

Statement from the Directors

I hope that you are all keeping well and safe.

Please may we express our deepest gratitude to all those who are contributing to Pain Centre Versus Arthritis' research. You have already been an immense support helping us to achieve research objectives above and beyond what we could have hoped for. The current unprecedented pandemic poses new challenges and priorities. Many of our research team have important clinical skills and therefore have been called upon to support the NHS in this time of need. As for you all, we have also adapted our research activities to minimise risks of spread of the virus. Our face to face clinical research is now restarting, following Government and University recommendations that ensure participant safety. Chronic pain remains a major problem and our fight against arthritis pain continues. Your contributions form the bedrock of our research activity. We endorse advice given by the Government and Department of Health with respect to hygiene, social distancing, and quarantine and also encourage you to stay as active and healthy as possible. As the Government advises, please undertake exercise to the extent that you are able each day during this pandemic. Further advice is available through: <https://www.versusarthritis.org/covid-19-updates/covid-19-advice-england/>

Profs David Walsh and Victoria Chapman,

Co-directors, Pain Centre Versus Arthritis