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IFOMT December 2008 Newsletter

Dear Member Organization, Registered Interest Group Delegates and Special Friends

Welcome to the IFOMT December 2008 newsletter. We are doing things a little differently this time, and hope you enjoy the MO survey responses about education in the MO countries. Thanks to Ken Olson and Chris Showalter for instigating this survey.

Report from the President – Annalie Basson

The past five months have been an extremely busy time for the Executive Committee. I would like to thank my committee for their commitment and enthusiasm. As always, Vicki kept us all informed and alerted us to any problems so that it could be dealt with in a timely manner. Thank you, Vicki, for your continued excellent work.

Duncan and the research group reported back on the very successful teachers meeting. His document on the nominating process has hopefully cleared up some of the confusion that existed regarding this. Please let us know your thoughts on this on the discussion forum.

Erik and his portfolio group have started working on ideas for generating extra revenue for IFOMT. He is also busy reviewing the current financial processes. One of the avenues they are exploring is to register IFOMT as a charitable body. We need to first assess, however, if this will be of benefit to us. He also initiated a Delphi like study to look at the bidding process and voting for the conference hosting. He will collate the information in a document and this will be up for discussion as soon as it is done.

Ken and the communications group are continually working on improving the newsletter. We are hoping that the questions will help to improve the structure of the newsletter and provide you with useful information on other MO's. Ken has also done a lot of work on the review of the constitution. His expertise in this field is very valuable to us.

Michael and Aaron (our web designer) have been very busy setting up the discussion forums - a report on this follows later in the newsletter. As with all new things it has been going through teething problems! Most of them have been sorted out and I think you will agree that the new web page is looking great.

The Executive Committee, with the help of Ken, appointed a parliamentarian to review the constitution. Once we received his feedback, we sent this to some past committee members/ presidents to get an historic overview. We recently had a very successful Executive Committee meeting, via teleconference, where this was discussed. We are hoping to have a first draft of the proposed changes available by the end of January. We are trying to make it less intricate, but at the same time to add in sections that have not previously been addressed, such as the Standards Committee. One of the decisions that was made was to create a Governance Manual. The Governance Manual will be a document that describes the day to day running of IFOMT. This should help to clear up issues that are not part of the constitution. It is also meant to inform future MO delegates and Executive Committee members. Vicki has been working extremely hard to collate all the information into a comprehensive document. There is still a lot that needs to be done though, and we will be asking for your feedback please on specific issues through out this process.

The first few months as President have been exciting and I am looking forward to all the changes and challenges still ahead of us. The fact that we have been busy has also meant that we needed more from you. Howe said "The way to be nothing is to do nothing". I know we want all want more for IFOMT and are therefore prepared to do more.



I would like to thank you for your continued commitment and enthusiasm. I wish you all a truly blessed festive season.

Annalie Basson

Report from Standards Committee – Dr Alison Rushton

The Standards Committee (SC) is continuing to work on key educational issues and to act as a resource for MOs and RIGs, particularly in assisting development towards International Monitoring for MOs, and advising potential new RIGs.

Following acceptance of the new Educational Standards 2008, the document is now available as a resource through the website, and we have written to all MOs to advise them of the requirement for the Educational Standards 2008 to be fully implemented within a 3 year timeframe, by 1st October 2011 at the latest. All submissions for International Monitoring until 2011 will therefore need to include a plan for implementation of the new Educational Standards across the 3 year period. For submissions from 2012 onwards MOs will need to demonstrate full integration of the Educational Standards 2008.

The Educational Standards 2008 apply to all future applications for Member Organisation status, unless a RIG has already made a submission of a curriculum using the Educational Standards 2000, and have received feedback from the Standards Committee to further develop their curriculum. In this situation, further submissions using the previous feedback from the SC and the Educational Standards 2000 will be accepted for a period of 1 year. Any re-submissions following 1/11/09 will be evaluated against the new Educational Standards 2008.

Feedback from the International Monitoring process was forwarded to Canada, Norway and Sweden following the SC evaluation, and the MOs are now working to address any issues raised from the process to further enhance the quality of their educational provision. Once the communication with these MOs is complete, the SC will circulate a summary report of the international monitoring process thus far to assist transparency of the process further and to inform future submissions.

Switzerland have been granted an extension for their first submission for international monitoring moving them from 2009 to 2011. Support for the request from Switzerland was based upon exceptional circumstances within the MO that provides them with the developmental opportunity of providing their OMT education at Masters level from the end of 2009. The SC are currently working closely with both the Netherlands and New Zealand to assist development of their submissions for international monitoring in 2009.

The IFOMT 'Route to Membership' document has been updated and re-circulated to all MOs and RIGs to provide further guidance in situations when more than one manual therapy group exists in a country. Please remember that the Standards Committee is here for advice and guidance on all educational issues, and we look forward to continuing to work with you all into 2009.

