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
- The Barts Health Centre for Sports and Exercise Medicine at Barts Health NHS Trust

We appreciate that there is a limited time frame to communicate with patients in the individualised manner that we would aspire to. While this is regrettable, the above circumstances leave us with few options. Undoubtedly a sincere apology is due to all affected parties for the distress and inconvenience this situation will cause.

Patients with further concerns or questions regarding the closure of the service should contact the RNOH's Patient Advice and Liaison Service via:

Email: [rnoh.pals@nhs.net](mailto:rnoh.pals@nhs.net)

Phone: 020 8909 5439 / 020 8909 5383