

Section 1

Neonatology

International agencies set the improvement of quality of life in preterm infants has one of the major priorities. In fact, the WHO encourages multidisciplinary collaborations to improve quality of practice. As a matter of fact, some complementary medicines were included within health care services. In the context of Neonatal Intensive Care Units (NICU), team working has been tested since mid 90s to implement procedures and deliver better practices. However, to date, a fully integration of multidisciplinary collaborations is still limited, although promising results in terms of clinical effectiveness and reduction of costs.

The neonatology session will explore the effectiveness of osteopathy in the context of NICU and will aim to establish a multidisciplinary scenario where neonatologists, policy-makers, stakeholders, health care professionals could debate on enhancing quality of neonatal care.

Section 2

Cardiovascular

Chronic pain, decreased pulmonary function and thoracic stiffness are common problems after CABG surgery. These problems influence the quality of life in these patients. The cardiovascular module will give some insight in these problems and address the potential added value of osteopathy after CABG surgery in a multidisciplinary setting. A second part addresses the presence of primovessels. The presence of “primo-vessels” in and around several vessels and nerves, viscera and fascia, and in the brain and spinal cord, reveals a common link that could potentially open novel possibilities of integration for cranial, lymphatic, visceral and fascial approaches in osteopathic manual medicine.

Section 3

Communicating about osteopathy: all facts, no fiction.

Communication about osteopathy sometimes lacks valid information. Colleagues, potential purchasers of osteopathic care and the community at large are entitled to robust and qualitative information about our profession. COME, as a leading investigator organisation and as a partner in different research projects wants to provide this valid information. This session reveals the results and future research of three important projects : the health economic value of osteopathy, the preparedness for practice of our European osteopathy students and workforce surveys across Europe.

Section 4

Pain

Pain is a sensory, cognitive and emotional experience, which results from the complex integration and modulation of nociceptive and non-nociceptive stimuli within a network of spinal pathways and central nervous system structures. Consequently, the management of pain in clinical practice, in particular chronic pain, represents to this day a challenge. In this session, we will go beyond the structural and functional aspects of pain processing and modulation, to explore the role of pain on emotional processing, body awareness and sense of the self, and to discuss the effectiveness of mind-body treatment strategies in osteopathic practice.