



Middlesex
University
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General
Osteopathic
Council

NOTE: This report is based on an algorithm and therefore by no means fact

Supplementary documents accompanying this report include:
[Further details on the methodology and the predictive modelling approach](#)

Predictive modelling of the Osteopathic sector

- The Centre for Enterprise and Economic Development Research (CEEDR)¹ at Middlesex University is delighted to submit this research report to the General Osteopathic Council (GOsC).²

Aims & Objectives

1. In this report, we develop predictive modelling of the osteopathic profession based on secondary source data that the GOsC holds.³
2. The main aim of this predictive modelling is to find out what the osteopathic profession might look like in 3-5 years- time (2022-23 to 2027-28) in terms of:
 - Total size of register
 - Numbers joining the register
 - Numbers leaving the register - including what the average age of retirement is? (e.g., if we assume 65 or 70 what might that look like?)
 - Gender demographics
 - Age profile
 - Length of time likely to typically spent on the Register

¹ Dr Jose Tomas Arias Moya and Dr Leandro Sepulveda Ramirez of Middlesex University are the authors of this report.

² Dr Stacey Clift, Senior Policy and Research Officer at the GOsC oversaw this research project.

³ This involves drawing on the following key data sources: (1) Student enrolment and progression data (from 2017-18 to 2022-23) (2) Number of osteopaths joining the Register (from 2008-09 to 03.05.23), (3) Number of osteopaths leaving the Register (from 2008-09 to 03.05.23) (4) Full population data of GOsC Register.

3. A secondary research question posed for the predictive modelling was to establish if and where does any drop-off occur, so that the GOsC can establish what actions to take.
4. We divide the analysis into three parts:
 - (1) The predictive analysis of the osteopaths joining the record.
 - (2) The forecast of registrants leaving the register and
 - (3) Scenario analysis based on a Logistic regression method (best- and worst-case scenarios).

Predictive Modelling

Predicting osteopaths joining the register.

5. This section aims to predict the number of osteopaths joining the register over the next 3-5 academic years (from 2022-23 to 2027-28). The primary datasets used to inform this include student enrolment and progression data (from 2017 to 2022) and the number of osteopaths joining the register (2008-May 2023), which were provided by the GOsC.

Data Limitations

6. Our datasets comprise of two main limitations, which constrain the predictive modelling and the selection of our econometric approach. The first limitation is the lack of demographic data about graduates who joined and did not join the register. The second limitation is the student enrolment and progression data currently only consist of five academic years (2017-18 to 2021-22, complete data sets and 2022-23 enrolment only), i.e., this data covers a relatively short period of time. Further limitations with the datasets include that there is only demographic information for osteopaths who joined the register and not for those that did not join the register. Thus, we cannot conduct a comparative analysis or develop predictive modelling using sophisticated methods such as binary response models. This latter issue is increased by the short period of time of the data provided.
7. We use a linear regression model (Ordinary Least Squares) based on trends exhibited over time in both student enrolment and progression data and osteopaths joining the register to forecast the joiners. More information on the two-step procedure can be found [here](#).
8. Table 1 exhibits the historical data, Panel A, and the forecasted data related to the number of students enrolled on an osteopathic course over the next five academic years is detailed in Panel B. The forecasted data follows the pattern exhibited in the historical data.

Table 1: Historical and Forecasted students enrolled on an Osteopathic course

	Enrolment	Time
Panel A: Historical Data	1258	2017-18
	1275	2018-19
	1311	2019-20
	1275	2020-21
	1286	2021-22
	1215	2022-23
Panel B: Forecasted Data	1174	2023-24
	1112	2024-25
	1038	2025-26
	953	2026-27
	856	2027-28

Assumptions made to inform the prediction.

- Now, to predict the total number of osteopaths joining the register over the next 5 academic years, we have established the following assumptions. First, for each one of the academic years exhibited previously in Table 1, we define the graduation rate as the number of graduates over the number of enrolments. For instance, the graduation rate for the academic year 2017-18 is computed as 234 students who graduated over 1258 enrolled, representing 18.6%. We also define the joiner rate as the annual number of joiners over the number of students who graduated. For instance, the joiner rate for the academic year 2017-18 is computed as 231 joiners over 234 students graduated, representing 98.7%. Second, we obtain the forecasted number of students who graduated as the product of the graduation rate and the number of students enrolled. Finally, we get the forecasted number of osteopaths joining the register as the product of the joiner rate and the number of graduates. Table 2 summarises these predicted values:

Table 2: Historical and Forecasted joiners.

