

**Illustrative case examples exploring the nature and scope of the application of the Osteopathic Practice Standards to people on the General Osteopathic Council register**

1. Hannah has worked as a massage therapist in a gym for some ten years. She has now graduated as an osteopath, having studied part-time for the last five years. As well as working as an associate osteopath for two days a week in an established clinic, she intends to continue working as a massage therapist at the gym, as she has built up a busy client list there and does not want to give this up. She seeks advice as to the extent to which the Osteopathic Practice Standards will apply to her work as a massage therapist. She asks, for example, whether the requirement to be able to undertake an osteopathic patient evaluation (C1) means that she will have to alter the way she works when providing massage so as to undertake an osteopathic assessment even when not providing osteopathic treatment.
2. Rachel has worked as an osteopath for ten years. She has recently also trained and qualified as a Pilates instructor. She incorporates some exercise prescription within her osteopathic treatments, but also teaches a group Pilates class twice a week, and offers one to one Pilates training. Some of her Pilates clients have seen her for osteopathic treatment, but others have been introduced via her group class, or been recommended to her just for Pilates. She queries to what extent the Osteopathic Practice Standards apply to her work as a Pilates instructor, particularly to clients who she hasn't seen for osteopathic treatment.
3. Matthew is an osteopath who is also a qualified acupuncturist. He combines osteopathic and acupuncture treatment in some fifty percent of his patients, but also treats some just with osteopathic techniques, and also works two sessions a week purely as an acupuncturist. He asks to what extent the Osteopathic Practice Standards apply to patients for whom he only provides acupuncture treatment.
4. Liz is a registered nurse, and has recently also qualified as an osteopath. She continues to work three shifts a week as a nurse in a private hospital, as well as starting to build up an osteopathic practice from her home. She asks what the crossover is between the requirements of the Osteopathic Practice Standards, and the Nursing and Midwifery Council's Code. Are these clearly demarcated in terms of her professional roles?
5. Ben has worked as a builder for fifteen years. He continued to work in this capacity whilst training part time as an osteopath, and has now graduated. To maintain his income, he continues to work as a builder. He recently worked on an extension for a client who is now in a dispute with him over the cost of the work. The client has found out that Ben is GOC registered, and has

raised a concern with the GOsC that Ben has acted dishonestly in his calculation of costs, has lied to him over when the work will be finished, and has shown a general lack of integrity. Ben considers that this is not an issue for the Osteopathic Practice Standards, and is completely separate from his work as an osteopath.