Best wishes for a wonderful Christmas and a prosperous New Year.
Alison Rushton (on behalf of the Standards Committee)

Website – Michael Ritchie

The four forums have been very active since they have been up and running. Thank you to all who have participated, although there were some delegates who did not comment. Belgium, Hong Kong, Norway, Portugal, Switzerland, and Spain delegates did not post. I will give general comments about each forum:

1) Name Change Forum: All posts were positive about a name change, and a letter will come from Annalie Basson regarding a formal special meeting to discuss and vote upon a possible name change. According to the constitution, this is the procedure necessary for such a constitutional change. There were some who commented that they would prefer the term 'physiotherapy' over the term 'physical therapy', but understood that only one term is possible. In the constitution, presently undergoing revision, there will be reference to both terms. It is understood that in some countries, the term physiotherapy is preferred for language reasons, and there would be

nothing to prevent that IFOMT MO to use that terminology nationally. However, internationally, the official name (probably IFOM Physical Therapists) would apply. We must consider and be sensitive to national language concerns.

2) Nominations Committee: There is generally very little support for a formal nominations committee. However, a more formal and expanded nominations form would assist the process of choosing future executive members. There is general agreement that someone should oversee the process, perhaps someone appointed by the executive. The present nominations procedure is quite well outlined within the present constitution and would remain in that document. The process will be reviewed and a proposal will be presented to the MO delegates for consideration. Once this process is defined for co-ordinating and distribution of nominations, it will be placed within the governance manual, the document which defines the operations of IFOMT but not requiring to be in the constitution.

3) Nominations Process: There was full agreement that a more transparent and expanded nominations process be constructed, better communication to nominees regarding time commitments for executive positions, recommended skill sets, etc.

4) Individual Recognition: There was broad based support for recognition of individual therapists by IFOMT. Individuals who are members of an IFOMT MO could apply to become IFOMT recognized, either as clinician, specialist, or teacher. There was concern that this could lead to abuse, that therapists would apply who are not qualified. However, the process for recognition would include having the IFOMT MO confirm that an individual is an active member of the IFOMT MO. Therapists who are not members of an IFOMT MO would not qualify for recognition. Should the individual no longer be an active member of the IFOMT MO, they would lose their IFOMT recognition status. There would be a fee for such recognition, and a profit sharing mechanism would be constructed so that both IFOMT and the IFOMT MO would benefit. The more individuals from one IFOMT MO, the more profit to that particular IFOMT MO. Those MOs who did not have any of their members as IFOMT recognized would not benefit financially. There was also concern that this could be a labour intensive process. The way that I have envisioned this should require very little work from either the IFOMT executive or the IFOMT MO through a comprehensive online application process. This process is totally voluntary, and MOs could decide whether they wished to participate. However, if they did not participate, none of their members could be IFOMT recognized. I will work with our IFOMT webmaster to prepare a "beta" application form for your consideration.

Once again, I would like to thank all delegates who participated in the recent forums, the executive have a few more issues that we would like to discuss in the near future, and this seems a good venue to encourage this discussion.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Ritchie

Member Organisation Items of Interest.

Canada: Delegate – Anita Gross

Our national symposium entitled “Clinical Reasoning” was held in Montreal, Québec on September 26 to 28, 2008 (www.symposiumortho2008.com).

Rendez-vous in Québec City, CANADA for IFOMT 2012! We are making great progress in establishing chairs for all of the required committees and establishing our core theme.

We have continued to work on our Marketing Campaign. This year we developed a number of press releases. Our goal continues to be to promote CAMT to the Canadian general public by holding numerous promotional interviews on local television networks using CAMT members as the expert. Our Newsletter – Orthopaedic Review – continues to highlight IFOMT MO countries. If your country has a brochure or short description of your organization we would welcome your input (email to grossa@mcmaster.ca).

Season's Greetings and a Happy New Year to all!

Finland: **Delegate – Olli Aranko**

We just had our annual congress in manual therapy and medicine which is organized together with the Society for Musculoskeletal Medicine in Finland. There were little over 300 participants which is quite average. The theme was upper extremity. We had also our second annual meeting there. The budget for 2009 was accepted and only one person wanted to step aside from our Executive, after 10 years of good work.

We continue the work to stay as the biggest course organizer for registered Physiotherapists in Finland. In 2009 there is already over 60 courses in the calendar. The average length for a course is two days. Therefore we have had a full time secretary for over 15 years. The last 10 years it has been Tarja Salonen, who really is the heart of our organization and a fantastic assistant for the president (Ollie).

Greece **Delegate – Kostas Sakellariou**

2008 for Greece and the "OMT Scientific Group" of the PPA (Panhellenic Physiotherapists Association, the parent body) are glad to announce that among other crucial areas to our group's activities we have focused on the major in the sector of Physiotherapy in Greece, big event of the "Internal Monitoring" process taking place in Athens at the beginning of 2009 along with the OMT examinations. We are expecting about 21 physiotherapists to participate in the Internal Monitoring with approximately 25 more to participate in the OMT examinations. It is interesting to point out that this kind of combined activity in our field is the first to take place in Greece and we are indeed proud to have achieved this for the benefit of Manual Therapists.

