EUROPEAN FEDERATION of OSTEOPATHS

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EFO MONTREAL 2015
Formalising standards across Europe
The CEN process and a case study of Osteopathy
ABOUT THE EFO

- Official International not for profit organisation recognised by and registered under Belgian law

- European Federation of Osteopaths (EFO) recognised within the EU as the Professional Association for Osteopaths

- Founded in 1992 as the Registre Européen des Ostéopathes (REO), President Willy Vandschersrick
ABOUT THE EFO

- 1999-2010 Current association founded by Armand Gersanois
- 2010 Jonathan Bailey-Teyletche elected president
- It has member organisations from 16 countries
ABOUT THE EFO

- Its activity is focussed on lobbying and promoting osteopathy within the EU, national support and representation

- It is a democratic organisation and only undertakes projects that have been approved by its members at its AGM

- Worked closely with FORE since 2009 in accordance with MOU, especially CEN project.
ABOUT THE EFO

- Forged closer ties with OsEAN in 2012 to form tri-partite working group with FORE

- OIA membership approved 2014

- Member of CEPLIS

- Member of EUROCAM
EFO BOARD

- 5 BOARD MEMBERS
- 1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE
- 2 ADVISORS
CHALLENGES FACING THE EFO

- European osteopathic organisations supporting and understanding similar goals
- Lack of credible evidence base
- Other healthcare practitioners defending their share of healthcare income
- Title of ‘Osteopath’ not protected
AIMS AND OPPORTUNITIES

- Initiate and complete the CEN project and establish standards for osteopathic training and practice in different countries across Europe

- Work with other osteopathic organisations to identify appropriate research streams

- Develop an evidence base to lobby at European level for the recognition and regulation of osteopathy within member states

- To lobby for osteopathy to be made available to European citizens through national health service provisions

- To prepare and distribute guidance notes to members on how to lobby at a national level (using the CEN resource and evidence gathered)
Formalising standards across Europe

Jonathan Bailey-Teyletche
President
European Federation of Osteopaths

Gert Jan Goede
Chair
Forum for Osteopathic Regulation in Europe
About FORE

- Seeks to enhance protection of patients in Europe by promoting wider recognition of osteopaths and high standards of osteopathic treatment

- Members from across Europe, including:
  - competent authorities, voluntary registers and associations

- Member of Crossing Borders
In summary...

- European Federation of Osteopaths (EFO) recognised by EU as Osteopathic Professional Association

- It has member organisations from 16 countries

- Its activity is focussed on EU lobbying, national mediation and representation

- FORE Seeks to enhance protection of patients in Europe by promoting wider recognition of osteopaths and high standards of osteopathic treatment

- Members are either competent authorities within Europe or organisations within Europe with well-developed processes for regulating osteopathy, working towards governmental recognition
Status of osteopathic regulation in Europe

Countries with regulation and EU registered:
Finland, Iceland, Lichtenstein, Malta, Portugal, Switzerland and UK

Countries with regulation and not EU registered:
France, Hungary, Latvia

Regulated treatment but not regulated profession:
Belgium, Bulgaria, Italy, Romania, Slovenia
Status of osteopathic regulation in Europe

Considering regulation:
Germany, Ireland, Norway, Spain

Not recognised/ with no current plans:
Austria, Cyprus, Denmark, Greece and Sweden

Unclear:
Central and Eastern Europe
Barriers to development of regulation

- No clear identity for osteopathic profession within individual countries
- Inconsistency of training and qualifications
- Lack of critical mass of osteopaths
- Opposition to osteopathy as autonomous profession
- Lack of political will
Freedom of movement: the challenges

- Lack of osteopathic regulation
- Lack of consensus on osteopathic education and training across Europe
- Challenge for competent authorities:
  - Recognising qualifications
  - Exchanging information
- Impact on patient safety
- Osteopathy = ‘general systems’ profession
- Little or no employment structure (e.g. language testing)
Voluntary European standards

- Published:
  - FORE European Frameworks on standards of osteopathic education, training and practice (ratified by European Federation of Osteopaths)
  - EFO Codex documents
  - Scope of Osteopathic Practice in Europe

- No legal basis, but template for national templates

- Formalisation of European Frameworks with the European Committee of Standardisation
Comité Européen de Normalisation

- CEN = Comité Européen de Normalisation

- European standardisation organisation, made up of standards bodies from EU and EFTA (31)

- UK member = British Standards Institute (BSI)

- Recognised by EC as competent authority for development of standards
What is a CEN Standard?

• Well known in the product and process arena
• Key part of the Single European Market
• Moving into services, including healthcare, e.g.
  ➢ Aesthetic surgeons
  ➢ Hearing aid professionals
  ➢ Chiropractors
• Developed according to a defined process
• **Doesn’t override national legislation**, but provides standard in those countries where none exists – ‘soft law’
Purpose of the CEN Standard

- Improvement on the status quo
- Become indicative standard across Europe
- Promote greater consensus in profession
- ‘Strengthen’ the profession internally and externally
- Improve standards of patient care across Europe
Developing a CEN Standard

- Proposal to develop a Standard
- Acceptance of the proposal
- Drafting
- CEN Enquiry: public comment at national level
- Adopting by weighted vote
- Publication of Standard
- Review of Standard
CEN process for osteopathy

- Funded by EFO and FORE
- Name: *European Standard on Osteopathic Healthcare Provision*
- Secretariat: Austrian Standards Institute
- Work conducted by Technical body 414, made up of national delegations from CEN members
- Drafting group (from members of TC414) develops drafts to be considered
The Standard

- Standards used as reference:
  - WHO benchmarks
  - FORE Framework documents
  - EFO Codex documents

- Challenges:
  - terminology
  - reflect osteopathic practice in Europe
  - reflect EU higher education policy
  - consensus on minimum standards
The Standard

- The Standard includes:
  - foreword,
  - introduction,
  - scope,
  - terms and definitions,
  - description of Osteopathy

- Clinical Practice:
  - case history
  - examination
  - osteopathic diagnosis
  - treatment
  - osteopathic profession
  - continuing professional development (CPD)
  - quality management
The Standard

- Education and Training
  - Type 1 training programmes
  - Type II training programmes
  - Common features
  - Essential competencies for osteopathic practice
  - Core competencies in osteopathic education
  - Osteopathic teaching, learning and assessment (clinical education)

- Annexes: Osteopathic structure-function models, Principles of Ethics, Osteopathic techniques
How could the CEN Standard be employed?

- By individual practitioners/clinics
- Educational institutions
- Associations in non-regulated countries
- Help to draw public attention to high standards
- Develop patient/public information about standards of osteopathic care in Europe
- Guidance for regulators
- Lobbying tool at national/EU level
A standard is ...
## Timeline...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Timeline</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 November 2013-7 April 2014</td>
<td>Launch of public consultation (CEN Inquiry)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer 2014</td>
<td>Analysis of responses by TC414</td>
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<tr>
<td>Autumn 2014</td>
<td>Final version drafted</td>
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<td>Autumn/Winter 2014</td>
<td>Vote in CEN (weighted vote)</td>
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<td>Autumn 2014</td>
<td>Publication of Draft Standard</td>
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<td>2014-16</td>
<td>Awareness campaign</td>
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<td>2015</td>
<td>Final vote and National implementation (where no regulation exists)</td>
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Further information

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Thank you