



# IFOMPT Release

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## Asia, Education Committees and Organisational Structure

### From the President - Ken Olson

Drs Ronél Jordaan and Alison Rushton, Vice-chair and Chair of the IFOMPT Standards Committee, Prof Duncan Reid, Chair of the Advisory Group on RIG Development, and I had the honour and privilege to represent IFOMPT and serve as keynote speakers for the first Asian Confederation of Orthopaedic Manipulative Physical Therapists Congress in Tokyo, Japan, September 14-16, 2019. This historic Congress was the first of its kind in Asia and was organised and hosted by the IFOMPT Member Organisation (MO) from Japan, the Japanese Federation of Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapists, JFOMPT.



Conference Delegates in Tokyo

While at the Congress, we had the opportunity to meet with leaders from the IFOMPT Registered Interest Groups (RIGs) from the Philippines and Korea, where there is a tremendous amount of activity and enthusiasm to further develop Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapy, OMPT, in their countries. There were also participants from Indonesia, Taiwan, Vietnam, Thailand, India and China.

In addition, we facilitated a meeting with a second OMPT education group in Japan, the Japanese Society for Manual Therapy, JSMT, who wish to work toward meeting IFOMPT Educational Standards and to become involved in IFOMPT in the future.



IFOMPT Delegation meeting with the Japan Groups

JFOMPT is in a situation we have seen occur in other countries where they are striving to work with the second education group and to determine how to manage this situation within their MO in a manner that will facilitate growth of OMPT while enabling the second group to meet IFOMPT Educational Standards requirements.

#### Education Committees

The issue of managing new programmes within a member organisation was the focus of the [Standards Committee workshop for MOs](#) in Geneva. There are several key factors that need to be considered as an MO or RIG attempts to transition from one programme, to two or more OMPT programmes. In particular, the organisational structure and development of an Education Committee within the Member Organisation. An Education Committee within the organisation will function to manage compliance with IFOMPT educational standards and to manage international monitoring. The Committee should ideally consist of at least 4 OMPT members who have knowledge of educational accreditation and the IFOMPT Standards. These individuals should have a range of OMPT educational backgrounds (e.g. universities, community programmes, clinical practice) and, ideally, do not serve on other leadership roles within the organisation. The Education Committee members will typically be appointed by the organisation's Executive Committee.

#### Organisational Structures

There are many models that could be considered regarding the structure of a professional organisation. One of which is often referred to as an umbrella organisation. An umbrella organisation is formed for the purpose of representing a country to IFOMPT. It can consist of 2 or more educational programmes / manual therapy groups who each may have organisations with their own members. The leaders of each of the educational programmes / manual therapy groups may appoint members from their groups to form an Executive Committee which will act to represent them within the umbrella organisation.

Another option is to give all qualified individual physical therapist members of the umbrella organisation the right to vote on key issues, such as who will represent them on the Executive Committee.

Organisations can also consider tiered categories of membership such as student members, PT members, and OMPT members with various rights and duties within the organisation assigned to each membership category. Regardless of how they are elected, the Executive Committee has the authority to lead and manage the affairs of the organisation and appoint members to additional committees and workgroups to assist in fulfilling the objectives of the organisation.

#### Resources for Development

The IFOMPT Executive Committee, Standards Committee, Advisory Group on RIG Development, and Membership Qualifications Task Force, have been working cooperatively to identify where resources are needed to promote growth and development of OMPT organisations worldwide. One of the recent outcomes of these efforts is a new [document for guidance](#) in the development of curriculum submission for membership in IFOMPT. Karen Beeton has taken the lead in the development of this document, and I encourage RIGs who wish to apply to become an MO to utilise this resource. Members of the Advisory Group on RIG Development and the Executive Committee are also very willing to assist OMPT organisations who wish to consider organisational structure options for their future growth and development. Examples of MO constitutions that illustrate various organisational structures are available by contacting the IFOMPT Executive Director. Additional resources related to the IFOMPT Educational Standards are available on the IFOMPT Website - <http://www.ifompt.org>.

In summary, each OMPT organisation must determine the optimal organisational structure to serve the needs of their members and for the growth and development of OMPT within their country. A well organised Education Committee is a vital component of the organisational structure of OMPT organisations who wish to meet IFOMPT Educational Standards. IFOMPT leadership is working diligently to serve the needs of our current and future members. It is through these efforts that IFOMPT can continue to strive to be the worldwide leader in OMPT.

Kind Regards,  
Ken Olson



# Latest IFOMPT Developments

*"If opportunity doesn't knock,  
build a door"*

Milton Berle

## 'An evidence informed clinical reasoning framework to guide clinicians in the face of possible serious pathology of the spine'. Laura Finucane

In 2016, Member Organisations requested that IFOMPT lead on the development of a framework to help clinicians when faced with possible serious pathology.

This research is underway applying a consensus methodology using an international multidisciplinary team of experts. This pragmatic approach will use multiple perspectives including synthesising the current research data, seeking expert opinion, and using a more qualitative perspective centred around careful questioning and the development of strong clinical reasoning. It will provide clinicians with a clear reasoning pathway clarifying the role of red flags with less reliance on quantitative and experimental evidence which has been shown to be lacking.

The funding for this research has been challenging with small grants awarded from organisations including the following:

- Musculoskeletal Association of Chartered Physiotherapists (MACP)
- Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (CSP)
- The Private Physiotherapy Education Fund (PPEF)

More recently we received a contribution from the Canadian Academy of Manipulative Physiotherapy (CAMPT) for which we are extremely grateful.

The funding received has been solely allocated to pay a research assistant, without whom we would not be able to achieve our goal of delivering the framework in time for IFOMPT 2020.

We are currently writing up the framework which will go out for peer review later this year. I am extremely grateful to the steering group for their work and dedication to this project who have given up their time freely to contribute to the framework.

The steering group members:

Laura Finucane, James Selfe, Rachel Leech, Chris Mercer, Sue Greenhalgh, Aron Downie, Jason Benecuik, Bill Boissonault, Annelies Pool.



### Message from Cameron Lawson - Conference Committee Chair

The world leaders in Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy treatment and research will gather in Melbourne from October 5th to 9th 2020 for what promises to be the most stimulating IFOMPT conference to date. It has been 20 years since the conference has been held in Australia and this time it is Melbourne's turn to host the conference. Not only will the conference content be stimulating for both clinicians and academics it will also stimulate your soul. Melbourne is a vibrant world city with a fabulously unique obsession with sport, food and culture. Its network of trams makes it an easy city to navigate all of the highlights. The Conference centre is in the middle of the city with easy access to all the city restaurants and Melbourne's famous laneways.

Most importantly it is the content of the conference that will make this a must-attend event for both Clinicians and Academics. The Scientific Committee has put together a high-quality programme. The theme of the conference is INNOVATE.INTERGATE. Best practice orthopaedic manipulative therapy provides INNOVATIVE, unique, personalised management of the client by INTEGRATING techniques and approaches. The Conference will showcase the latest science and the clinical integration of this science for best practice patient outcomes.

It's time for us to celebrate the huge advancements that have been made in physiotherapy and those that are yet to come as we continue to **INNOVATE.INTERGATE**.

**Registrations will open in late October 2019!**

**ABSTRACT SUBMISSION is now open, and all paper, poster and masterclass submissions should reach the Scientific Committee by 16 December 2019.**

For all the information on the Conference, abstracts and registration:

<https://ifomptconference.org/>



**Asian Confederation of  
Orthopaedic Manipulative  
Physical Therapy congress  
2019 TOKYO**

The future of manual physical  
therapy in Asia