Otherwise, our OMT Scientific Group, the only recognized MT group in Greece within the parent body, was well represented at its Annual Congress where our group had one presentation on 'tennis elbow' by Mr. Petroustos, and one workshop as an introductory course to MT, by Mr. Stavropoulos. The third invited speaker from the UK, due to some problem with his travel documents, was in the last minute unable to attend.

As regards the issue of the formation of an 'umbrella group' in Greece, the PPA (parent body) has already posted invitations that any interested party having fulfilled the IFOMT standards, is welcome to join our already established OMT Scientific Group. As far as we know, there has been no interest expressed by any other manual therapy group as yet.

We are looking forward to a fruitful and constructive 2009 for MT in Greece and more broadly for the whole MT academic community worldwide. With best wishes for a Happy and Healthy Christmas time to everyone.

P.A.M.P. **Delegate – Dimitris Korakakis**

This year has been a very busy and successful year for the Panhellenic Association of Manual Physiotherapists. Our efforts have been fruitful and our educational program was approved by IFOMT during the International Congress of IFOMT in Rotterdam in June. P.A.M.P. has already invited H.M.P.A. to start the process of forming an umbrella group and has appointed a 4 member committee to represent P.A.M.P. in this process.

During 2008 the new educational courses have started. There are two groups in Thessaloniki and one in Athens, while the groups that have started during the previous year continue their educational programs with great participation. At the same time, P.A.M.P. continues the post O.M.T. education organising a 2day course on pain assessment and management on 13-14/12/2008 in which the instructor will be Dr. Georgios Georgoudis.

P.A.M.P. also participated in the Hellenic Scientific Association of Physiotherapists (www.eeef.gr) with a speech by K. Spiridopoulos, P.T. – O.M.T. and a 4 hour workshop on "lower crossed syndrome" instructed by D. Korakakis, P.T. – O.M.T., K. Poulis, P.T. – O.M.T. and M. Manolaraki, P.T. – O.M.T. Our website is being continuously updated and is available for further information on any new subjects – matters (www.manualtherapists.gr). We wish that everyone will have Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Italy: **Delegate – Davide Albertoni**

In the last period in Italy there have been a lot of news:
The 6th GTM National Congress took place on the 15th November in Parma with the title "Whiplash Updates II" and recruited 150 people, with speakers from Italy, Norway and Australia. The event was a success, but the number of members of the GTM Group is again low. The primary aim for the next year is to improve the number of the members.

This year GTM subscribed a contract with *Journal Orthopaedic Sports Physical Therapy* and gave a **free** online access to all our members, we think it is a really great opportunity for them, and that could improve subscriptions for the next year.

In the National Congress of our Parent Association (AIFI – Associazione Italiana Fisioterapisti) a new Scientific Society was founded, with the aim of improving the research activities in our country and the education, but there was also the idea of releasing our Manual Therapy Group, because it does not seem to be necessary: they want to change the management of the subgroups. Some of us reminded them that we need a Manual Therapy group to represent Italy in IFOMT, but the discussion should go on.

News about a book: a group of Manual Therapy teachers of the University of Genova – Lorenzo Spairani, Riccardo Ansaldi, Davide B. Albertoni, Marco Testa - wrote a book about the Ankle Rehabilitation in sportsmen, with contributions from many colleagues and medical doctors all over the world. This is the second book from the teachers group of Genova University, the first one, now translated also in English, was about the shoulder in the sportsman.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all the MOs!

Netherlands: Delegate - Phia Dekker

The Dutch annual congress for 2009 will be held on 13/14- March, "Spinal Management". Veldhoven, The Netherlands. See our site: www.nvmt.nl.

Norway: Delegate - Heather Nicol

Education: The University of Bergen has now found the necessary finance for the 2 year Clinical Masters program in Manual Therapy to continue. The next group will begin in January 2009. There has been considerable lobbying and meetings throughout 2008 and finally in November came the good news!

Extension of Primary Contact Role: The next item of good news is that the Health Department and parliament have endorsed an increase in the period of sick leave we can prescribe for patients from 8 weeks to 12 weeks. We expect this to begin early in 2009.

Portugal: Delegate - João Filipe Vasconcelos Abreu

For the first time in Portugal, the Manual Therapy Group, a Member Organization of IFOMT, was invited to collaborate in the implementation of a Master of Physiotherapy in Musculoskeletal Conditions. The curriculum was designed and developed on the basis of IFOMT Standards Guidelines, and has two years duration

The Master is organized by the High School of Health at Setubal Polytechnic in association with the Faculty of Medical Sciences of the New University of Lisbon.

Spain: Delegate - José Miguel Tricàs Moreno

This is the report from Spain after the successful organization of the Congress in Rotterdam, and we want to congratulate the Dutch MO and particularly to the organizers. We are translating the IFOMT webpage into the Spanish language. This will allow access to a lot of manual physiotherapists of Spanish speaking countries and consolidation of IFOMT worldwide.

In Spain, we have been working on the processes of convergence at an educational level starting the new Degree ("Grado" in Spanish) in physiotherapy according to the new European standards for Superior University education. This education is going to become a four-year model with 60 ECTS per year. From now, Master education is introduced and finally we have presented and activated the education in PhD. At the University of Zaragoza, the name of the program to get the PhD is called "Manual Therapy in Health and Disease".

