



DO-TOUCH.NET

Insider

September 2016

From the *director*



Dear Colleagues,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and that your summer has been full of activity, fun, and some rest. This summer we have been very active within DO-Touch.NET at the A.T. Still Research Institute and I am excited to tell you about our work.

In July, we hosted the first Advancing Skills in Osteopathy (ASO) CME course for DO-Touch.NET members. In previous years, advanced palpation training was part of the DO-Touch.NET annual meeting. This year, due to network growth, we held the annual membership meeting prior to the AAO Convocation and expanded the palpation training into a full ASO course. Clinicians from across the North American continent attended this dynamic, lab-intensive course and DO-Touch.NET members received 20 hours of CME at no cost. Please see the following page for more details about the program.

For several years, we have wanted to expand DO-Touch.NET's research into the field of pediatrics. During the March 2016 AAO Convocation, a group of members expressed a desire to begin this research endeavor. Since then we have held monthly video conferences to facilitate this process and in May, DO-Touch.NET members formed the Pediatric Research Alliance (PRA) within the Network. As a result of sharing experiences, publications, electronic medical record screen shots, and information about potential outcome measures and methodologies, a direction for research has been developed and instrumentation has been purchased for pilot testing as a potential measure of cranial morphology. This is an exciting and very important development within the Network. For more details regarding the PRA, see page 3 of this newsletter and contact our Network Manager, Lisa Norman, if you are interested in getting involved in OMM pediatric research.

We also hosted four Clinician Researcher Development Program interns this summer. In addition to their independent research, they participated in the double entry of data collected from participant questionnaires from our utilization and effectiveness study for quality assurance. This is an extensive data set and while much was accomplished, we are not expecting the data to be fully cleaned and ready for analysis until the end of the year.

The adverse event study continues to be in the data collection phase. The summer unfortunately brought more rest than activity with this study. While we have met our goal of recruiting 50 members to participate in the study, the patient recruitment and participant completion rate has been too slow. Consequently, we have requested an extension from our funders, the American Academy of Osteopathy, so we can complete this study. It is critical that all active members renew their commitment to complete their part of this study. In the next few weeks, we will be holding four very important webinars to identify and help eliminate barriers that may be delaying the study completion. **Please do everything you can to attend only ONE of these sessions!** Dates are listed on the back of this newsletter. Individual dates will be arranged if you are unable to attend one of the group sessions.

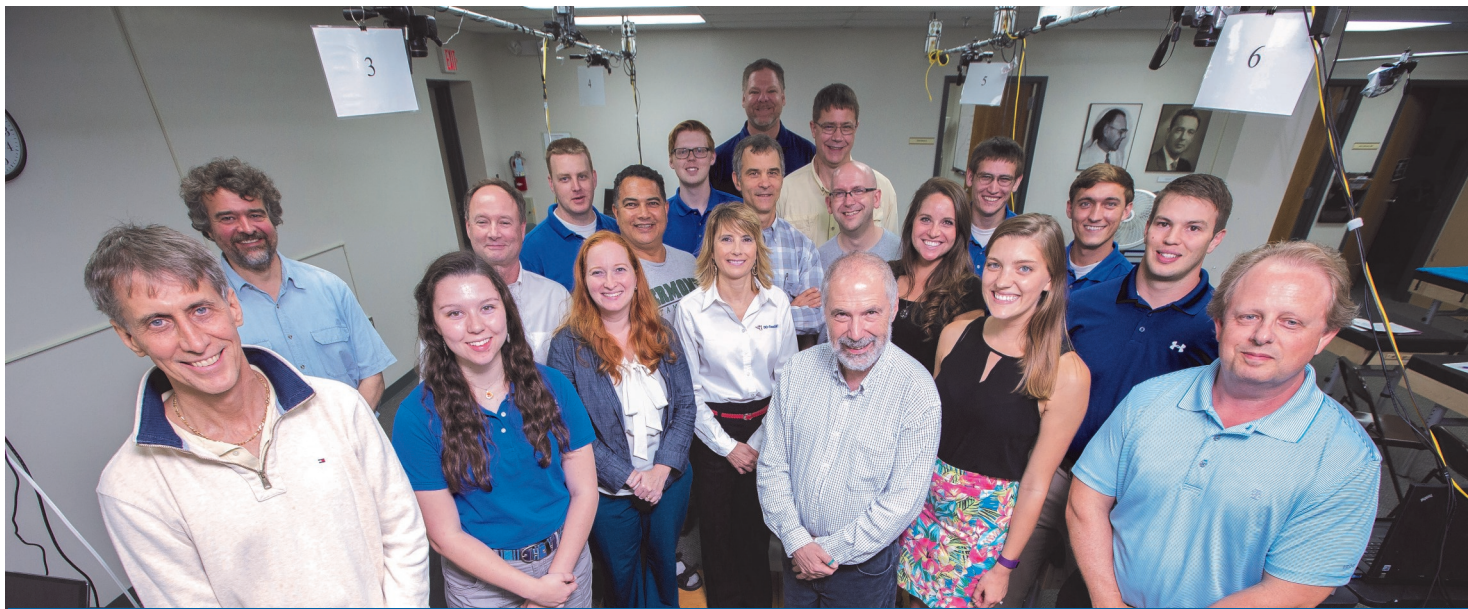
Best Regards,

Brian F. Degenhardt, D.O.



