



**Council**  
**4 February 2015**  
**Values seminar report**

<b>Classification</b>	Public
<b>Purpose</b>	For noting
<b>Issue</b>	Exploring values and their relationship to the development of standards.
<b>Recommendation</b>	To note the report of the Values Seminar held on 12 November 2014.
<b>Financial and resourcing implications</b>	The costs of the values seminar have been incorporated into the Professional Standards Budget.
<b>Equality and diversity implications</b>	Equality and diversity issues are an integral part of this work stream which is based on considering the diverse values and needs of all individuals. The case studies incorporated particular characteristics, for example, disability.
<b>Communications implications</b>	Regular updates about this work appear in <i>the osteopath</i> . All our key stakeholders are involved in this work including the Council of Osteopathic Educational Institutions, the Institute of Osteopathy, the Osteopathic Alliance, patients and the public, students, other health professionals and representatives of other regulators.
<b>Annex</b>	Field Note of the Values Seminar on 12 November 2014.
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## Background

1. Our Corporate Plan 2013 to 2016 states that we will 'encourage and facilitate continuous improvement in the quality of osteopathic healthcare.'
2. Our Business Plan 2014-15 states that we will scope the review of the Osteopathic Practice Standards. We have also stated that we will work in partnership with patients, the Institute of Osteopathy (iO), the Council for Osteopathic Educational Institutions (COEI) and the Osteopathic Alliance (OA) to explore the need for a common statement of osteopathic values to support the review of the next edition of the Osteopathic Practice Standards.
3. We have been exploring the relationship between values and standards in order to provide a foundation upon which to commence the review of our *Osteopathic Practice Standards*.
4. At its meeting on 25 June 2014, the Osteopathic Practice Committee noted the proposal for a Values seminar, working in partnership with Professor Stephen Tyreman and Professor Bill Fulford, along with a summary of what had led us to this point.
5. At its meeting on 2 October 2014, the Osteopathic Practice Committee received a progress report about the development of the seminar and was able to provide feedback about the draft agenda and desired outcomes ahead of the seminar in November 2014.
6. At its meeting on 6 November 2014, the Council received an update about the Values seminar through the Chief Executive's report. Council asked for a further update at its next meeting.
7. This paper provides detailed background to the development of the seminar and provides the field note of the seminar along with our planned next steps.

## Discussion

### *Background to the development of the seminar*

8. The background to the seminar began in 2011 and 2012 with our preparedness to practise research undertaken by Professor Della Freeth which, amongst other things, showed strong themes of diversity and isolation among osteopaths.
9. Our ongoing professionalism research in conjunction with Sue Roff shows a range of views about the seriousness of lapses in professionalism or breaches of standards suggesting that standards may be applied inconsistently with varying perspectives about 'seriousness' and 'interpretation'.
10. In November 2013, the GOsC held a seminar with the osteopathic educational institutions about changing professional culture with key note speakers including Stephen Tyreman, Professor of Osteopathy and Philosophy and Hilary Jones, Dean of Health at Staffordshire University. Feedback from the seminar noted

that values (either patients or clinicians) were not fully explored in undergraduate osteopathic education and that there was a need to better understand values as they relate to the interpretation of standards.

11. These findings and views, have also been considered with themes arising from the environment around us, for example, the importance of person centred care, the culture change as recognised in the Francis and the Berwick reviews, along with the independent and sometimes isolated nature of osteopathic practice. Consideration of these has led us to the view that further discussion about the explicit values underpinning the interpretation of standards is important as we consider our forthcoming review of the Osteopathic Practice Standards.
12. We discussed these ideas with Professor Tyreman and Professor Bill Fulford, a doctor and expert in values based practice over the course of 2014 and, together, developed an exploratory seminar with a wide variety of stakeholders to develop some thinking in this area.
13. The desired outcome of this seminar was to provide an opportunity for stakeholders to better understand and debate the nature of osteopathic values to support commencement of more detailed work ultimately to enhance patient care.

#### *The Values Seminar*

14. The seminar itself was chaired by Harry Cayton, Chief Executive of the Professional Standards Authority and was attended by around 35 participants including osteopaths, patients and the public, academics, health professionals and regulators. The seminar comprised background sessions from Tim Walker and Brigid Tucker about osteopathy and research on patient views. Professor Bill Fulford, Professor Stephen Tyreman and Fiona Browne facilitated interactive discussion sessions and presentations to give all a chance to discuss and debate the nature of values in osteopathic practice.
15. The morning sessions focussed on the discussing and developing values and developing a common framework. In the afternoon sessions, participants explored their values, and the common frameworks developed, to interpret and discuss some case studies in groups. The responses to the case studies were very interesting as they illustrated both a tension and a balance in the discussion that could be worked through in more detail.
16. A detailed field note of the whole seminar is attached at the Annex. The flip chart notes and the case studies referred to in the field note are available on request from Fiona Browne at [fbrowne@osteopathy.org.uk](mailto:fbrowne@osteopathy.org.uk)
17. Feedback from the seminar was extremely positive. All participants found the seminar useful and wanted to continue to be involved.

*Next steps*

18. Given the success of the initial exploratory seminar, we are planning a second seminar during summer 2015 at St Catherine's College, Oxford.
19. Continuing in partnership with Professor Bill Fulford and Professor Stephen Tyreman, we plan to continue some more detailed group work with the participants of the original seminar. This work may continue to explore both the tension and the balance in values (that we identified with the case studies) through more in depth exercises as part of our continued preparatory work for the development of standards.
20. We will continue to keep the Osteopathic Practice Committee and Council updated about the development of this work as we work to better understand how this work may provide a foundation for the development of a new edition of the *Osteopathic Practice Standards*.

**Recommendation:** to note the report of the Values Seminar held on 12 November 2014.