DEVELOPING RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE AND CAPACITY IN OSTEOPATHY

UTS: ARCCIM
CRITICAL METHODS, TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH

UTS CRICOS PROVIDER CODE: 00099F
PILLARS OF ADVANCEMENT THROUGH RESEARCH
There is an urgent need for initiatives that build upon a number of interrelated, distinct features:

- a critical, non-partisan research approach;
- adopt and build upon rigorous health and medical research methods and designs;
- coordinated, broad and multidisciplinary in research focus;
- be inclusive and research network building
  - facilitate and promote research networks where already established
  - encourage and grow networks and research activity elsewhere as necessary
“A group of ambulatory practices devoted principally to the primary care of patients, and affiliated in their mission to investigate questions related to community-based practice and to improve the quality of primary care”

WHAT MAKES ARCCIM PBRN’S UNIQUE?

CAM PBRNs = 9
> Chiropractic = 5
> Osteopathic = 2
> Integrative medicine = 1
> Complementary medicine = 1

Total number of practitioner members

Bravenet (Integrative medicine) = 14
PRACI = 1043
ACORN = 1800 (36%)
ORION = 757 (48%)
WHAT MAKES PRACI UNIQUE?

Substudy design
DIVERSE RESEARCH APPROACHES

Basic science
- Laboratory
- In vitro
- In vivo
- Animal studies

Clinical trials
- Randomised
- Placebo
- Patient-reported outcomes

Epidemiology
- Case-control
- Cohort
- Cross-sectional
- Economics

Sociology
- Ethnography
- Grounded theory
- Case study
EXAMPLE: THE PRACTITIONER RESEARCH AND COLLABORATION INITIATIVE (PRACI)

• **Age:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 40 years old</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>40-59 years old</td>
<td>59.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>60 years old or greater</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

• **Gender:** 76.9% female

• **Qualifications:**

[Graph showing various qualifications with bars for advanced diploma or less, bachelor degree, and postgraduate qualification]
Number of practitioners sharing their primary clinical practice with another profession (n=748)

- Chiropractor: 110
- Counsellor: 80
- Physiotherapist: 60
- Osteopath: 80
- Generalist: 40
- Exercise: 30
- Dietician: 20
- Community nurse: 10
- Specialist: 10
- Social worker: 5
- Midwife: 2

Other practitioners sharing primary practicing location
## HEALTH ECONOMICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average days per week working as CM practitioner</td>
<td>3.8 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average client hours worked per week</td>
<td>18.2 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average clients seen per week</td>
<td>17.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average NEW clients seen per month</td>
<td>24.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average consultation fees per hour</td>
<td>$84.80</td>
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Average weekly practice income: $1543.36 per week (3.8 days)/$80 254.72 p/a
Total estimated CM consultation income per annum: $5.86 billion*
More than 40% increase in last 10 years**

*based on 69.2 million consultations reported by Xue et al (2007)
**based on $4.13b “out of pocket” expenditure on CM reported by Xue et al (2007)
TOTAL HEALTH/ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION

Total number of consultations per week: 320,411

Total number of consultations per year: 16 million

Total consultation fees paid per year: AUD$1.5 billion
PRACI SUBSTUDIES

1. Prevalence of use
   - An exploration of Complementary and Alternative Medicine use for the management of acute respiratory tract infections in children

2. Scope of health conditions treated
   - Medical conditions and symptoms presenting to practitioner of Complementary Medicine in Australia. A snapshot across CM modalities.

3. Managing national health priority areas
   - Treating people with arthritis in traditional Chinese medicine: an examination of the perceptions of traditional Chinese medicine practitioners.

4. Health promotion
   - The rationale, practices and knowledge of Australian naturopaths, Western herbal medicine practitioners and nutritionists associated with recommending gluten free diets: A national survey

5. Preventive medicine
   - Exploring the contribution made by Australian Naturopaths to the management of individuals with cardiovascular disease and/or known cardiovascular disease risk factors

6. Clinical outcomes
   - Comparative effectiveness study of the clinical and cost outcomes on massage for the management of chronic low back pain in Australia
PUBLICATIONS


Capacity Building: An International Research Leadership Program

Distinguished Professor Jon Adams

ARC Professorial Future Fellow

Distinguished Professor of Public Health, UTS

Director, Australian Research Centre in Complementary and Integrative Medicine

Senior Fellow, Oxford International Primary Care Research Leadership Program, University of Oxford, UK

National Convenor, Public Health Association of Australia Special Interest Group in ‘Evidence, Research and Policy in Complementary Medicine’
Oxford International Primary Care Research Leadership Program
International CM Research Leadership Program
International Naturopathy Research Leadership Program
Program Features

Competitive call and appointment (10-12 early career Fellows)
Annual residential
Mentoring and career development – challenges and opportunities
Methodology and project design skills
Expert masterclasses
Prestigious guest speakers
Collaboration on current databases, projects and papers
Social and cultural program
IMPACT AND OUTPUT
Co-ordinating capacity with infrastructure
Speeding up growth in evidence-base

3 yrs
110 papers
9 projects
4 promotions
International networking and collaborations
Facilitating development of individual careers, practice and wider profession
Strengthening bond and ties between research and practice
Ensuring retention, growth and sustainability