We want to take this opportunity to communicate that the next Spanish-Portuguese Manual Therapy Congress will be held 20th and 21st November 2009. We start with this first advertisement to participate in this real "engine" for Manual Therapy in Spain and Portugal.

Sweden: Delegate – Ragnar Faleij

Sweden is looking forward to hosting an ECE meeting in May. Please see the notice below.

USA: Delegate – Chris Showalter

The American Academy of Orthopedic Manual Physical Therapists (AAOMPT) recently held its 14th Annual Conference in Seattle, WA in late October 2008. Keynote speakers included David Butler, Richard Deyo

MD and Steven George who spoke to the Conference Theme "Pain: From Science to Solutions" Numerous breakout sessions explored the topic in greater depth. The conference was compelling and broke previous attendance records. The 15th Annual conference will be held October 14-18, 2009 In Washington DC and will feature keynote speakers Paul Hodges and Deydre Teyhan.

In the USA, our profession continues to work towards a standard Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) as the credential that Physical Therapists graduate with to enter the work force. By 2020 all PT Education programs will be required to be DPTs. Many existing MSc programs have made the conversion to DPT and most new graduates are emerging from Universities with this degree.

I would like to wish a Happy and Safe Holiday Season to all IFOMT Members.

REGISTERED INTEREST GROUP REPORTS

Korea **Delegate - Hwang Seongsoo**

The Korea KAOMT group will have the 10th Congress of KAOMT' in Daegu, Korea on 14th December, 2008. The slogan is ' ICF and OMT" and the subtitle is " OMT for the Pelvic Girdle".

Key Note: "ICF and OMT", " Successful management for the manual therapist" and " The medical management for the Pelvic Girdle'.

Iceland **Delegate - Holmfridur Thorsteinsdottir**

The most recent event in our group here in Iceland was 2 days ago, on November, 27th. We had a meeting where we went over some material from the IFOMT congress in Rotterdam last June.

Baseline information on Education in Member Countries of IFOMT, December 2008

1) How many years of academic work must a person complete after high school (or basic general education) to become a physical therapist in your country?

Australia	At least 4 years of tertiary study. Typically there are 2 avenues to achieve your entry level qualification to practise as a physiotherapist/ physical therapist. Either a 4 year full time undergraduate Bachelors Degree at University or a Masters Degree at University, which is 2 years of full time study undertaken after completing an initial (3 year minimum) Bachelors Degree
Austria	3 years
Belgium	5 year academic education, 3 bachelor years and 2 years master programme
Canada	6 years
Denmark	In Denmark it takes 3½ years to become an authorised physiotherapist. This is accepted as a Bachelor, which means a B.PT. There are no demands on further education; this is a life long title. To practice as a physiotherapist, the Danish authorities have to give their authorisation. After taking postgraduate education in musculoskeletal physiotherapy, a person is recognised as such by the title DipMT. The authorities do not acknowledge a difference between “ordinary” physiotherapists and DipMT’s (not yet). To become a qualified musculoskeletal physiotherapist, the person has taken the Danish postgraduate education. This education contents a series of basic courses (level 1), a series of advanced courses (level 2) and level 3 which is an other 60 supervised training hours and a series of special courses (level 3). Parallel to this are courses in medical specialities (medical pathology, neurology, rheumatology etc.) After level 1 and 2 the first certifying examination is taken. This is based on a case rapport and a clinical

	examination. The person is titled Exam. MT. After ending level 3 there will be another clinical exam. During the education there are different kinds of evaluations (i.e. multiple choice, cases). The education is approximately on 57 ECTS point together.
Finland	4 years in the University for Applied Sciences
Germany	At the moment there is no academic programme to become a physiotherapist. Currently the higher education programme to become a physiotherapist is 3 years
Greece	4 years
Hong Kong	3 years in Hong Kong Polytechnic University
Ireland	There are currently four Higher Education Institutions offering a 4 year Bachelors of Science Honours degree (Physiotherapy) programme in the Republic of Ireland with approximately 150 students graduating per year.
Italy	The basic education to be a Physical therapist is 3 years in University. After that a physical therapist could go on for other 2 years to achieve a second level degree, but the specialization is only about the Management
Japan	Every one who wishes to become a physical therapist in Japan has to graduate from one of the educational institutes that the Japanese government accredits to develop physical therapists. There are three kinds of educational institutes for the development of physical therapists, namely, four-year college, three-year junior college, and technical college
Netherlands	In a period of 4 years after high school you can become a physiotherapist. There is one master of science physiotherapy school in Utrecht now
New Zealand	4 years of study to gain Bachelors Degree
Norway	Three years of academic work and one compulsory year with supervised practice in the community and hospital
Portugal	After high school, 4 years
South Africa	4 years
Spain	4 years with the model of European convergence for High Education
Sweden	3 years to become a Registered PT, 5 years for a M.Sc. PT.
Switzerland	In the old system it was three years. In the new system since 2006 it is three years of academic, theoretical work and afterwards 9 months of practical work in an institution.
USA	3-4 years
United Kingdom	3 years

2) What professional degree do physical therapists earn to enter the profession?

