

IFOMPT Standards (2008)

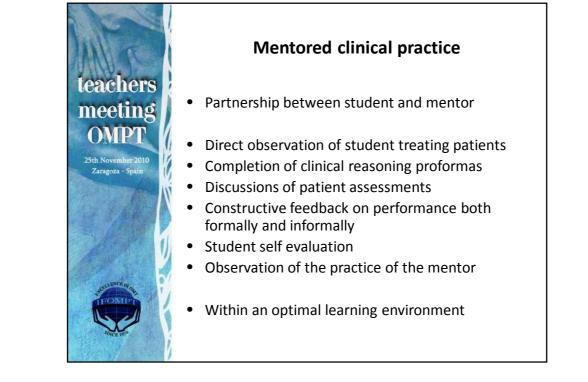
## Mentored clinical practice

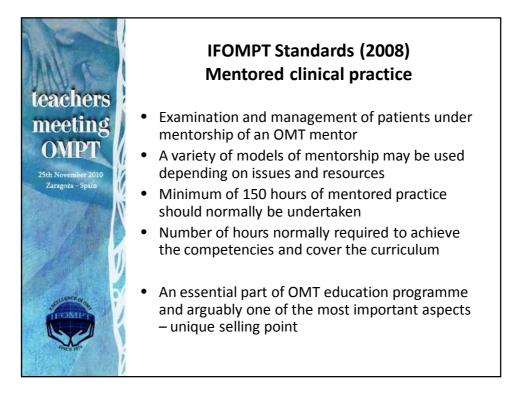
teachers meeting

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- Mentoring is a transformational process that seeks to help individuals develop and use knowledge (manual skills and clinical reasoning within an evidence based framework) to enhance practice.
- It is a professional dialogue that encourages reflection and personal development, signposting mentees to other sources of help as required.

(Bayley 2004)

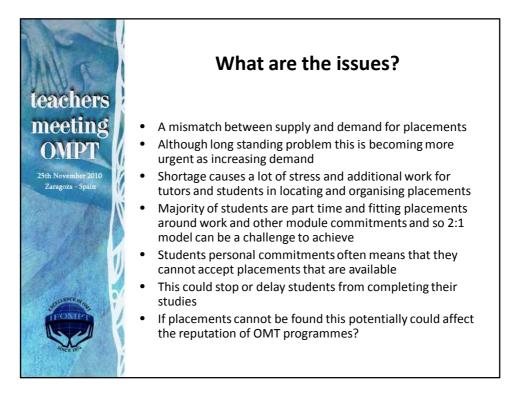


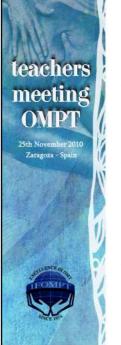


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## Reason for selection of this topic

- To date in the UK, normal practice for students to have one or two clinical placements for 3-4 weeks full time (or over a longer period part time) at a private practice or hospital clinic anywhere in UK
- Usually in a 1:1 or 2:1 ratio (Moore 2003)
- Increasing challenge in being able to identify sufficient clinical placements due to a national shortage
  - Increasing numbers of students wishing to undertake specialist OMT study
  - Increasing pressures in workplace and change in working practices makes it more difficult for OMT mentors to provide placements
  - plans for a database to share placement capacity centrally across the UK has not been successful





## Take home messages

- Mentorship is crucial but traditional models may not be sustainable
- How can we address this to ensure we can continue to meet IFOMPT standards?
- Are there other models of OMT mentorship that could be considered
  - work based
  - independent study
  - distance learning/on line support?
- Do we need to further define/redefine clinical mentorship while not losing the uniqueness and value of clinical mentorship?

