

Enhancing, promoting and advancing the osteopathic profession
in Australia
The Clinical Practice Groups (CPGs)

Presenter: Peter Lalli, Senior Policy Officer- Clinical Excellence, Osteopathy
Australia

Email: clinicalpolicy@osteopathy.org.au

Phone: 02 9410 00 99

Presentation objectives

The objectives of the presentation are to:

- Explain what a Clinical Practice Group is (CPG) and why the concept is unique in the Australian context.
- Outline what Osteopathy Australia's CPGs will do to promote, advance and uphold clinical competence and reduce risk.
- Describe project phases in moving toward implementation.
- Outline challenges faced in the CPG project to date

What is a Clinical Practice Group (CPG)?

- The CPGs will be structures of Osteopathy Australia that provide affiliation, belonging and connection between osteopaths with developed clinical competence in focus areas of practice, including:
 - Exercise based rehabilitation
 - Occupational health
 - Pain Management
 - Paediatrics
 - Sports practice.

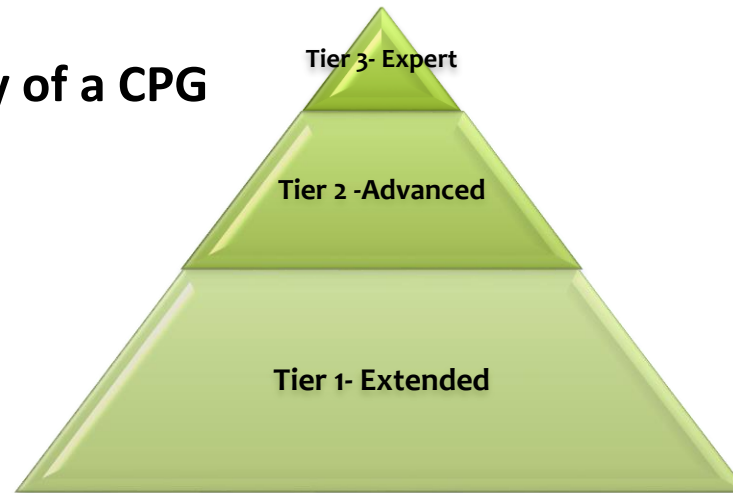
Why are the CPGs unique in Australia?

- The CPGs represent an innovative first in Australia, complementing existing governance arrangements for osteopaths in the country and filling a crucial gap in infrastructure required for the overtime sustainability of the profession.

CPG outcomes

Outcome 1: incentivise osteopaths to grow their clinical skillset through tiered rewards and recognition

The anatomy of a CPG



CPG outcomes

Outcome 2: the CPGs will create robust referral pathways between advanced practitioners and all other osteopaths for timely and responsive care, assessment and clinical management

CPG outcomes

Outcome 3: the CPGs will enable Osteopathy Australia to seek additional practice privileges through targeted lobbying in distinct program areas (whether government funded programs, private health insurance service types for rebate)

CPG outcomes

Outcome 4: The CPGs will enable increased production of evidence for osteopathy that can be disseminated and promulgated.

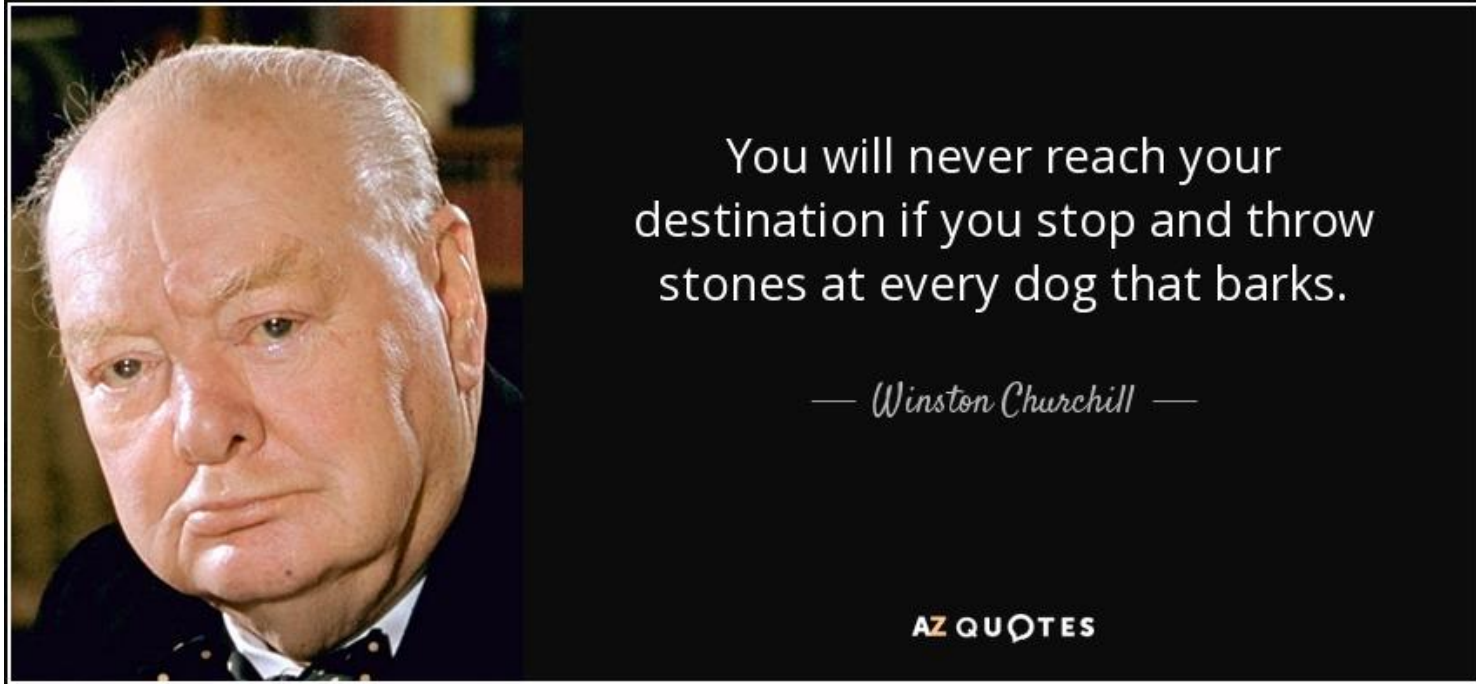
CPG outcomes

Outcome 5: the CPGs will advise on knowledge and reasoning skills from a focus area needed within the every day practice of all osteopaths to minimise risk, increase safety and quality.

The CPG project in a snap shot

- The CPG project involves slow culture change and careful implementation.
- The formulation and launch of advanced practice credentialing and recognition arrangements will take between 4-6 years at minimum.
- Osteopathy Australia is over 2 years into the process and started in 2015.

Key challenges of the project



Challenges in a nutshell

- Resourcing is a critical component. Be prepared to invest significant organisational resources over the long term for formalisation.
- The more significant risks stem from the osteopathic profession itself:
 - Confusion between regulation/minimum standards and quality/excellence
 - Philosophical barriers
 - Turf protection/anxiety
 - Over-anticipation/lack of awareness of credentialing system development
 - Equity concerns.