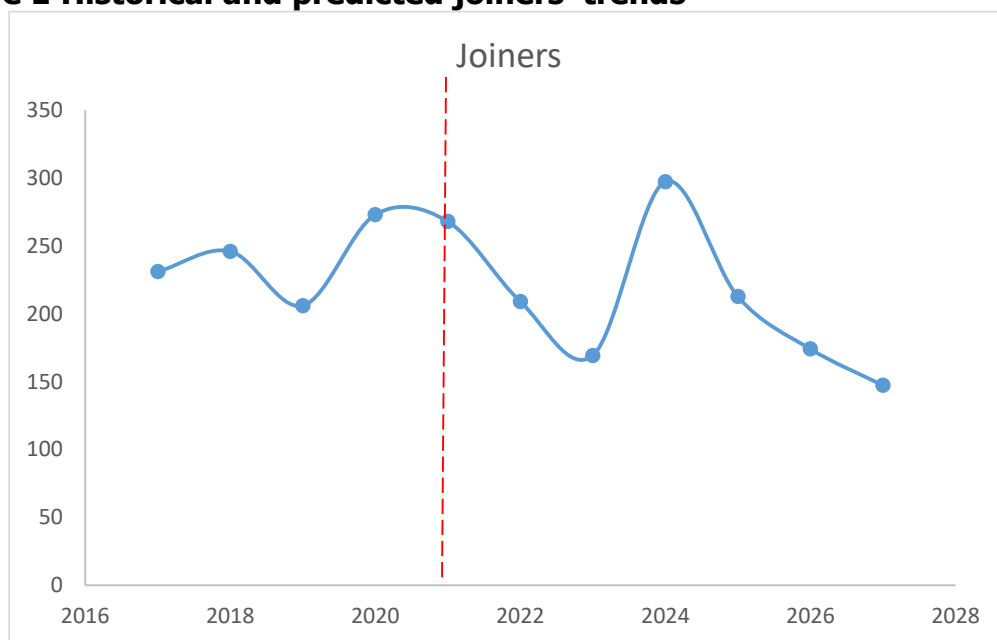
Time	N° students enrolled	Graduated with award	Graduation rate	Joiners rate	Joiners
2017-18	1258	234	18,6%	98,7%	231
2018-19	1275	266	20,9%	92,5%	246
2019-20	1311	298	22,7%	69,1%	206
2020-21	1275	232	18,2%	117,7%	273
2021-22	1286	238	18,5%	112,6%	268
2022-23	1215	226	18,6%	92,5%	209
2023-24	1174	245	20,9%	69,1%	169
2024-25	1112	253	22,7%	117,7%	297
2025-26	1038	189	18,2%	112,6%	213
2026-27	953	176	18,5%	98,7%	174
2027-28	856	159	18,6%	92,5%	147

*Blue colour indicates historical data and brown colour forecasted data

10. In this sense, Figure 1 shows the historical (left side) and the predicted number of osteopaths joining (right side) the GOsC register. We can see that the predicted number of joiners shows an unstable pattern and an overall negative trend, which is explained by the pattern shown in the historical student enrolment and the cyclical behaviour of joiners.⁴ It is worth mentioning that the historical and the expected number of osteopaths joining the register present a similar pattern over time, as this is the goal of using this methodology. Thus, the findings suggest there will be a high variation in the number of osteopaths joining the register but with a negative trend, which will obviously have implications for the osteopathic profession and GOsC if this forecast becomes a reality.

⁴ More joiners than those graduated are predicted in 2024-25 and 2025-26 in Table 1. This is a result of several factors a) this report has not included international applications to the GOsC Register b) it has not been possible for this report to take account of restorations or Return to Practice applicants onto the GOsC Register i.e., registrants that join, then leave and then return to the Register due to the limitations of the GOsC database in terms of how this data is held. c) The intension of the predictive modelling technique being applied is to create the cyclical behaviour pattern seen in the existing data to the forecast data as this is the goal in using this methodology.

Figure 1 Historical and predicted joiners' trends



11. Finally, we predict the new sample as that comprised of joiners plus current registrants (5,484 registrants). According to the results exhibited for a normal scenario, we have the following new sample (see Table 3):

Table 3 Predicted new sample-normal scenario⁵

Time	N° students enrolled	Graduated with award	Joiners	New Sample
2022-23	1215	226	209	5693
2023-24	1174	245	169	5862
2024-25	1112	253	297	6160
2025-26	1038	189	213	6372
2026-27	953	176	174	6546
2027-28	856	159	147	6694

Predicting osteopaths leaving the register.