Australia	It varies between universities. It is always either a Bachelors or Masters Degree in either "Health Science", "Applied Science" or in "Physiotherapy"
Austria	B.Sc since about 2 years
Belgium	A master degree
Canada	MSc
Denmark	As above
Finland	B. App. Sc.
Germany	Currently none. One can only complete a professional degree once the basic education has been completed
Greece	B.Sc.
Hong Kong	B.Sc.
Ireland	Physiotherapy students are awarded a BSc on completion of their degree.
Italy	The education in Italy is different, we have the degree in Physical Therapy, I think it corresponds to the bachelor degree
Japan	Graduates of one of the above three kinds of educational institutes obtain a degree necessary for a physical therapist. With the degree they obtained, they have to pass the national examination conducted by the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare of Japan to become a physical therapist
Netherlands	We do not have such a title at the moment, but you could compare it with a bachelor.
New Zealand	Bachelor of Health Science (BHSc(physio))
Norway	B. Sc

Portugal	Honours Degree (. Licensure)
South Africa	B.Sc. Physiotherapy B Phys
Spain	After 4 years a physiotherapist qualifies with a B App. Sc., and later physiotherapists can get access to M.Sc. and PhD
Sweden	B. Sc.
Switzerland	The people who started in 2006 will get a B.Sc.. The people who did their education before don't have an official title. We hope they get the possibility in the future to upgrade their education to a B.Sc.
USA	MSc with an ongoing transition of programs to DPT (Doctor of Physical Therapy). All programs will be DPT by 2020
United Kingdom	BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy

3) What professional credentials must physical therapists maintain in order to practice Physical Therapy in your country? I.e. Certification, Licensure, Continuing Education

Australia	Once initially licensed by way of completing their university studies, all physiotherapists in Australia must be “Registered” with the appropriate Board in their state. This necessitates an adherence to a code of conduct, ethical behaviour standards and ongoing continuing education. There are additional criteria against which physiotherapists must be assessed and maintain if they have not practiced for some time (this time varies across states)
Austria	Certification
Belgium	A diploma in physical therapy, licensure
Canada	Licensure, which mandates a Practice Audit and continuing education
Denmark	As above
Finland	So far none
Germany	At this point in time only the owner of a practice must complete a certain amount of continuing education. However the 4 group members of the German MO all encourage and promote continuing education amongst their completed OMT students in line with IFOMT Standards Dimension 10
Greece	Licensure
Hong Kong	None
Ireland	The Irish Society of Chartered Physiotherapists (ISCP) is designated the competent authority to accredit Physiotherapy education programmes in Ireland. Upon completion of one of the 4 accredited BSc programmes, graduates are eligible for membership of the ISCP. Membership of the ISCP allows members to practice as Chartered Physiotherapists
Italy	We have a system of Continuing Education, there is a number of credits you have to earn every year, but there are no people to check if you are doing it or not
Japan	1. No certification exists for physical therapists in the Japanese medical system. 2. The Japanese Physical Therapy Association is the representative organization in the field of physical therapy in Japan. It offers a system for credit earning, but earning credits is not mandatory. In addition, it is not necessary to be a member of the Japanese Physical Therapy Association to work as a physical therapist. 3. No permit exists for practicing physical therapy in the Japanese medical system
Netherlands	As a physiotherapist you have to be registered in the ‘ Central Quality Register’ . There has to be a continuing education and every 5 years this is checked by a special committee. If you have collected enough education points you maintain registered. Besides quality check this register is used by the insurance company to pay for the treatments
New Zealand	Continuing education with the Physiotherapy Board. Random audits are carried out to check on this. Physiotherapists are required to maintain log books to reflect and illustrate their educational and clinical activity
Norway	Physical therapist must by law regularly update their knowledge to the accepted standard of the profession

Portugal	Licensure
South Africa	Continuing Professional Education earning a certain number of Continuing Professional Units to sustain registration at the Health Professional Council of South Africa
Spain	At the moment Certification and Licensure
Sweden	A license from The National Board of Health and Welfare to become a Registered PT
Switzerland	Every year they have to do at least six days of continuing education
USA	National exam followed by Licensure (By Individual State), Ongoing Continuing Education is mandatory in some States
United Kingdom	They must undertake Continuous Professional Development (CPD). This requirement is now mandatory and linked to continued professional registration

4) IFOMT Standards State that orthopaedic manipulative therapy (OMT) is a specialization within physical therapy and provides comprehensive conservative management for pain and other symptoms of neuro-muscular-articular dysfunction in the spine and extremities. With this in mind, is there a recognized professional distinction between general physical therapists and physical therapists who practice orthopaedic manual/manipulative therapy in your country?

