

# National Council for **NCOR** Osteopathic Research

**NCOR monthly news bulletin**  
**March 2014**

## Recent research



The current issue of the *International Journal of Osteopathic Medicine* is the second special issue on osteopathic education. The following two papers can be found in this issue and are on the subject of palpation:

Aubin A, Gagnon K, Morin C. **The seven-step palpation method: A proposal to improve palpation skills.** *International Journal of Osteopathic Medicine*. 2014;17(1):66-72. Available at: [http://www.journalofosteopathicmedicine.com/article/S1746-0689\(13\)00048-5/abstract](http://www.journalofosteopathicmedicine.com/article/S1746-0689(13)00048-5/abstract)

Esteves J, Spence C. **Developing competence in diagnostic palpation: Perspectives from neuroscience and education.** *International Journal of Osteopathic Medicine*. 2014;17(1):52-60. Available at: [http://www.journalofosteopathicmedicine.com/article/S1746-0689\(13\)00097-7/abstract](http://www.journalofosteopathicmedicine.com/article/S1746-0689(13)00097-7/abstract)

## Research Assistant Vacancy at NCOR



We are looking for a bright graduate with a degree in osteopathy or related discipline and preferably a Masters qualification who wants to develop a career in research.

This part-time (0.6 FTE) post is funded for 12 months by the National Council for Osteopathic Research (NCOR) and is

based in the Translational Research: complex interventions division within the Centre for Primary Care and Public Health at the Royal London Hospital site in Whitechapel.

The aim of this post is to help NCOR advance, facilitate and disseminate research within the osteopathic profession to promote good, safe practice and optimise patient care.

More information and to apply online go to: <http://www.jobs.qmul.ac.uk/search/?s=QMUL3416>

## NCOR talks

The NCOR team have been busy giving various talks in order to raise awareness of osteopathic and osteopathic relevant research, and NCOR's role in the osteopathic and wider healthcare community. Carol Fawkes, Senior Research Officer, visited the British School of Osteopathy on 15<sup>th</sup> February to speak at their "Running a Successful Practice Conference". Carol spoke about clinical audit and its various uses in practice. More information about clinical audit, including a masterclass in clinical audit in osteopathic practice and an accompanying slideshow video, is available on our website: <http://www.ncor.org.uk/practitioners/audit/>

Dr Dawn Carnes, NCOR Director, visited the European School of Osteopathy on 6<sup>th</sup> March to talk to their students about the evidence for osteopathy and the role of NCOR; Dawn will talk on the same subject at Swansea University on 20<sup>th</sup> March.

Carol Fawkes and Elena Ward, Research Assistant, will visit Oxford Brookes University on 1<sup>st</sup> May to speak at the 4<sup>th</sup> year Bachelor of Osteopathy dissertation presentation day. Their talk will be about using research in osteopathic practice and will focus on clinical audit and Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs). Carol will also talk about the development of a PROMs app, which is part of her PhD. More information about PROMs and PROMs in osteopathy is available on our website: <http://www.ncor.org.uk/practitioners/patient-reported-outcomes/>

If you would like NCOR to give a research related talk at your institution or conference then please get in touch with us. We are also planning to offer some research related continual professional development events in the near future. We would be grateful for your input when planning these events and would like to hear about your preferences

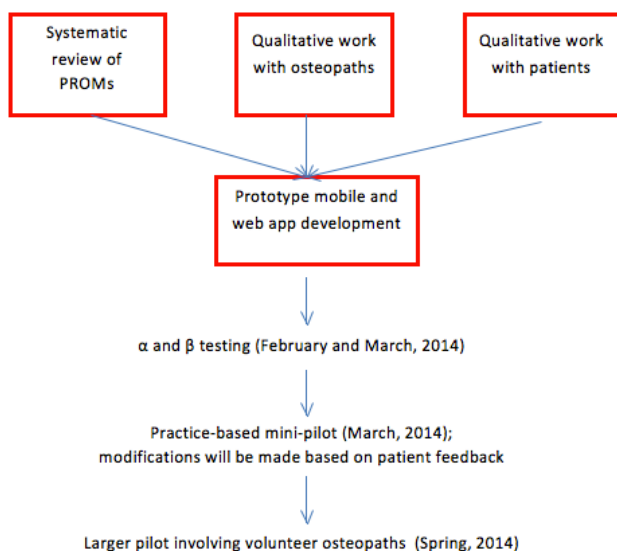
relating to times, location and topics. You can contact us via our website: <http://www.ncor.org.uk/contact-us/>

## Research Skills Tutorial: Quantitative Research Methods

We have recently published a new research skills tutorial on our website on quantitative research methods. This may be useful to osteopathy students when writing essays or their dissertation; osteopaths in practice when reading research articles as part of their continual professional development; or osteopaths wishing to be directly involved with research. The tutorial provides an overview of the commonly used research methods in healthcare research, including clinical trials, observational studies, descriptive studies and reviews of existing research. The tutorial can be found here: [http://www.ncor.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/Quantitative\\_research\\_methods.pdf](http://www.ncor.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/Quantitative_research_methods.pdf)

## Developing a PROM data collection facility for osteopaths.

You will be aware from previous information in the osteopathic press that a facility is being developed for osteopaths to collect outcome data from their patients. This project is being developed in a series of stages:



The overall aim of the project is to develop a data collection system that will allow data from patient reported outcome measures (PROMs) to be gathered directly from patients. To make as many options available as possible to patients, a mobile app and web app are being developed to supplement the traditional paper-based system of using PROMs in clinical practice.

### Why is this important?

All healthcare professionals are being asked increasingly to provide data on their outcomes of treatment. Using PROMs allows patients to give their views on treatment progress. This represents a valuable resource to the profession and individual practices.

### How can you be involved?

We will be advertising shortly for volunteer practices to help us pilot the data collection system. If you think this might be of interest in your practice and would like to know more about what is involved please contact Carol Fawkes at [c.fawkes@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:c.fawkes@qmul.ac.uk).

### Patient involvement in the qualitative study.

We are still looking for patients to include in our qualitative study. We hope to get as wide a range of views as possible from practices throughout the country. A copy of the participant information sheet can be found at <http://www.ncor.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/Participant-information-sheet-patient-interviews.pdf>. If any of your patients indicate they might be interested in taking part, please contact Carol Fawkes at [c.fawkes@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:c.fawkes@qmul.ac.uk) or telephone 07732178308.

### Where can I find more information about the project?

This project involves multiple stages and will create a number of resources which will be valuable to osteopaths. More information about each stage of the project can be found at <http://www.ncor.org.uk/practitioners/patient-reported-outcomes/patient-reported-outcome-measures-in-osteopathy/>.

The NCOR website ([www.ncor.org.uk](http://www.ncor.org.uk)) will be continually updated as the project develops, and further information will appear in the osteopathic press.



### Keeping up to date



Facebook: [www.facebook.com/NCORnews](http://www.facebook.com/NCORnews)

Twitter: [www.twitter.com/NCOR\\_UK](http://www.twitter.com/NCOR_UK)

LinkedIn:

[www.linkedin.com/company/national-council-for-osteopathic-research](http://www.linkedin.com/company/national-council-for-osteopathic-research)

### Research hubs

Information about forthcoming research hub meetings can be found at: [www.ncor.org.uk/getting-involved/hubs/](http://www.ncor.org.uk/getting-involved/hubs/). If you would like to attend a hub meeting, please get in touch with us: [www.ncor.org.uk/contact-us/](http://www.ncor.org.uk/contact-us/)