

Physiotherapy research priority areas (CSP, 1998):

- ❖ To evaluate the effectiveness of physiotherapy in the primary and secondary prevention of falls in the elderly.
- ❖ Optimising physical performance in the elderly.
- ❖ The evaluation of physiotherapy intervention in stroke rehabilitation.
- ❖ The evaluation of physiotherapy intervention in patients with chronic neurological impairment.
- ❖ What is the optimum physiotherapeutic input for children with cerebral palsy related to age, severity and development stage?
- ❖ Information leaflets for parents and children.
- ❖ Paediatric respiratory physiotherapy.
- ❖ Physiotherapy management of children with special needs in mainstream schools.
- ❖ The clinical and cost effectiveness of physiotherapy interventions for patients in need of respiratory care.
- ❖ To assess the benefits and effect of pelvic floor exercises in the post natal period on those women who have 'normal vaginal deliveries' as a means of reducing stress incontinence in later life.
- ❖ An investigation of the clinical and cost effectiveness of hand therapy for patients with specific hand/ upper limb problems.
- ❖ What are the most effective physiotherapy approaches in the management of acute low back pain?
- ❖ Effectiveness of physiotherapy treatment of musculoskeletal problems
- ❖ To evaluate the clinical and cost effectiveness of hydrotherapy in patient care.
- ❖ Evaluation of exercise programmes.
- ❖ Effectiveness of electrotherapy modalities including Pulsed Shortwave Diathermy (PSWD), Ultrasound (US) and Interferential Therapy (IFT).
- ❖ An investigation of the effectiveness of reflextherapy in the treatment of acute soft tissue trauma.
- ❖ The development of valid, reliable and sensitive outcome measures to assess the effectiveness of interventions.
- ❖ Professional and education change within the profession.
- ❖ Access to published and unpublished evidence for clinical effectiveness.
- ❖ Comparison of the clinical and cost effectiveness of physiotherapy interventions for defined patient groups across the community, primary care and acute settings.
- ❖ To assess the benefits of 7 day services.
- ❖ How do the professions communicate and work collaborately as multi-professional and multi-agency teams to provide the most effective service for clients with learning disabilities.
- ❖ Evaluation of the different parameters of communication in a patient-physiotherapeutic interaction.