Australia	Not as much as I understand there is in other IFOMT countries. In Australia, all PTs can practice as PTs in all areas, including the use of OMT, or for example working in the world of neurological rehabilitation or cardiorespiratory medicine. However, there is a career pathway where “entry level” PTs can start to specialise in OMT and call themselves Manipulative or Musculoskeletal Physiotherapists, and beyond that we have an established process then by which one can truly “specialise” as a OMT/ Musculoskeletal PT and become a Fellow of the Australian College of Physiotherapists – the highest Clinical qualification in the country There is nothing to stop fully qualified PTs practicing OMT if they have not progressed down the specific pathway of becoming a specialist in OMT. This is largely due to the high level of university and post university training in the OMT related field of the broader practise of physiotherapy
Austria	Not yet
Belgium	Not at this moment but we try to obtain from the Department of Health Care the degree of specific competence in physical therapy and later on the title of specialist
Canada	No, there is currently a specialization project underway in Canada
Denmark	As above
Finland	OMT Physios are in almost every situation recognized as specialized physiotherapists
Germany	Currently there is only a recognised distinction between general physiotherapists and manual therapist. However there is no distinction between manual therapists and manual therapists who practice OMT.
Greece	Not so far. There is no recognized professional distinction between general physical therapists and manual/manipulative therapists
Hong Kong	There is no recognized professional distinction between general therapists and physical therapists practicing manual therapy other than indication by their qualification.
Ireland	Currently membership of the Chartered Physiotherapists in Manipulative (CPMT) Therapy is open to all ISCP members with an interest in Manipulative Therapy. However, since Ireland became an MO of IFOMT in June 2008, the CPMT are in the process of introducing 2 categories of membership. Category 1 will remain open to all ISCP members and category 2 will be open to physiotherapists who have completed an IFOMT recognised postgraduate qualification or who have completed an alternative pathway programme
Italy	No, there is no difference in Italy according to the law
Japan	In the field of health and medicine, no difference exists between physical therapy and orthopedic manipulative therapy in Japan. The plan to establish orthopedic manipulative therapy as a specialized field is being discussed in the Japanese Physical Therapy

Netherlands	Yes there is a recognized distinction: to become a manual therapist you have to follow a 3 year master of profession education in manual therapy. The manual therapy education is a specialization after the physiotherapy education. There are new ideas for the education system; in short: 3 year bachelor physiotherapy and then specialization of 2 years in musculoskeletal, neurological or internal physiotherapy. (master of applied sciences)
New Zealand	No ‘professional’ distinction – unlike Australia where the ‘title’ of manipulative therapist is a protected title. The NZMPA have membership categories i.e, someone with a postgraduate qualification in OMT is called a ‘Graduate member’ and those doing our courses and working towards a qualification are ‘Associate members’
Norway	Yes. Manual therapists have extended rights compared to other Physical therapists in Norway. We can refer patients directly to Specialist medical practitioners, to radiology and to other forms of Physical therapy. We can provide sick leave for up to 8 weeks. We can examine and treat patients with payment from the National insurance scheme without a referral from a medical practitioner. Payment from the National insurance scheme is differentiated and there is a separate fee for Manual Therapy. A Manual therapist in Norway is officially registered as both a Physical therapist and a Manual therapist
Portugal	Not yet, but we hope to change that very soon
South Africa	In South Africa there is no professional distinction to differentiate to the public [to put on business cards etc], and thus no difference in remuneration Only academic qualifications like a Masters degree in OMT may be displayed in advertisement / marketing of services We may only mention that we have a special interest in the field of OMT
Spain	Not at the moment but with the new European Convergence process, there are specialties and one of them is orthopaedic/manipulative therapy
Sweden	Not officially for most PTs but patients and MD’s ask for an OMPT. To become a certified specialist (CS) in OMT you need a MSc PT from the university + OMT-exam+ publication of your thesis results. It is the Swedish PT association LSR (member of WCPT) that certifies the specialists
Switzerland	By the official institutions there is no recognition of people who did an education in orthopaedic manual/manipulative therapy Not from the financial point of view as well as from the professional point of view. Where Physiotherapists work closely together with other health professions (medical doctors, psychiatrists, etc) luckily there is recognition, but in our country even a lot of medical doctors don’t know what OMT is. There is still a lot of work to do
USA	YES...OMTs in USA are formally recognized by Fellowship status in the American Academy of Orthopedic Manual Physical Therapists (AAOMPT) which is MO USA to IFOMT
United Kingdom	There is no specialisation process recognised by the professional body (ie Chartered Society of Physiotherapy CSP). The CSP have a wide number of recognised clinical interest groups (CIGs), a number of which are related to OMT. Membership to these CIGs mostly only requires a subscription to be paid. An exception to this is the Manipulation Association of Chartered Physiotherapists (MACP) where proven knowledge and skills are required for membership. The requirement for full membership of the MACP is in line with the educational standards of IFOMT. Specialisation is also recognised in the NHS by job title e.g. Spinal extended scope practitioner

5) What additional training must a person complete after finishing the professional PT curriculum to become a qualified orthopaedic manual physical therapist (i.e. Full Member of your Countries MO to IFOMT) in your country? I.e. Additional Training, University Courses, Certification Exam, Residency, Fellowship

