PRACTITIONER INFORMATION SHEET

Digital collection of Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs) in osteopathic practice.

WHO IS DOING THE RESEARCH?
This research is being conducted by Osteopathy Australia, the peak body representing the interests of osteopaths and osteopathy as a profession in Australia.

WHAT IS THIS RESEARCH ABOUT?
This pilot project aims to assess the feasibility of digitally collecting Patient Reported Outcome Measure (PROM) data from patients receiving osteopathic treatment.

The project will also assess the ability to onboard practices/practitioners, and patients in the process of digitally collecting PROMs data, the viability of Physitrack to collect outcome scores, compliance levels in the private practice setting, and the ability to export de-identified data in an appropriate format to Osteopathy Australia.

This project has received ethics approval from the Victoria University Human Research Ethics Committee (VUHREC).

WHY HAVE I BEEN INVITED AND WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS RESEARCH?
You have been invited to participate as a practising osteopath who can utilise PROMs in your practice. (Before participating in this research, please check the eligibility criteria below).

This project is significant as it is designed to drive quality improvement and innovation in the osteopathic profession. Patient-reported outcome data is becoming increasingly important in demonstrating the effectiveness of healthcare. Currently, this data is collected ad hoc in clinical practice, and there is no uniform digitised process for collecting and reporting on it in private practice. The data collected also has the potential to boost research about the effectiveness of osteopathic interventions and will help advocate for osteopathic services as an effective evidence-based practice.

FUNDING.
This project is funded by Osteopathy Australia. It is acknowledged that approximately 80% of osteopaths in Australia are consenting members of Osteopathy Australia.

What is the design of this project?
The project is a non-intervention exploratory pilot study.

WHO CAN TAKE PART IN THE STUDY?

Inclusion Criteria

- Australian osteopaths - Must be registered with AHPRA
- Age 18 and over
- English Fluency

Exclusion Criteria

- Osteopaths who have current conditions on their AHPRA registration

WHAT DOES MY PARTICIPATION INVLOVE?

The project is designed to not interfere with routine clinical practice. Participation in PROMs data collection will enable you to track your patient's progress and easily report patient outcomes to third-party payers. Participation in this research will involve signing up to the Physitrack digital PROMs collection platform and providing consent to participate in the study (done via the app). Practitioners will then receive training on how to use the Physitrack platform. Osteopaths will then be responsible for recruiting patients and gaining patient consent. You will then need to assign PROMs for patients to complete. Data will automatically be de-identified and exported to Osteopathy Australia. Please note, if you are not already using the Physitrack platform, you will be required to sign up for the platform for the duration of your participation in the trial and must also cover the cost of your subscription for that time (which will be at a discounted rate). You will also be asked to complete a short feedback survey at the end of the trial.

ARE THERE ANY RISKS/INCONVENIENCE?

There is little if any risks. No harm is foreseen in your taking part in the study. While assigning PROMs will not interfere with your usual care, providing information about the study to patients and onboarding of patients may take up approximately 5-10 min of your consultation time.

What patients are eligible to be participants in this project?

English-speaking patients aged over 18 years of age with a knee, hip, or back condition are eligible and can be asked to participate in this project.

What PROMs will patients be assigned?

HOOS12, RMDQ (or OMPQ10), and KOOS12 to assess individuals with hip, back, and knee conditions, respectively.

If a patient consents to be a participant, what are the risks and benefits?

There are no direct risks. Benefits may include that Osteopathy Australia/the participating osteopaths gain a better understanding of how to collect PROMs electronically. Such research could also lead to a better understanding of the effectiveness of osteopathic interventions. Collecting PROMs will also enable you as the practitioner to track your patients' progress and easily report patient outcomes to third-party payers.

How will we seek patient consent?
After being recruited by their osteopath and receiving the patient information sheet, patients will give verbal consent to their osteopath who will then assign the patient the relevant PROM. Patients will then be prompted to consent formally via the app before the PROM is completed and information can be collected. Consent is recorded via the Physitrack platform. The patient can withdraw their consent at any time.

What patients will I be asking to participate?
All eligible patients with knee, hip, and back complaints can be asked to participate as there will be no change to standard care.

How will information for the project be collected?
The project uses existing data collection processes from the Physitrack platform. De-identified information about patients who have consented to participate will be sent electronically to Osteopathy Australia and stored on password-protected servers at Osteopathy Australia.

What information will be collected?	**Detail**
Practitioner characteristics/demographic measures	Age/year of birth, gender, practice postcode
Patient characteristics/demographic measures	Age/year of birth, gender, condition
Encounter/contact indices	Date that PROM score was collected
PROM tools and measures	KOOS12 – numerical scores HOOS12 – numerical scores RMDQ – numerical scores

DO I HAVE TO TAKE PART IN THIS RESEARCH PROJECT?
Participation in this study is voluntary. It is completely up to you whether or not you decide to take part. If you decide not to participate, or to withdraw from the study, it will not affect your relationship with the researchers or the organisation running the study.

WHAT IF I WITHDRAW FROM THIS RESEARCH PROJECT?
If you wish to withdraw from the study once it has started, you can do so at any time without having to give a reason, by contacting Dr Shamona Eaves on (02) 9410 0099 or seaves@osteopathy.org.au. If you withdraw from the study, your information and your patient's information will be removed, and you will not be contacted about this research again.

CONFIDENTIALITY
By signing the consent form, you consent to the researcher collecting and using your information for the purpose of this research project. All information will be treated confidentially and will be de-identified.

It is anticipated that the results of this research will be published and/or presented in a variety of forums. In any publication and/or presentation, information will be provided in such a way that you cannot be identified.

WHAT IF I HAVE ANY QUERIES OR CONCERNS?

If you have any queries or concerns about the study that you think I can help you with, please feel free to contact Dr Shamona Eaves, Ph: (02) 9410 0099, Email: seaves@osteopathy.org.au.

NOTE:

Any queries about your participation in this project may be directed to the Chief Investigator listed above. If you have any queries or complaints about the way you have been treated, you may contact the Ethics Secretary, Victoria University Human Research Ethics Committee, Office for Research, Victoria University, PO Box 14428, Melbourne, VIC, 8001, email researchethics@vu.edu.au or phone (03) 9919 4781 or 4461.