



Osteopathic Practice Standards Pocket Guide



The four themes of the Osteopathic Practice Standards:

Theme A: Communication and patient partnership

Theme B: Knowledge, skills and performance

Theme C: Safety and quality in practice

Theme D: Professionalism

Remember, you need to link your CPD to these four themes.

Theme A: Communication and patient partnership

A1 You must listen to patients and respect their individuality, concerns and preferences. You must be polite and considerate with patients and treat them with dignity and courtesy.

A2 You must work in partnership with patients, adapting your communication approach to take into account their particular needs and supporting patients in expressing to you what is important to them.

A3 You must give patients the information they want or need to know in a way they can understand.

A4 You must receive valid consent for all aspects of examination and treatment and record this as appropriate.

A5 You must support patients in caring for themselves to improve and maintain their own health and wellbeing.

A6 You must respect your patients' dignity and modesty.

A7 You must make sure your beliefs and values do not prejudice your patients' care.

Theme B: Knowledge, skills and performance

B1 You must have and be able to apply sufficient and appropriate knowledge and skills to support your work as an osteopath.

B2 You must recognise and work within the limits of your training and competence.

B3 You must keep your professional knowledge and skills up to date.

B4 You must be able to analyse and reflect upon information related to your practice in order to enhance patient care.

Theme C: Safety and quality in practice

- C1** You must be able to conduct an osteopathic patient evaluation and deliver safe, competent and appropriate osteopathic care to your patients.
- C2** You must ensure that your patient records are comprehensive, accurate, legible and completed promptly.
- C3** You must respond effectively and appropriately to requests for the production of written material and data.
- C4** You must take action to keep patients from harm.
- C5** You must ensure that your practice is safe, clean and hygienic, and complies with health and safety legislation.
- C6** You must be aware of your wider role as a healthcare professional to contribute to enhancing the health and wellbeing of your patients.

Theme D: Professionalism

- D1** You must act with honesty and integrity in your professional practice.
- D2** You must establish and maintain clear professional boundaries with patients, and must not abuse your professional standing and the position of trust which you have as an osteopath.
- D3** You must be open and honest with patients, fulfilling your duty of candour.
- D4** You must have a policy in place to manage patient complaints, and respond quickly and appropriately to any that arise.
- D5** You must respect your patients' rights to privacy and confidentiality, and maintain and protect patient information effectively.
- D6** You must treat patients fairly and recognise diversity and individual values. You must comply with equality and anti-discrimination law.
- D7** You must uphold the reputation of the profession at all times through your conduct, in and out of the workplace.
- D8** You must be honest and trustworthy in your professional and personal financial dealings.
- D9** You must support colleagues and cooperate with them to enhance patient care.
- D10** You must consider the contributions of other health and care professionals, to optimise patient care.

- D11** You must ensure that any problems with your own health do not affect your patients. You must not rely on your own assessment of the risk to patients.
- D12** You must inform the GOsC as soon as is practicable of any significant information regarding your conduct and competence, cooperate with any requests for information or investigation and comply with all regulatory requirements.

Use the Standards as your guide to good practice.

Read the Standards, together with accompanying guidance, on our dedicated mobile-friendly website: standards.osteopathy.org.uk



General
Osteopathic
Council

General Osteopathic Council
Osteopathy House
176 Tower Bridge Road
London SE1 3LU

Email: info@osteopathy.org.uk
Tel: +44 (0)20 7357 6655
www.osteopathy.org.uk