

Online Submission Form - Model of Care for the Management of Low Back Pain



Thank you for your submission on this consultation.
We have received the following information from you.



Agreement

Agreement: I have read the SIRA submission procedure *

Your Details

Can we publish
your submission?: Yes, with these details:

Name of
organisation or
individual making this
submission: Osteopathy Australia

Authorised
delegate/contact person: Stephanie Santos

Position: Policy and Advocacy Manager

Organisation: Osteopathy Australia

Submission Details

Upload your
submission (optional): Osteopathy-Australia_SIRA_low-back-pain-submission-September-2023.pdf, type application/pdf, 120.1 KB

Are you
responding on
behalf of an
organisation or
as an
individual?:

What is your
industry or
profession?:

Do you have
any known
conflicts of
interest in
making this
submission?: Yes - provide details below

If yes, describe
the conflict of

interest.:

What is your
feedback on the
draft
guidelines?:

Osteopathy Australia welcomes the opportunity to provide additional feedback on the implementation of the model of care for the management of low back pain – summary (summary model). Osteopathy Australia recommends that the model of care provides more inclusive language that acknowledges the broader scopes of allied health professions. This is instead of providing a list of singular allied health professions. We are aware that some professions may prefer specific mention; however, quality care or models of care should focus on knowledge, scope, and competencies, not professional titles. Highlighting a single allied health profession insinuates that allied health professionals work siloed; it does not acknowledge existing overlapping scopes of practice or competencies; collaborative multidisciplinary care, or consumer access and equity. Allied health professionals are by nature collaborative and work as a part of a multidisciplinary team to provide patient-centered care. Language that is more inclusive and acknowledges the overlap in scopes and care within the wider allied health community provides a more accurate depiction of the way in which allied health professionals work.

Osteopathy Australia's supplementary submission on SIRA's model of care for the management of low back pain – summary

Osteopathy and Osteopathy Australia

Osteopathy Australia is the peak body representing the interests of osteopaths, osteopathy as a profession, and consumer's rights to access osteopathic services. Our core work is liaising with state and federal government, and all other statutory agencies, professional bodies, and private industry regarding professional, educational, legislative, and regulatory issues. Most registered osteopaths are members of Osteopathy Australia.

Osteopaths in Australia are university-qualified allied health practitioners registered with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA). Osteopaths complete either a dual bachelor or bachelor and master's qualification covering functions of anatomy, biomechanics, human movement, the musculoskeletal and neurological systems as well as clinical intervention approaches which are all underpinned by a biopsychosocial management approach.

Over 70% of consumers attending an osteopath are presenting with neck or back pain.

Recommendations

Osteopathy Australia welcomes the opportunity to provide additional feedback on the implementation of the model of care for the management of low back pain – summary (summary model).

Osteopathy Australia recommends that the model of care provides more inclusive language that acknowledges the broader scopes of allied health professions. This is instead of providing a list of singular allied health professions. We are aware that some professions may prefer specific mention; however, quality care or models of care should focus on knowledge, scope, and competencies, not professional titles. Highlighting a single allied health profession insinuates that allied health professionals work siloed; it does not acknowledge existing overlapping scopes of practice or competencies; collaborative multidisciplinary care, or consumer access and equity.

Allied health professionals are by nature collaborative and work as a part of a multidisciplinary team to provide patient-centered care. Language that is more inclusive and acknowledges the overlap in scopes and care within the wider allied health community provides a more accurate depiction of the way in which allied health professionals work.

Osteopathy Australia would again like to thank SIRA for the opportunity for consultation. For any additional information or comment, please reach out to us via phone at [REDACTED] or by email at [REDACTED]