

Supplementary Material

Advanced practice physiotherapists in primary health care: stakeholders' views of a new scope of practice

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Supplementary File S1. Consolidated Criteria for Reporting Qualitative Research (COREQ): 32-item Checklist

Topic	Item No.	Section	Reported on Page No.
Domain 1: Research team and reflexivity			
<i>Personal characteristics</i>			
Interviewer/facilitator	1	Method - Process	8
Credentials	2	Method - Process	8
Occupation	3	Method - Process	8
Gender	4	Not reported in text - woman	-
Experience and training	5	Method - Process	8
<i>Relationship with participants</i>			
Relationship established	6	Method – Participants	6
Participant knowledge of the interviewer	7	Method - Process	6
Interviewer characteristics	8	Method - Process	6
Domain 2: Study design			
<i>Theoretical framework</i>			
Methodological orientation and theory	9	Method -design	6
<i>Participant selection</i>			
Sampling	10	Method – Participants	6
Method of approach	11	Method – Participants	6
Sample size	12	Method – Participants	6
Non-participation	13	Method – Participants	6
<i>Setting</i>			
Setting of data collection	14	Results	7
Presence of non-participants	15	Not reported in text – no non-participants were present	-
Description of sample	16	Methods – Table 1	7
<i>Data collection</i>			
Interview guide	17	Supplementary File 2	NA
Repeat interviews	18	Not reported in text – participants were interviewed once only	-
Audio/visual recording	19	Method – Participants	6
Field notes	20	Method - Process	8
Duration	21	Methods – Table 1	7
Data saturation	22	Discussion – Strengths and limitations	19
Transcripts returned	23	Not mentioned in text – transcripts were not returned	-

Supplementary File S2. Schedule of Interview Questions

Physiotherapists

One of the aims of this research is to propose a definition for musculoskeletal Advanced Practice Physiotherapy (APP) in primary care in NZ. I would like to discuss with you current practice and is there a role for an APP in musculoskeletal management in primary care

1. Could you please share your thoughts with me about advanced physiotherapy practice?
2. What are your thoughts about having a recognised scope of practice for advanced physiotherapy practice?
3. How do you think this proposed scope could influence practice and health care delivery in NZ?
4. What do you see as the barriers to becoming an APP?
5. Would you be interested in becoming an APP?
 - a. If yes, can you give some reasons (if not why not)?
6. Could you share your thoughts about this definition?
7. What do you think makes a musculoskeletal condition complex?
 - a. Can you give any examples?
 - b. What do you currently find challenging with the management of these patients?
 - c. Could APP's help with some of your patients?
 - i. If yes, can you give some examples of how they could help (if not why not)?
 - ii. In what ways do you think this would influence patient's outcome?
8. In what ways would you like to work with an APP if they were available?
9. Do you see any benefits of working with an APP?
10. Do you see any barriers of working with an APP, please explain?

Finally, I would like to ask some questions about how the APP role could be implemented into practice.

1. How do you think this role could be implemented into clinical practice?
2. What do you think may help with implementing the APP role?
3. Can you see any challenges to implementation of APP roles in primary care?
 - a. If so can you explain further?

Variation for former New Zealand College of Physiotherapists Advanced Practitioners:

1. Could you please share your thoughts with me about advanced physiotherapy practice?
2. As an advanced physiotherapist with the NZ College of Physiotherapy how did it change the way you practised?
 - a. Can you give some examples?
3. Do you think that you are recognised as an advanced physiotherapist by other physiotherapists or health professionals?
 - a. Can you give some examples?
4. Are you currently being referred patients for second opinions?
5. What are your thoughts about having a recognised scope of practice for advanced practice physiotherapists?
6. How do you think this proposed scope could influence practice and health care delivery in NZ?
7. What do you see as the barriers to become an APP?

Now I would like to discuss your thoughts about the proposed definition for advanced physiotherapy practice in NZ.

8. Could you share your thoughts about this definition?
9. What makes a musculoskeletal condition complex?
 - a. Can you give any examples?
10. What do you currently find challenging with the management of these patients?
 - a. In what ways do you think you manage these patients differently as an APP?
 - b. How do you think this influence's patient's care?
 - c. Can you give some examples?

Finally, I would like to ask some questions about how the APP role could be implemented into practice.

1. How do you think this role could be implemented into clinical practice?
2. What do you think may help with implementing the APP role?
3. What are the challenges you could see to implementation of APP roles in primary care?
 - a. If so can you explain further?

Other professional groups:

Firstly I would like to explore your current practice of working with physiotherapists in primary care. Then to discuss your thoughts about the proposed definition for advanced physiotherapy practice in NZ and their role in musculoskeletal management in primary care.

1. Can you tell me about how you currently work with physiotherapists to manage people with MSK conditions?
2. Do you see all physiotherapists as the same?
3. If not can you tell me about what makes the difference, can you give any examples?
4. Do you recommend that certain patients see specific physiotherapists?
 - a. Can you tell me about what informs this recommendation?
5. How do you find out about different levels of skills and expertise of physiotherapists?
6. Have you heard of advanced physiotherapists?
7. What are your thoughts about the definition for the role of advanced physiotherapists?
8. What are your thoughts about having a separate scope of practice for advanced physiotherapy practice?
9. How do you think this proposed scope could influence primary healthcare delivery of musculoskeletal conditions in NZ?
10. Can you tell me from your perspective what makes a MSK condition or patient/client complex?
 - a. Can you give me some examples?
11. Do you think advanced physiotherapists could help some of your patients or clients (in the case of ACC case managers)?
 - a. If yes, can you give some examples when you would refer?
 - b. In what ways do you think this would help?
12. If advanced physiotherapists were available how would you like to work with them?

Present prepared vignettes of examples of complex musculoskeletal presentations seen in physiotherapy practice in primary care for further discussion.

13. How do you relate to these examples?
14. In these situations do you think an advanced physiotherapist could help this patient?
 - a. In what ways do you think they could help?
 - b. In what ways do you think this would influence the patient's outcome?

Finally, I would like to ask some questions about how the advanced physiotherapy role could be implemented into practice.

15. How do you think this role could be implemented into clinical practice?
16. What do you think may help with implementing the advanced physiotherapy role?
17. Can you see any challenges to implementation of advanced physiotherapy roles in primary care?
 - a. If so can you explain further?