

Title

The OsMoSys project - Osteopathic Models Synthesis

Abstract

Osteopathic concepts, models and tenets are seen as crucial to undergraduate education. However, the level of evidence supporting these models is poor and gives rise to many controversies. Osteopathic research can help to identify gaps and consolidate models, and may help to improve the consensus on standards for osteopathic education nationally and internationally.

There are well-known challenges in healthcare to ensure that models and theory evolve with evidence and transfer to practice. This is particularly the case for allied health professions, where integration into usual higher education institutions has fostered an embedded research culture taking place at a system, organisational and individual levels. Osteopathic practitioners and educators therefore express an increasing need to ensure that osteopathic models are in line with existing evidence; without necessarily having the tools and data to do so.

The lack of consensus in osteopathic education may be related to the range of benchmarks and regulatory documents that exist to inform osteopathic undergraduate curricula, including the WHO Benchmark Statement and the European Committee for Standardisation Osteopathic Healthcare Provision on the international level, or the Graduate Outcomes and Standards for Education and Training guidance and the QAA Subject Benchmark Statement in the UK, the Osteopathic Accreditation Standards in Australia, the Osteopathic Practice Competencies in New Zealand, and the Chapter 2 LPSan & Art.8 OCPSan in Switzerland.

Whilst national differences may be seen as important for society and the profession, the definition of standards based on stronger evidence is a priority for all faculties, or schools. It now seems important to explore and describe how osteopathic models are taught in programmes worldwide and how they inform practice.

This project therefore aims to describe the models taught, their place and importance in the curriculum, their strengths and weaknesses and their usefulness/applicability in practice.

In this presentation, Jerry will give an overview of the models and the place in the curricula of osteopathic educational institutions across Europe, and outline the next stages of the OsMoSys project.