12. The main outcome of this section is to predict the number of osteopaths leaving the GOSc register over the next 3-5 years (2023-2028). The primary datasets used to inform this include the number of osteopaths leaving the Register (2009-to May 2023) and the number of osteopaths joining the Register (2009-May 2023), which were provided by the GOSc. More information on the statistical procedure adopted to calculate the forecasted leavers can be found [here](#).

⁵ The New Sample column in Table 3 considers joiners (i.e., past registrants) and predicted joiners. It ignores osteopaths leaving the register.

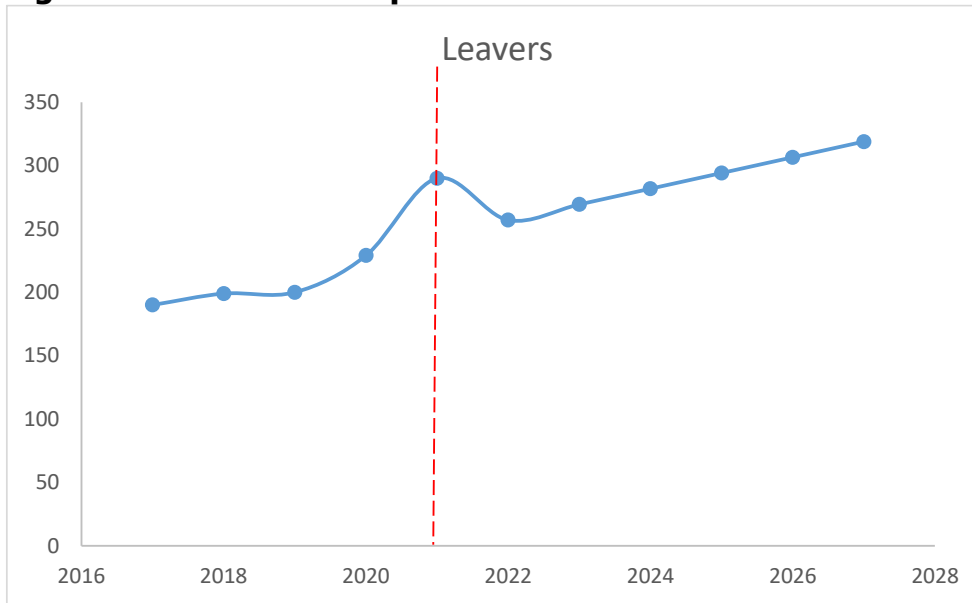
13. The results of this procedure are exhibited in Table 4, which shows the historical and predicted number of registrants leaving the register.

Table 4: Historical and Forecasted leavers.

	Time	Leavers
Panel A: Historical Data	2017-18	190
	2018-19	199
	2019-20	200
	2020-21	229
	2021-22	290
Panel B: Forecasted Data	2022-23	257
	2023-24	269
	2024-25	282
	2025-26	294
	2026-27	307
	2027-28	319

14. Figure 2 shows the historical (left side) and the predicted number of osteopaths leaving (right side) the GOsC register. We can see that the predicted number of leavers is higher than in the past and exhibits the same positive trend. It is worth mentioning that the historical and the expected number of registrants leaving the register follow the same trend or pattern over time, as this is the goal of using this methodology. Thus, the findings suggest that there will continue to be a steady increase in registrants leaving the register each academic year. Specifically, the drop-off will begin in the academic year 2023-24 and, thus, the number of leavers will outnumber the number of joiners over time. Consequently, the GOsC needs to be concerned that drop-off might begin because if the number of leavers exceeds the joiners, the total sample size will decrease.

Figure 2: Historical and predicted leavers' trends



Predictive Modelling

15. We use a binary response model regression, more precisely, a Logistic regression method (or Logit model) based on the binary dependent variable under study. More information on the statistical procedure adopted to calculate the forecasted probability scenarios can be found [here](#).