Australia	As briefly outlined in question 4, there is a pathway to specialisation which involves formal university study (a Masters Degree), then formal mentorship or “residency” and a broadly outlined expected course of continuing education, apprenticeship/ mentoring and formal external) assessment/ examination
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Austria	University course, OMT additional training with OMT certification exam
Belgium	Additional education for manual therapy is a postgraduate education in manual therapy or an master after master in manual therapy both at the University
Canada	University Course, which includes a residency or Orthopaedic Division Certification Course which includes a residency, Certification Exams, Fellowship
Denmark	As above
Finland	At least one year of practice in musculoskeletal physiotherapy + 3,5 years course - Certification Exam
Germany	Roughly 1000 hours of additional training (both theory and practice) is required to become an OMT therapist
Greece	Additional training of 976 hours with certification exam
Hong Kong	To become a full member of Manipulative Therapy Specialty Group of Hong Kong Physiotherapy Association, the physiotherapist needs to have an additional qualification as follows: Master in Manipulative Physiotherapy (offered by Hong Kong Polytechnic University) or Post registration certificates in spinal /peripheral manipulative therapy (offered by Hong Kong Polytechnic University) or Courses recognized by IFOMT
Ireland	Category 2 members of CPMT will have completed the MSc Neuromusculoskeletal Physiotherapy currently running in University College Dublin, which is a two year part time course, or hold an equivalent qualification. Category 2 membership will also be obtained by completion of the alternative pathway programmes whereby applicants will have to demonstrate they have met with IFOMT educational standards
Italy	In our country our Manual Therapy Association decided that a Physical Therapist must complete the Master in Manual Therapy in the University, but it is a Professional Master, not a Master of Science
Japan	Graduates of an accredited educational institute mentioned in (1) have to take the additional training and pass the examination conducted by JFOMT to become a qualified orthopedic manipulative therapist. The additional training is completely based on the educational contents mentioned in the application materials we submitted to become a full member of IFOMT
Netherlands	See question 4
New Zealand	IFOMT qualification/recognition is gained/based on the current AUT postgraduate qualification in musculoskeletal physiotherapy (which is a one year postgraduate diploma)
Norway	Clinical work as Physical therapist for minimum of one year Graduate Degree Clinical Masters in Manual Therapy, 120 ects (2 year full time study)
Portugal	Now, additional training, we hope to change very soon that as well
South Africa	We do not have specialization in place. PTs become members of the OMPTG in our country firstly by being interested in the field Secondly, they can obtain Advanced Professional Level 2 membership by doing a standardized certificated OMT course of 127 hours over one year. The contents and outcomes of the course are based on the IFOMT guidelines. The outcomes are tested in a theoretical paper, a practical technique examination, a clinical examination including assessment and first treatment of a patient, as well as handing in a publishable case report. This certificate is not from a university but under the auspices of the Professional Development Committee of the NEC of the OMPTG Thirdly we now have two universities presenting a Masters degree in OMT. They follow the IFOMT Standards Committee's guidelines for outcomes, hours and content of curriculum
Spain	The only way is to fulfill OMT Spain educational standards that are approved by IFOMT, that consist of University Courses, additional Training, Clinical Supervision and Certification Exam
Sweden	Diploma in OMT, halftime studies continuously over 3 years
Switzerland	Before you can start with the education, you have to have finished a Maitland level 2A or the B-series from Kaltenborn/Evjenth concept. Then He/She has to do a 2,5 year OMT education, which all in all with contact hours, self study, supervision, clinical

	placements and a literature study represents about 50 ECTS
USA	Successfully passing a Fellowship in an approved program
United Kingdom	Full member of the MACP (the MO to IFOMT) requires the successful completion of a University Postgraduate Diploma in OMT. There are around 11 university courses running in the UK that fulfill the requirements of the MACP and IFOMT. In addition, there is a portfolio route to membership that requires applicants to demonstrate equivalent learning

6) What credential do physical therapists earn to become a qualified orthopaedic manual physical therapist? (Full member of your Country's MO to IFOMT) i.e. Certification, Resident, Fellow, Graduate Degree.

