

Reform of UK healthcare regulation

NCOR have been invited by the Department of Health to participate in a pre-consultation stakeholder event on the reform of UK health professional regulation.

This event will be focused on how professional regulation can work better for registrants, our employers and employees, and for our patients. The Public Inquiry into the Mid Staffordshire scandal identified areas for improvement in health and care regulation. Additionally the government feels that the roles and responsibilities of the professional regulatory bodies need to be clarified.

The first event will take place on 11th July, and we will keep you informed as the process continues.

Concerns and complaints report

All NCOR's work is driven fundamentally by the desire to improve patient care. Consequently we need to understand the types of complaints that are raised regarding osteopathic care, and NCOR's report into this area of practise is available online. To understand the background to this report, here is a little of its history:

In 2011 the CONDOR (Consortium for Delivering Osteopathic Research) team released their analysis of insurance claims made against osteopaths. This was conducted in order to better understand the circumstances that give rise to concerns relating to osteopathic care.

In 2012, a common system for classifying and describing complaints was formulated so that data could be uniformly collected and analysed.

Between Jan 2013 and Dec 2015, all UK providers of professional indemnity insurance for osteopaths, and the General Osteopathic Council, participated in the study. They categorised information about the nature of each complaint using the shared classification system.

In 2015, there were 369 complaints and concerns recorded; 257 in 2014, and 203 in 2013. The sharp rise in 2015 reflects an increase in complaints regarding advertising, which rose from 9 in 2014 to 156 in 2015. The distribution of *non-advertising* complaints remains similar over the three years.

The report classifies concerns into five major descriptive categories, each of which have several sub-categories.

The full report can be accessed at the General Osteopathic Council website at <http://bit.ly/osteocomplaints-2016>

Systematic review of paediatric patients

Our systematic review continues apace, interrupted only by a couple of holidays for some team members! We have identified over 50 papers that we may need to order. This is in addition to nearly 100 other papers that we have access to already. However, the next stage in the review will see us determine tighter inclusion and exclusion criteria. This will reduce the final number of papers a little.

In parallel to this step, we are drafting a data collection tool for extracting data from the papers. We will also make a start on analysing the quality of the research in each paper.

More news in next month's bulletin!

Centre For Reviews volunteers

NCOR's team of volunteers continue to scour the evidence databases for systematic reviews that are relevant to practising osteopaths. Our topics include exercise therapies and manual treatments for tendinopathies, lower limb osteoarthritis and fibromyalgia, and mindfulness for persistent pain. Additionally one of the team is putting together a summary focused on paediatric patients with an emphasis on recent guidelines regarding female genital mutilation. This will be of news particularly to osteopaths who are looking forward to our paediatric systematic review.

NCOR conference 2017

Our schedule for Jan 28th 2017 is shaping up! The day will most likely be split into two halves. The morning will be a series of brief lectures on the subject of persistent pain, with time for questions after each speaker. The afternoon will feature a workshop on using CBT-related techniques with your patients, so you'll take home practical skills that you can use straight away.

If you have any questions about the conference please email us for details: info@qmul.ac.uk

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