Scenario analysis

16. Now, we are able to sensitize the number of registrants leaving the register using the probability of leaving the register obtained for each osteopath currently on the GOsC register. To do this, we define three scenarios according to the probability of leaving the GOsC register. The first scenario (Scenario 1) includes those registrants who are less likely to leave the register (Probability <33%⁶). The second scenario (Scenario 2) incorporates those participants with a medium probability of leaving the register (66% > Probability > 33%). Finally, the third scenario reflects the worst scenario, i.e., registrants with a high probability of leaving the register (Probability > 66%). Table 5 shows the estimated number of leavers and their demographic characteristics in the three scenarios.

⁶ See Appendix B for additional Scenario modelling, which illustrates other possible Scenario 1 such as <10%, <15%, <20% and <25%.

Table 5: Scenario Analysis

	Scenario 1 (Probability <33%)	Scenario 2 (66%>Probability>33%)	Scenario 3 (Probability >66%)
Leavers	505	852	1097
Gender:			
Females	303	455	450
Males	200	366	630
Age:			
Minimum	24	38	53
Median	35	47	66
Maximum	42	58	93
Years on the register:			
Minimum	0.11	0.04	1
Median	3	6	16
Maximum	20	24	25

17. In the worst scenario (Scenario 3), the expected number of registrants leaving the record is 1097, of whom 450 are females and 630 males. Moreover, the osteopaths' minimum, maximum and median ages are 53, 93 and 66 years old, respectively, indicating in Scenario 3 an osteopath typically might retire between the age of 53-93.
18. Finally, when comparing the leavers' demographic characteristics in these three scenarios, we observe that those with the highest probability of leaving the register are the oldest and those who have been on the register for more years. In the three scenarios, females outnumber males leaving the register. This is perhaps to be expected given that the historical data showed more females were joining the GOsC register.
19. A further examination of the number of years registrants spends on the register before leaving the register, is shown for the three scenarios in Tables 6 to 8. In scenario 1 (Table 6) those most likely to leave the register are those osteopaths that have been on the register for 1-3 years, followed by 6-10 years. Thus, indicating more efforts should be made to retain registrants that have been on the register for 1-3 years as there is potentially more that could be done to prevent exit from the register of this fairly recent graduated group. Secondly, those on the register between 6-10 years are another group where more concentrated efforts need to be explored around registration retention. In scenario 2 (Table 7) those on the register most likely to leave have been on the register 6-15 years and are more likely to be female. In scenario 3

(Table 8) those on the register for 6+ also become more likely to make up a significant proportion of leavers.⁷

Table 6-Scenario 1: Probability <33%

Years on the register	N° of leavers		
		Female	Male
<1	38	23	15
[1-2[	104	64	40
[2-3[	81	51	30
[3-4[	78	42	36
[4-5[	50	31	18
[5-6[	34	17	17
[6-10[	82	51	30
[10-15[	31	20	11
[15-20[	6	4	2
20+	1	0	1

Table 7-Scenario 2: 66%>Probability>33%

Years on the register	N° of leavers		
		Female	Male
<1	22	6	15
[1-2[	82	44	36
[2-3[	83	34	48
[3-4[	83	51	30
[4-5[	67	34	31
[5-6[	64	33	30
[6-10[	165	93	64
[10-15[	152	79	61
[15-20[	85	52	31
20+	49	29	20

Table 8-Scenario 3: Probability>66%

Years on the register	N° of leavers		
		Female	Male
<1	1	1	0
[1-2[	15	5	9
[2-3[	19	10	9
[3-4[	17	9	8
[4-5[	31	14	15

⁷ Other significant leavers trends identified in scenario 2 and scenario 3 are the significant proportion of leavers having been on the register for either 1-4 years in both scenarios, totalling 248 osteopaths in scenario 2 and 51 in scenario 3.

[5-6[	25	11	11
[6-10[	101	54	45
[10-15[	282	109	168
[15-20[	303	123	176
20+	303	114	189

Scenario analysis: External factors

20. As part of this registration modelling project, the GOsC has simultaneously been considering external factors and assumptions that might affect these 'best' or 'worst' case scenarios. This work has been undertaken in partnership with stakeholders and are detailed in Appendix A. This section examines whether and how these external factors may impact the number of osteopaths joining or leaving the GOsC.

