

I strongly believe that the model of care for patients with acute low back pain should specifically include physiotherapists. Physiotherapists should remain part of the 'primary care team members' with general practitioner and nurse.

Not all health providers who are not APHRA regulated are trained to differentially diagnose musculoskeletal injuries or recognise potential contraindications to suggested treatments. Physiotherapists have training in screening for serious illnesses or pathology, assess and provide non-pharmaceutical pain-relief, and design a full management plan. These plans are designed for the individual patient, treatment and exercises will be different for each patient. It should not be up to the insurer to decide what treatment is suitable for any client or what plan of action is acceptable to the patient.