

> Osteopathic Practice Standards

quick guide

The 37 osteopathic practice standards are:

A COMMUNICATION AND PATIENT PARTNERSHIP

- A1 You must have well-developed interpersonal communication skills and the ability to adapt communication strategies to suit the specific needs of a patient.
- A2 Listen to patients and respect their concerns and preferences.
- A3 Give patients the information they need in a way that they can understand.
- A4 You must receive valid consent before examination and treatment.
- A5 Work in partnership with patients to find the best treatment for them.
- A6 Support patients in caring for themselves to improve and maintain their own health.

B KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND PERFORMANCE

- B1 You must understand osteopathic concepts and principles, and apply them critically to patient care.
- B2 You must have sufficient knowledge and skills to support your work as an osteopath.
- B3 Recognise and work within the limits of your training and competence.
- B4 Keep your professional knowledge and skills up to date.

C SAFETY AND QUALITY IN PRACTICE

- C1 You must be able to conduct an osteopathic patient evaluation sufficient to make a working diagnosis and formulate a treatment plan.
- C2 You must be able to formulate and deliver a justifiable osteopathic treatment plan or an alternative course of action.
- C3 Care for your patients and do your best to understand their condition and improve their health.
- C4 Be polite and considerate with patients.
- C5 Acknowledge your patients' individuality in how you treat them.
- C6 Respect your patients' dignity and modesty.
- C7 Provide appropriate care and treatment.
- C8 Ensure that your patient records are full, accurate and completed promptly.
- C9 Act quickly to help patients and keep them from harm.

D PROFESSIONALISM

- D1 You must consider the contributions of other healthcare professionals to ensure best patient care.
- D2 You must respond effectively to requirements for the production of high-quality written material and data.
- D3 You must be capable of retrieving, processing and analysing information as necessary.

- D4 Make sure your beliefs and values do not prejudice your patients' care.
- D5 You must comply with equality and anti-discrimination laws.
- D6 Respect your patients' rights to privacy and confidentiality.
- D7 Be open and honest when dealing with patients and colleagues and respond quickly to complaints.
- D8 Support colleagues and cooperate with them to enhance patient care.
- D9 Keep comments about colleagues or other healthcare professionals honest, accurate and valid.
- D10 Ensure that any problems with your own health do not affect your patients.
- D11 Be aware of your role as a healthcare provider to promote public health.
- D12 Take all necessary steps to control the spread of communicable diseases.
- D13 Comply with health and safety legislation.
- D14 Act with integrity in your professional practice.
- D15 Be honest and trustworthy in your financial dealings, whether personal or professional.
- D16 Do not abuse your professional standing.
- D17 Uphold the reputation of the profession through your conduct.
- D18 You must provide to the GOSc any important information about your conduct and competence.

The *Osteopathic Practice Standards* (September 2012) is available in full at:
www.osteopathy.org.uk/practice/standards-of-practice



Scan this QR code with your smart phone for instant access to the Standards online. (You will need a QR code reader app)



www.facebook.com/goscnews



General
Osteopathic
Council