21. **Brexit:** One of the main external factors that may affect the number of joiners is Brexit. As it is explained in Appendix A, the main impact of Brexit on the number of osteopaths joining the GOsC register is through the number of students enrolled on an osteopathy course. For instance, EU student numbers will be impacted not only by the need to obtain a Visa to study in the UK, but also because they cannot apply for Student Loan Company funding, meaning they must all self-fund. In addition, they need to demonstrate they hold cash funds equivalent to one year's study to obtain a Visa. To account for this negative impact, we have decided to decrease the number of students enrolled on an osteopathic course from 2023-24 to 2027-28 by 10 per cent each academic year. Table 9 shows the results for this adverse negative effect in which the number of both students and, consequently, osteopaths joining the GOsC register decrease each year. Table 9 includes the updated student intake/enrolment data. From the table below, we can see that the number of joiners will decrease from 209 in 2022-23 to 110 in 2027-28⁸.

⁸ Compared to the initial report, this scenario has worsened due to the updated data reflecting a decrease in the number of students enrolled in 2021-22 (1286 students compared to 1309 in the previous report) and a dramatic reduction in 2022-23 enrolment (71 students less). The previous report is entitled "Tracking the Osteopathic Profession 2009-2021: Key registration trends and predictive modelling".

Table 9-Worst Scenario: Brexit and Joiners

Time	N° students enrolled	Graduated with award	Graduation rate	Joiners rate	Joiners
2017-18	1258	234	18,6%	98,7%	231
2018-19	1275	266	20,9%	92,5%	246
2019-20	1311	298	22,7%	69,1%	206
2020-21	1275	232	18,2%	117,7%	273
2021-22	1286	238	18,5%	112,6%	268
2022-23	1215	226	18,6%	98,7%	209
2023-24	1094	228	20,9%	92,5%	158
2024-25	984	224	22,7%	69,1%	263
2025-26	886	161	18,2%	117,7%	181
2026-27	797	148	18,5%	112,6%	146
2027-28	717	133	18,6%	98,7%	123

22. **COVID-19:** The second external factor that may affect the number of joiners is the COVID-19 pandemic. The main impact of COVID-19 on the number of osteopaths joining the GOsC is through a delay in registration because of the challenges to practise. Although osteopaths were never not permitted to practise, significant numbers were not practicing between March and summer 2020. After that, osteopaths were gradually going back to practise and so there may well be a greater lag between graduation and applying for registration than in previous years. Additionally, the register did not undertake international assessments between March 2020 and September 2021, so during that time, the register was unable to enable internationally qualified applicants to join the register.

23. Therefore, we include this impact in decreasing the joiner rate in the academic year 2021-22 from 98% to 90%. Table 19 below shows this negative impact on the academic year 2021-22.

Table 10-Worst Scenario: COVID-19 and Joiners

Time	N° students enrolled	Graduated with award	Graduation rate	Joiner rate	Joiners
2017-18	1258	234	18,6%	98,7%	231
2018-19	1275	266	20,9%	92,5%	246
2019-20	1311	298	22,7%	69,1%	206
2020-21	1275	232	18,2%	117,7%	273
2021-22	1309	243	18,6%	90,0%	219
2022-23	1316	275	20,9%	92,5%	254
2023-24	1326	302	22,7%	69,1%	208
2024-25	1337	243	18,2%	117,7%	286
2025-26	1347	251	18,6%	90,0%	247
2026-27	1357	283	20,9%	92,5%	262

Predicting sample size

24. Finally, we can use the results obtained previously to obtain the predicted new sample for the next years, which is the addition of the initial sample plus the predicted joiners and minus the expected leavers in each year. Based on the results shown in Tables 2 and 4, Table 11 exhibits the new sample and the predicted number of joiners and leavers over the next five academic years.

Table 11: Predicted new sample⁹-normal scenario

Time	Joiners	Leavers	New Sample
2022-23	209	257	5436
2023-24	169	269	5336
2024-25	297	282	5352
2025-26	213	294	5270
2026-27	174	307	5138
2027-28	147	319	4966

⁹ The predicted new sample column in Table 11 considers past registrants plus new predicted registrants minus predicted leavers).

Conclusions

25. This study has the following objective:

- To provide predictive modelling of the osteopathic profession in terms of what the osteopathic profession might look like in 3-5 years' time, including a range of scenarios (e.g., worst-case scenario and best-case scenario).

26. In relation to the predictive modelling of the osteopathic profession, the following trends about joiners and leavers became apparent:

- A decreasing number of students enrolled on an osteopathic course, which ranges from 1,286 in 2021-22 (real updated data) to 856 in 2027-28 (forecasted).
- A high variation in the number of osteopaths joining the register but with a negative trend, which ranges from 235 in 2021-22 (real updated data) to 110 in 2027-28 (forecasted).
- So far, the forecasted new sample size ranges from 5,693 in 2022-23 to 6,694 in 2027-28 (Joiners plus current registrants, not taking account of leavers).
- An increasing number of osteopaths leaving the register, which ranges from 238 in 2022-23 to 290 in 2027-28.
- Taking all these estimations together, we can predict the new sample size, which ranges from 5,436 in 2022-23 to 4,966 in 2027-28.

