

# FAQ's

## 1. How long will I wait to see a Specialist?

**A** – Some patients need treatment more urgently than others. For example people suffering severe pain would generally be seen more quickly than a person with occasional discomfort. If your condition meets the referral criteria you can expect to be seen within 4 months of that decision.

## 2. Why do I need to be seen by a Physiotherapist?

**A** – A Physiotherapist will carry out a musculo-skeletal assessment which is the first step to determining the correct treatment pathway for your condition.

## 3. What do I do if my condition worsens?

**A** – If at any time your condition worsens you should see your General Practitioner who will be able to seek a specialist reassessment which may include a review of your priority for surgery.

## 4. Why do I need to attend an exercise class?

**A** – An essential part of your preparation for surgery is preparing your muscles to be as strong as they can be to enable you to recover quickly.

## 5. Why do I need to attend an education class?

**A** – You need to understand what is going to happen to you in hospital and what preparation you can do to ensure that your time in hospital goes as smoothly as possible. The class will cover aspects of your stay such as preparing to come in, what happens leading up to your operation and in the days to follow, specific precautions and care for your new joint following discharge.

# The pathway for your Hip or Knee Joint Replacement

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*The Bay of Plenty District Health Board has an active commitment to the Treaty of Waitangi and the improvement of Māori health.*

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# Patient pathway for hip or knee joint replacement

