



British Institute of Musculoskeletal Medicine.

Winter Symposium

Friday & Saturday 3rd & 4th December 2010 in Leeds.

“Does UK Physical Medicine need Rehabilitating?”

An exploration of the interface between Rehabilitation and Musculoskeletal Medicine.

The UK specialist medical landscape suffered an ecological misfortune with the loss of the Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation physicians of old but fortunately the legacy of their pioneers endures and is available to recreate this endangered species by splicing together capabilities that have survived and developed within Musculoskeletal Medicine, with current Rehabilitation Medicine training.

James Mennell and James Cyriax from St Thomas's Hospital and Alan Stoddard working at the Brook Hospital were among those through the twentieth century who invented and extended the practice of Physical Medicine*, particularly in diagnosis and manipulation, and passed on their developments to colleagues who have built on their work. With competing priorities for specialists dealing with musculoskeletal maladies, Physical Medicine has withered within the NHS but was kept alive in the independent sector as Musculoskeletal Medicine and is available for a renaissance in conventional specialist practice.

The programme will examine the basics of Rehabilitation and Musculoskeletal Medicine so that those coming from either side understand each other's work and can splice the two effectively. Workshops will consider hands-on diagnosis and treatment methods. Possible ways forward for Musculoskeletal Rehabilitation will be debated informed by the experience of long term observers of the scene.