27. Regarding the scenario analysis, the main findings are as follows:

- Results from the predictive modelling exhibit the expected sign between the probability of leaving the register and each explanatory variable. For instance, an increase in age increases the probability of an osteopath leaving the register.
- Results suggest that in the worst-case scenario, the expected number of registrants leaving the record is 1097, out of which 450 are females and 630 males, with a median age of 66 years old.
- The registrants who are more likely to leave the register have been on the register more than ten years.
- Finally, and concerning external factors, only Brexit is likely to have a significant negative impact.

Appendix A: External Factors and assumptions affecting predictive modelling

28. As part of this registration modelling project, we have simultaneously been considering external factors and assumptions that might affect 'best' or 'worst' case scenarios to assist with the further modelling that will be undertaken in due course. This work has been undertaken in partnership with osteopathic stakeholders. The following factors are currently being considered/ explored:

Factors	Possible Explanations/Assumptions
a) Brexit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overseas students need a visa now, may affect numbers of osteopaths both ways: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) leaving UK to work overseas and b) osteopaths qualified overseas that want to practice in UK • EU student numbers will be impacted not only by the need to obtain a Visa. They cannot apply for Student Loan Company funding meaning they must all self-fund. In addition, needing to demonstrate they hold cash funds equivalent to one year's study to obtain a Visa. • European recognition of UK qualifications also impairs European student interest. If they can obtain a Visa and self-fund, they then face the issue of their degree potentially not allowing them registration in their home country. • The right to remain post qualification is limited to a short period and restricted to a limited employment pool.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UK qualifications not being recognised in EU, particularly France.
<p>b) COVID Pandemic</p>	<p>Early stages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compliance with enhanced infection control guidance makes it difficult or not possible to practice (e.g., home working osteopaths), • New ways of working make it difficult to practice - PPE etc. • Osteopath doesn't want to practice during pandemic (safety) • Can't pay fee because not seeing enough patients due to <p>a) Ventilation guidance (reduces number of patients can physically see)</p> <p>b) Patients not attending appointments</p> <p>c) In the early stages of the pandemic indemnity insurers / professional body would not let osteopaths treat patients categorised by government guidance as 'vulnerable.' This changed in about June 2020 but could also have contributed to less patients being seen.</p> <p>Later stages/ impact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Average number of patients decreased slightly during 2020-21. • 10% increase in appointment fee per patient, driven by PPE costs. • Changes in students graduating/progressing to next stage – causing lag in student numbers. <p>Now:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In contrast, many osteopaths are extremely busy now, many reporting increase in patient

	<p>numbers as a direct result of NHS COVID waiting list backlog. Osteopaths are first line practitioners, with many so busy they are looking for new associates at their practices.</p>
Current inflation and probable recession	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not possible to practice due to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Reduced volume of patients due to cost of treatment b) Can't pay registration fees as not seeing enough patients. • Large clinics are operating with a sense of caution, as a result of current inflation (business polls to be reintroduced to further test this anecdotal evidence)
New three- year CPD Scheme (Commenced October 2018)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not popular with a small section of the profession, may mean the older osteopaths may decide to retire when they get close to their final CPD 3- year cycle. • What happens if 10% say they will retire soon as a direct result of CPD scheme?
Age of registrants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Osteopathy is often a second career, so probably in the majority of cases 30+ when enter register. • Does the register show an aging population profile e.g., 10% over 60, if average age of retirement is 65 are we losing 2% from register to retirement each year? • According to the iO Census 2021¹⁰ 35% of the profession are now over the age of 55 (compared to 29% in 2017) and as such are approaching retirement age over the next decade. In other Allied Health

¹⁰ iO Census 2021 <https://www.iosteopathy.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/iO-Professional-Census-June-2022.pdf>

