



# G.O.C.C. ONTARIO SOCIETY

## ONTARIO OSTEOPATHIC REGISTRY

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### SCOPE OF PRACTICE

#### **A registered Osteopath works with one of the following:**

1. Evaluation - Direct Examination & Treatment
2. Differential Diagnosis - Obtained in writing or by phone
3. Direct Referral from a Medical Doctor, Naturopath, Doctorate of Natural Medicine® (DNM®), Dentist, Chiropractor, or Podiatrist
4. Or a combination of any of the above

#### **Practice of Osteopathy Defined:**

Osteopathic practice means the evaluation of persons with connective tissue disorders, which include injuries of the musculo-skeletal, circulatory and nervous systems, through the use of Osteopathic case history and palpation or treatment of persons by the use of connective tissue manipulation, therapeutic and rehabilitative exercise, postural counseling, nutritional counseling, and the use of the effective properties of physical measures of heat, cold, light, water, radiant energy, electricity, sound and air, and assistive devices for the purpose of preventing, correcting, or alleviating a physical disability.

Osteopathic practice includes, but is not limited to, the treatment of contractures, muscle spasms, inflammation, scar tissue formation, adhesions, lesions, laxity, hypotonicity, rigidity, structural imbalance, bruising, contusions, muscular atrophy, and partial separation of connective tissue fibers.

Osteopathic practice also includes: (a) performance of specialized tests and measurements, (b) administration of specialized treatment procedures, (c) interpretation of referrals from licensed physicians, dentists, podiatrists, etc, (d) establishment and modification of Osteopathic treatment programs, and (e) supervision or teaching of Osteopathy.

Osteopathic manual practices does not include radiology, surgery, pharmacology, invasive diagnostic testing, or determination of a differential diagnosis; provided, however, the limitation on determining a differential diagnosis shall not in any manner limit a registered Osteopath from performing an evaluation within his scope of practice. A registered Osteopath is not a physio-therapist and shall not hold himself out to be qualified to provide physiotherapy services unless he is educated and otherwise licensed to perform this service. A registered Osteopath shall refer to a licensed physician, dentist, or podiatrist any patient whose medical condition should, at the time of evaluation or treatment, be determined to be beyond the scope of practice of the Osteopath.