



## THE ASSOCIATION OF OSTEOMYOLOGISTS

### CODE OF PRACTICE AND ETHICS



Issued by: The General Council of Osteomyologists

Registrar: 80 Greenstead Avenue, Woodford Green, Essex, IG8 7ER

## The Association of Osteomyologists

The Association of Osteomyologists was founded in 1993 in order to promote, enhance, and unify the practice of Osteomyology.

Grades of Membership are awarded as follows:-

Consultant	Awarded by Council and President to senior advisors
Dr. (Ostm.)	Doctor of Osteomyology
FAO	Fellow of The Association of Osteomyologists
MAO(Lic)	Licentiate Member The Association of Osteomyologists
MAO	Member of The Association of Osteomyologists
Affil. AO	Affiliate Student Member
MAO(As.)	Associate Member of The Association of Osteomyologists
FAO(manip)	Fellow Manipulative Trained
MAO(manip)	Member Manipulative Trained

All members, irrespective of grade, are strictly bound by the following Code of Practice and Ethics. This document also applies to all students in training at the Association's affiliated and accredited schools and own College of Osteomyology. Notwithstanding, the principals of any such School or College reserve the right to terminate the training of **any** student at any time.

All requests for further information in regard to the scope of this document shall be addressed to:-

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The Registrar  
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Woodford Green, Essex IG8 7ER  
Tel: 0208 504 1462

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## **The Association of Osteomyologists**

### **CODE OF ETHICS**

#### **Purpose:**

To define ethical standards in regard to the practice of Osteomyology under which persons entered into the membership of The Association of Osteomyologists shall agree to be bound under Articles as follows:-

#### **Articles:**

- 1) To uphold all laws and regulations of the Country in which the Practitioner may legally practice.
- 2) To maintain the high standards of professional conduct appropriate to membership of The Association of Osteomyologists in which the interest and welfare of the patients are deemed to be paramount
- 3) To observe the highest degree of integrity and responsibility in regard to the practise of Osteomyology.
- 4) To insure by means of continuous update of information and training a level of competence consistent with the highest standards of the profession. Accept and involve themselves in mandatory CPD (Continuing Professional Development) both within the Association and outside sources.
- 5) To respect the confidentiality of the patient/practitioner relationship.
- 6) To exercise restraint in regard to the application of any treatment which might conceivably be to the detriment of the patient.
- 7) To seek appropriate medical advice in any situation in which the practitioner may lack the necessary competence or experience to administer treatment.
- 8) To provide and sustain, subject to competence, such emergency treatment as may be necessary until he/she can be assured it will be given by another in due time.
- 9) To report all notifiable disease states according to applicable laws.
- 10) To do nothing to entice patients from the care of professional colleagues.

- 11) To maintain careful records of all patient contacts, interviews and treatments.
- 12) To refrain from all acts of criticisms which might conceivably bring a professional colleague or Association into disrepute.
- 13) To abstain from any claim or statement misrepresenting the therapeutic benefits of Osteomyology.
- 14) No Osteomyology Practitioner may practice or claim to practice any discipline that they do not hold a certified qualification in.
- 15) To comply with the following Code of Practice.

## **CODE OF PRACTICE**

- 1) Education:** All Practitioners must have a relevant professional qualification to gain admittance to the official Register of The Association of Osteomyology. These qualifications must have been awarded by a reputable, recognised University / College. Our education standards are high, and every Practitioner member must complete our core foundation (CCC – Complete Clinical Competence CPD's), which is a series of 9 protocols to study, practice and be verbally examined on to gain revalidation status over a period of 2-3 years. We fully intend for future Osteomyologists to be trained totally in Osteomyology at our own Colleges. All of our standards and criteria are overseen by our Education Committee.
- 2) Insurance:** Practitioners must be professionally indemnified in respect of patient, public, and product liabilities, either with the Associations Bloc Scheme or others of their choosing and produce annually proof of same with their renewal.
- 3) Premises:**
  - a) Treatment area must be equipped to clinical standards
  - b) Staff facilities and public areas (waiting rooms, hall ways stairs, toilet facilities etc) must comply with current Health Safety Regulations.
- 4) Security:** Practitioners must ensure that a patients confidential records are property safeguarded and not accessible to third parties.
- 5) Referrals:** Practitioners should observe the recognised form of patient referral.

