

## **MACP Post-Conference Impact Report – BESS 2025 Annual Scientific Conference**

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the MACP for awarding me funding to attend the BESS 2025 Annual Scientific Conference, where I was honoured to deliver a podium presentation entitled: *“Patient Perspectives of Shared Decision Making in Displaced Collarbone Injuries: A Qualitative Interview Study.”*

This conference offered a unique and invaluable opportunity to present my research to a multidisciplinary audience, including orthopaedic surgeons, physiotherapists, and researchers from across the UK and internationally. My study explored the lived experiences of patients who had sustained displaced collarbone injuries and navigated the complex decision-making process between surgical and conservative treatment options. Through qualitative interviews, we identified several core themes—most notably the need for clearer communication, individualised information provision, and a more consistent approach to collaborative decision making in trauma care.

Delivering this presentation at BESS was a major milestone in both my clinical and academic journey. The session prompted significant interest and discussion, particularly around how physiotherapists can play a central role in facilitating shared decision making in orthopaedic pathways. It also led to valuable connections with professionals involved in developing patient decision aids and communication training for surgical teams, areas I now hope to explore further through collaborative work.

Beyond the podium, attending the full conference gave me exposure to the latest developments in upper limb care, from innovations in surgical technique to progressive models of rehabilitation. I was particularly encouraged by the growing attention given to patient-reported outcomes, psychosocial factors, and the value of allied health professionals in shaping patient journeys. These insights have already begun to influence my clinical reasoning and approach to patient education in practice.

Being present at BESS also strengthened my confidence as a clinician-researcher. I left the conference inspired by the many MSK physiotherapists who are contributing to the evidence base and influencing policy and care delivery. I feel proud to represent the MACP community and to share work that aligns so closely with the Association’s commitment to person-centred, evidence-informed practice.

The financial support provided by MACP was instrumental in making this opportunity accessible. Without it, the cost of registration, travel, and accommodation would have been prohibitive. I am truly grateful for the investment you made in my professional development and in the dissemination of research that aims to improve patient care.

Looking ahead, I intend to build on the momentum by disseminating my accepted study in Clinical Rehabilitation and seeking future opportunities to translate this work into clinical tools and educational content. I am also exploring the next phase of research into shared decision making in other MSK injury contexts through my NIHR doctoral fellowship application which I submitted earlier this month.

Thank you once again for your generous support and for helping to facilitate this meaningful step in my journey.

Warm regards,  
Natasha Maher  
Advanced Physiotherapy Practitioner