

Tom Koch

BSc. (Ost), BSc. (Phys)

mail: tomkoch@mail.de

OCRN

OSTEOPATHIC CLINICAL REASONING NETWORK

The Osteopathic Clinical Reasoning Network (OCRN) will provide osteopathic scientists with an 'easy to use' digital framework to design and execute clinical trials. Scientists and students can meet on an internet-based platform to create and discuss study-protocols that result in input masks for their data-collection. With the collected data, statistical analysis can be performed and published in the network for discussion and further use - e.g. the reproduction of studies.

Crowd-sourcing can be used to generate large populations with enough power to develop statistically and clinically relevant trials - for example via multi-center randomized controlled trials. The resulting input masks can be used simultaneously by different researchers to record and merge data.

OCRN is a bottom-up approach to developing osteopathic clinical principles. Scientists and students are free to design their trial approaches, such as documentation of assessments and interventions according to their ideas - in an 'easy to use' way. The aim of OCRN is to take osteopathic trial design a step further, harnessing the creative power of future osteopaths.

Students will benefit from the network - and the exchange between its participants - as it will help them to design and execute their ideas in internally valid trials. By working together with other students and scientists around Europe, trials can be created that produce statistically and clinically relevant results.

Schools will benefit from the digital insight of how their students perform in designing clinical and pragmatic trials, which assessments and interventions they choose, and how they document their osteopathic clinical reasoning. Eventually OCRN will lead to refine the schools doctrine.

The open and independent structure of the OCRN makes it easy for osteopathic researchers to participate in interesting projects around Europe with the possibility to create new ways to document osteopathic reasoning.