**6) Conduct:** An Osteomyologist Practitioner may not:

- a) Use the title Doctor unless he or she has been awarded that honour by The Association or the Practitioner is a PhD / Registered Medical Practitioner in the Country they wish to practice in. The use of the title is forbidden for use on business cards, letterheads, or any publicity unless the above criteria has been met
- b) Address or refer to an Assistant as "Nurse" unless the person referred to holds a nursing qualification in the Country in which the Practitioner is operating a clinic.
- c) Undertake any physical examination or treatment of a child under sixteen years of age except in the presence of a parent or guardian or other responsible adult.
- d) Conduct a genital examination or examination in the genital and surrounding areas of any patient without the presence of a chaperone unless written or verbal consent has been given.
- e) Make any written, audio or verbal claims in regard to the "curative" benefits of treatment
- f) Undertake treatment of a person who is already receiving treatment of a similar nature for the same condition without the respective Practitioner's permission

**7) Advertising:** Osteomyology Practitioners shall be free to advertise their services and practices as they see fit subject to any such advertisements:

- a) Being legal, decent, honest and truthful and in accordance with the British Code of Advertising Practice or appropriate overseas code.
- b) Not being of a character that could reasonably be regarded as likely to bring the profession into disrepute.
- c) Not being such as to abuse the trust of existing or potential patients or exploit their lack of knowledge.

**8) Stationary and Name plates:** Professional letterheads should be of good quality and print. Name plates on buildings and windows should be modest in size.

**9) Qualifications:** The display of designatory letters, certificates and diplomas on professional premises and stationary shall be restricted to those recognised by The Association's executive Council who will not refuse the recognition of educational qualifications that you have received in recognised schools.

- 10) Curricular Services:** Members wishing to take part in the formal training of other Osteomyologists may do so only with the written permission of The Association's executive Council.
- 11) Discipline:** The Executive Council of The Association of Osteomyologists may, on investigation, de-register any member found guilty of contravening the spirit or letter of The Association's Code of Practice and Ethics, or on the grounds of any other act which the Executive Council may consider to reflect adversely upon the good name and reputation of The Association of Osteomyologists. In the case of an adjudged misdemeanour, the Executive Council may substitute the punishment of de-registration with a period of suspension from membership. All certificates, diplomas and items of property issued by The Association to a member during the life of his/her membership remain the property of The Association and on de-registration, shall be returned to The Association's Registrar.

The General Council of Osteomyologists will submit the written complaint to the screeners, if the case warrants serious deliberation, all information from the complainant and the Practitioner involved will be forwarded to the Complaints / Investigation / Disciplinary Committee who will decide the outcome.

**Appeals:** Appeals against the C.I.D Committees decision can be made by the appellant in writing within a period of 28 days from the date of the decision received.

Dr Alan J W Clemens  
PhD DO FAO  
President, Chairman and Founder  
The Association of Osteomyologists

May 1994  
May 2000  
February 2005  
February 2010

## **Rules of The Association**

- 1) As fully qualified professionals, it is your duty to make sure that your practice and yourselves are fully insured. This we can assist you with, if you wish, through our own Bloc Scheme, but you must provide, annually, renewal date proof of your full, professional and public liability insurance. Failure to provide full insurance will result in your removal from the professional Register.
- 2) It is required that all members of The Association, when advertising, make known the name of Osteomyology. In interviews with the press, T.V., or any publication on the internet, it should be stressed that you are a practicing Osteomyologist.
- 3) For members of the Association that are trained and hold professional qualifications in any of the Manipulative sciences, and any other disciplines, should keep uppermost in their minds their allegiance is now to The Association of Osteomyology, and their fellow members.
- 4) The ideals of The Association are paramount. Each member should willingly share any knowledge he/she has acquired, and any treatment techniques which are found to be particularly effective with other members, whether by discussion panels, seminars or interaction on the Association's website.
- 5) As it is now law that Osteopathic/Chiropractic members should be on their respective statutory Registers, any member who is not on the said Registers, must not lead any member of the public / patient to believe that he/she is. Likewise, all Osteopathic/Chiropractic trained members will refrain from using these titles unless they can lawfully do so. Any infringement of this rule will result in removal from our Register.
- 6) All professional fees due to the Association must be paid, in full, on time. Any member being 60 days overdue will be removed from the Register forfeiting all his/her rights to the name, logo, and entry onto "Find an Osteomyologist" site. In the event that they hold Bloc Scheme Insurance with The Association, this will become null and void from their renewal date.
- 7) Any queries as to practice, ethics and implications or queries of non or ex-members using our protected title and registered logo's will be handed to the Practice and Ethics Committee who will deal with them with the greatest gravity.