Australia	To be a full member of MO the qualification is either a Masters Degree (or equivalent).
Austria	At the moment there is no extra certification by the umbrella group, but of course certification or graduate degree by the OMT-group
Belgium	A certification
Canada	Fellow, Certification, Graduate Degree
Denmark	As above
Finland	Certification
Germany	None other than being able to put OMT behind their credentials and to be registered on the website as being an OMT therapist
Greece	Certification
Hong Kong	Re Q4, Q5
Ireland	Category 2 members of the CPMT will have the title of <i>Musculoskeletal Physiotherapist</i> indicating specialism in the area of orthopaedic manipulative therapy
Italy	The OMT receives a Professional Master in Manual Therapy or in Rehabilitation in MusculoSkeletal Disorders
Japan	To become a qualified orthopedic manipulative therapist in Japan, applicants have to finish the training after graduation and obtain the certificate showing that they pass the examination for qualification as we mentioned in (5)
Netherlands	See question 3; there is a special register for manual therapists with the same rules for registration. If you do want to be registered as a physiotherapist AND a manual therapist then you have to collect half as much more education points. By 2020 every manual therapist must be a master of profession (master of applied sciences)
New Zealand	Postgraduate diploma (minimal requirement). Now some are studying further and gaining a clinical masters
Norway	Graduate degree. Authorisation as a Physical therapist qualified in Manual therapy with the Norwegian Registration Authority for Health Personnel
Portugal	We don't have specialists, we hope to change that very soon
South Africa	Members of the South African Society for Physiotherapy choose to become members of a special interest group - the Orthopaedic Manipulative Physiotherapy Group [OMPTG]. Members then do the certificated course as described above to become Level two members of the OMPTG. We envisage Level 3 membership with an OMT certificate + a Masters degree in the field – but it is not in place yet. These OMT courses [and thus level 2 membership] are not recognized as an academic qualification by our Professional Board and can thus not be used to advertise yourself as 'specially qualified to treat in this field'
Spain	They receive an official master certification from University of Zaragoza as MSc and they receive a registered certification from MO España
Sweden	All members in the OMT-section with OMT-exam become members of IFOMT Sweden
Switzerland	They may use the title: OMT svomp ®, which means that you are a registered Manual Therapist recognized by IFOMT
USA	FAAOMPT = Fellow of the American Academy of Orthopedic Manual Physical Therapists
United Kingdom	A minimum of Postgraduate Diploma level. Mostly students continue to Masters level (MSc)

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Website: MOs were asked if they could contact their learning institutions with regard to advertising on the IFOMT website, and we have had a small uptake on this, so please continue to look at <http://www.ifomt.org/ifomt/classifieds/learning> as it will be continually updated as more advertising is submitted. We would welcome more advertising, so please send details of your programmes to the office if you do wish to advertise – US \$50.00 for 6 months, \$100.00 for one year. I am often asked for IFOMT accredited programmes for people to attend, so by having them listed on our website it is proof that the courses have met the IFOMT standard.

ECE & Teachers Meeting: IFOMT is happy to be in the position of a few MOs expressing an interest in hosting an ECE meeting and Teachers meeting in 2010. If you are interested, could you please send in a proposal from your group by March 31st 2009, as this will give Executive time to look at the proposals and then promote the meetings at the ECE meeting in Sweden in May 2009. This will also give the host enough time to plan for 2010. Please either contact the office or look on the website to view the Terms of Reference for hosting ECE meetings.

IFOMT Collaboration: As a recognized journal of IFOMT, JOSPT is currently working with IFOMT member organizations to provide their individual members a discounted rate on online access to the Journal. Contact JOSPT's Editor-in-Chief, Guy Simoneau, or the Executive Director/Publisher Edith Holmes for more information at www.jospt.org

Journal of Orthopaedic & Sports Physical Therapy

JOSPT

Office: The office will close from *Monday 22nd December and reopen on Monday 12th January*. Normal working hours are Monday (2 hours), Tuesday (6 hours) and Thursday (2 hours).

IFOMT Executive and Vicki would like to thank delegates for their support over the year and send every best wish for a happy and safe festive season.

Vicki Reid
IFOMT Secretariat



UPCOMING CONFERENCES: (Date order)

Netherlands: Annual congress 2009: 13/14- March - "Spinal Management". Veldhoven, The Netherlands. See our site: www.nvmt.nl.

South Africa: Biennial Physiotherapy Congress in Cape Town, 1st – 3rd May 2009
Abstracts can be submitted online: www.physionews.co.za

Sweden: 10th Nordic Congress in OMT/OM, 29th - 31st May 2009, Gothenburg, Sweden. An ECE Meeting will also be held during the conference. www.OMTsweden.se

United Kingdom:

3rd International MACP/KC conference – ‘*Rehabilitation: Art and Science*’, Edinburgh, 30th October -1st November 2009. For more information please visit the following website; www.kcmacp09.com

New Zealand: ‘*Striving for Excellence in OMT and Celebrating 40 years of Manual Therapy in New Zealand*’. Heritage Hotel, Rotorua, 28th – 30th August 2009 www.nzmpa.org.nz

Spain: Spanish-Portuguese Manual Therapy Congress - 20th and 21st November 2009

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Welcome to the 10th Nordic Congress on
Orthopaedic Manipulative Therapy & Medicine
in co-operation with IFOMT ECE

29th - 31th of May 2009
Gothenburg Sweden

Pre- and Post-Congress Courses to be announced

The Nordic Spine Award - for the best
neuromusculoskeletal research - prize 3000 euro

Speakers

Alfio Albasini - Switzerland
William Boissonnault - USA
Grete Mellingen Homstol - Norway

Deborah Falla - Denmark
Roger Kerry - United Kingdom
Laurie McLaughlin - Canada
Mariano Rocabado - Chile

Michael Shacklock - Australia
Paul Watson - United Kingdom
Anders Ottosson - Sweden
Jochen Schomacher - Switzerland

For information and Registration visit www.OMTsweden.se