LEARNING CLINICAL REASONING THROUGH THE LENS OF OSTEOPATHIC MODELS

By Marianne Damgaard Jensen MSc BSc (Hons) Ost Med DO Head of Clinical Education BCOM - BCNOGroup Research committee of Osteopathic European Academic Network

Learning clinical reasoning in preparation for taking some responsibility for patients in the teaching clinics presents a challenge to educators. Professionalism and Clinical Integration 2 is a new year two level 5 semester two module in the BCNOGroup MOst Programme.

The module aims for Professionalism and Clinical Integration 2, includes integration and synthesizing previous learning. The module also aims to introduce critical thinking and clinical reasoning, and to understand how different styles of communication relates to patient consent and shared decision making.

Theory and practice are introduced simultaneously to students to integrate the knowledge in an embodied sense. The biopsychosocial model, using the flag system to introduce complexity around patient outcomes, is the first model introduced and students are asked to analyse cases in terms of case history using flags. Their examinations include the concepts of sensitivity, specificity and reflecting on how the test was carried out. In the practical work students will take the case history factors into account. Students are then introduced to other concepts and models in theory including the five models, pain science, tissue healing and similarly will working with case base learning in groups to ask questions and examine based on these concepts.

The objective of the module is to produce osteopaths that avoid heavy reliance on one model. Student 'overwhelm' is common and risks students either disengaging or working within a very limited scope of practice, this module offers a gentle introduction to the world of clinical uncertainty.