	<p>Professions, where the proportion of the workforce coming up for retirement reached 20%.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are indications that the impact of COVID on established practices has resulted in many more clinicians than usual now taking the plunge, with 20% of those who answered the iO Census 2021 suggesting that they are planning to retire within the next two years, and 9% expecting to do so over the next 12 months. • Lack of sufficient career progression within osteopathy (e.g., clear career structures & pathways, areas for further clinical development, and options for next steps, including validation of programmes may result in osteopaths leaving the profession due to boredom and lack of career opportunities (Evolving Careers Framework workstream concentrates on this)
Is manual nature of job significant?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For example, ill health 10 years+ is significant in the data. Does this mean early retirement is more likely for an osteopath? • Do osteopaths in 50s+ age group start to step back from clinical practice as a result?
Majority self-employed business owners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is failure of start up a significant factor (e.g., most new businesses fail within first two years – is osteopathy any different?) • Business model of an osteopath hasn't changed much, still predominately single, small practices. However, the number of osteopaths working as sole

	<p>practitioners has plummeted in the last 4 years¹¹</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Word of mouth dominant method of attracting new patients
Do osteopaths lack necessary business skills?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Osteopaths predominately want to be good healers, focus is on clinical skills and less so on business, marketing, and leadership skills.
Geographical element	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If we look at the list of Osteopathic Education Institutions/schools locations¹²– Does that mean osteopath clinics are more likely to grow in areas close to educational institutions etc. • Osteopaths are not well distributed across the country with over half (51%) living and working in London and the South-East. This is partly due to the fact that half of the undergraduate students are mature students.¹³ Mature students often have other commitments and seldom travel great distances to study. It is not surprising perhaps that these students remain in the area after qualifying. • The impact of this is that many Principals outside of these areas struggle to recruit associates to work for them despite greater patient numbers

¹¹ iO Census 2021 <https://www.iosteopathy.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/iO-Professional-Census-June-2022.pdf>

¹² List of OEIs and their geographical locations: <https://www.osteopathy.org.uk/training-and-registering/becoming-an-osteopath/training-courses/>

¹³ iO Census 2021 findings <https://www.iosteopathy.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/iO-Professional-Census-June-2022.pdf>

<p>Main reasons for becoming an osteopath needs to be broadened out</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Majority that train to become an osteopath have either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Been a patient of an osteopath in the past. b) A family member is already an osteopath. c) Family member has sought osteopathic treatment. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less public marketing is undertaken to promote public awareness of osteopathy as a career choice compared to other musculoskeletal professions such as physiotherapy
<p>Student intake challenges</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased student fees to £12,000 in 2012 • University model (where multiple subjects on campus offering full student experience) v single osteopathic school (traditional model, single syllabus) may affect student appeal? • Multidisciplinary approach is offered in some universities where students on a range of musculoskeletal courses might share common modules such as physiology. • Are osteopathy courses marketed well enough?
<p>Additional educational providers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the best- case scenario there could be additional OEIs coming through, but these wouldn't be graduating osteopaths until after 2026-27¹⁴
<p>Regulatory reform and Allied Health Professionals (AHPs)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We also don't know what the impact of healthcare regulatory reform will have on registrants/ those choosing to study osteopathy.

¹⁴ Predictive modelling stops at 2027-28 academic year.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If we get parity with other AHPs¹⁵ regarding access to bursaries/loans for 2nd degrees, that might increase Osteopathic Education Institutions (OEIs) numbers.• There are certain issues which impact on osteopaths being able to do particular jobs, for example, no prescribing rights, injection therapy, not listed in legislation to issue fit notes, functional assessor roles in DWP¹⁶, NHS misunderstandings / IT issues around listing osteopaths/ General Osteopathic Council on staff records.
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¹⁵ Allied Health Professionals (AHPs)

¹⁶ Department of Work & Pensions (DWP)

Appendix B: Additional scenario modelling

	Scenario 1 (Probability <10%)	Scenario 1 (Probability <15%)	Scenario 1 (Probability <20%)	Scenario 1 (Probability <25%)	Scenario 1 (Probability <33%)	Scenario 2 (66%> Probability >33%)	Scenario 3 (Probability >66%)
Leavers	9	40	152	267	505	852	1097
Gender:							
Females	2	24	95	155	303	455	450
Males	7	16	57	112	200	366	630
Age:							
Minimum	24	24	24	24	24	38	53
Median	24	26	30	32	35	47	66
Maximum	24	29	33	36	42	58	93
Years on the register:							
Minimum	1	0.2	0.13	0.13	0.11	0.04	1
Median	13	2	2.1	3	3	6	16
Maximum	20	20	20	20	20	24	25