

Collaboration

as a path to

professional research:

Advantages and Challenges

for osteopath researchers

based on two recent experiences in Canada

Chantal Morin and Nathalie Trottier

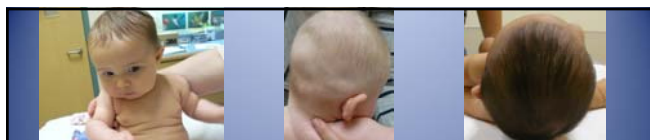
Collaboration

- Definition: idea of sharing and making collective action oriented toward a common goal, in a spirit of harmony and trust
(D'Amour et al., 2005)
- Two recent examples in Québec and Alberta, Canada
- Alternative avenue for high quality research in osteopathy

Why professional research?

- Evidence-based medicine (CIHR)
 - Best research evidence + clinical expertise + patients values/preferences (Sackett et al, 2000)
 - quantitative + qualitative research (Ritenbaugh et al, 2011)
- \$\$\$ → Cost-effective patient-oriented research (CIHR, Dr H Emery)

Alberta Children Hospital
Head shape clinic



Plagiocephaly and torticollis: Contribution of osteopathic manual treatment and physiotherapy

Nathalie Trottier PT, DO (CND), Carolyn Emery Ph.D., Isabelle Gagnon Ph.D.,
Heather Graham MD, Preston Wiley MD, Sylvie Lessard PT DO(CND)

Step by step

- Finding a supervisor
- Master degree enrollment
- Writing a strong proposal with a rationale aligned with their priorities
 - Funding Institutes
 - Ethic Boards
 - Colleagues at hospital

Team work achievement

- Reliability study on measurement instrument
- Pilot study to look at feasibility for bigger trial
- Safety of osteopathy was demonstrated
- Presentation in different conferences
- Prevention study on the same subject including pediatricians, nurse, epidemiologist, PT and PT-osteopath

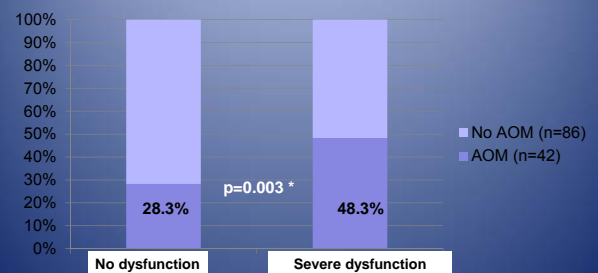
Advantages (for the research community)

- Innovative thinking
 - We have new questions
- Links alternative and complementary medicine with the conventional stream

Osteopathic temporal bone dysfunction and otitis media: a cohort study



Occurrence of AOM according to temporal bone status (n = 128)



*adjusted for age, gender, pacifier, parental smoking, daycare, URTI, SSB, type of dysfunction, condylar occipital, family income and breastfeeding > 6 months

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Team work achievement

- Temporal bone dysfunction is a risk factor for acute otitis media along with young age and the use of pacifier
- First study in osteopathy done within a Faculty of Medicine in Quebec = collaboration is possible and ... advantageous
- Many presentations, publication and ... \$\$\$

Advantages (for osteopath-researchers)

- Access to methodological experts
- Resources
- Credibility
- Funding opportunities
- Ease of publication in peer-reviewed journals

Barriers and challenges

- Related to clinician-researchers in general (CIHR)
 - Time
 - Inability to access research
 - Inability to understand the language of research
 - Lack of critical appraisal skills

Barriers and challenges

- Inter professional collaboration
 - Conflicting values and beliefs (Sicotte et al., 2002)
 - Building and maintaining professional relationship based on trust (D'Amour et al, 2005)
 - Standardized research language (Hall, 2005)
- Inter professional collaboration specifically with CAM (Barrett et al, 2004)
 - Lack of evidence of effectiveness, of legal recognition, training
 - Ignorance

Challenges in osteopathy

- Reliability of osteopathic evaluation tools to be established
- Association between osteopathic dysfunctions to be establish
- Shortage of researcher-osteopaths
- Language standardization

Teaching and research

Chantal and Nathalie:

- Teachers-clinicians-researchers
- Potential and interest among student
- Grants for students in post graduate studies
- Proactive/ be part of research groups/ collaboration

Lucas and Moran (2007) suggest:

- Attracting experienced researchers from other fields to work along with osteopaths
- Identify osteopathy students who demonstrate an interest and aptitude for research and develop a more defined career path



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