DO-Touch.NET

A Network of Doctors Treating with OMM



2016 DO-Touch.NET ASO Participants (DO-Touch.NET Members, Research Support, & ATsRI Team)



The DO-Touch.NET ASO Course offered individualized palpatory skill development training and is the most scientifically advanced training in palpation worldwide. Participants learned about the accuracy of localizing pelvic landmarks, evaluated their diagnostic consistency (intra-examiner reliability) and identified factors to help sustain high levels of inter-examiner reliability.

Attendees provided the following feedback about the program:

- “Excellent consciousness raising experience.”
- “This sort of educational experience is vastly different from anything I have done before, and will help me greatly in further refining my palpatory skills.”
- “I can’t tell you what a positive confidence building experience it is! I feel so much better about my palpation abilities.”

This program will be offered to DO-Touch.NET members again next summer. More information will be available during the AAO Convocation and in future newsletters. If you are interested, please contact Lisa Norman (lnorman@atsu.edu), Network Manager, to be placed on an advance sign-up sheet for dates and additional information. Space is limited, so early sign-up is advised.

ASO Snapshots

DO-Touch.NET Pediatric Research Alliance

Until now, DO-Touch.NET research projects have focused on the adult patient seeking OMT. However, since OMT is often used effectively in the pediatric population, we are establishing the DO-Touch.NET Pediatric Research Alliance. This team of Network members has extensive knowledge and expertise in manipulation and pediatrics. Inaugural members include the following:

Ali M. Carine, DO, Integrative Pediatrics, Columbus, OH

Dr. Carine provides comprehensive, integrative primary care for children. Her practice provides a medical home to many children with special needs, such as autism. However, Dr. Carine's passion lies in the power that integrative, osteopathic care has in the prevention of many illnesses that plague American children today.

Shawn Centers, DO, MH, FACOP, Osteopathic Center for Children, San Diego, CA

Dr. Centers specializes in integrative medicine and osteopathic pediatrics. He is an internationally known expert in osteopathic pediatrics, nutrition, and herbal medicines as they apply to children. Dr. Centers is the founding President of The American Academy of Pediatric Osteopathy. Dr. Centers has exceptional skill and knowledge in applying osteopathic approaches, herbal medicine, and treatments that address the whole child and in developing a comprehensive health care plan. Dr. Centers has extensive experience with treating children who have rare, difficult to treat, developmental and neurological disorders.

Brian Degenhardt, DO, CONM, A.T. Still Research Institute and Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine, Kirksville, MO

Dr. Degenhardt is the Assistant Vice President for Osteopathic Research at A.T. Still University of Health Sciences and Director of the A.T. Still Research Institute located on the campus of the Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine. In this capacity, he oversees numerous areas of research, particularly directing research in the areas of palpatory diagnosis and OMT. Based on his research experience, he has developed the Advancing Skills in Osteopathy Program, a program offered to DOs globally at all stages of training that utilizes state-of-the-art instrumentation to provide objective feedback to advance individuals palpatory skills.

Mary Ann Morelli Haskell, DO, FACOP, Integrative Osteopathic Pediatrics, Coronado, CA

Dr. Mary Anne Morelli Haskell partners with parents to keep children healthy and find answers for health problems and developmental issues. Dr. Mary Anne has worked extensively with children with many common health issues including chronic ear infections, asthma, allergies, ADHD, autism, torticollis, plagiocephaly, cerebral palsy, various genetic syndromes, developmental delay, language delay, digestive issues and sports injuries. She is a contributing author to the *Foundations of Osteopathic Medicine* 2nd and 3rd editions.

Hollis King, DO, PhD, Osteopathic Medical Associates, San Diego, CA

Dr. King is an active clinical researcher highly experienced in osteopathic manipulative treatment. He has published research on the benefits of prenatal osteopathic treatment, the impact of osteopathic treatment on immune system function, and research supportive of cranial bone motion. Dr. King was awarded the Physician of the Year by the Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons of California in 2002.

Miriam Mills, MD, FAAP, Oklahoma State University and Young People's Clinic, Tulsa, OK

Dr. Mills has maintained a general pediatric practice since 1983. Following a car accident for which she received OMT, she began learning Osteopathy in the Cranial Field in 1991, and later attended the OMM classes at Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences, where she now also teaches part-time, considering herself a "born-again" osteopath. She has conducted clinical research on the effect of OMT on recurrent otitis media on newborns, and on the autonomic nervous system. Her work has been published in numerous journals and in the textbooks *Foundations of Osteopathic Medicine* and *Integrative Pediatrics*. Her proudest honor is to give the yearly introductory lecture/lab to the first year medical students at OSU on osteopathic touch.

Meghna Shah, DO, ONMM +1 at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, Philadelphia, PA

Dr. Meghna Shah earned her DO degree from Nova Southeastern University in Florida. Dr. Shah went on to complete her residency training in Pediatrics at Good Samaritan Hospital Medical Center, where she incorporated an OMM curriculum into her Pediatric Residency program. The past year she worked as a Pediatric Hospitalist at St. Charles Hospital in Port Jefferson, New York, and is currently pursuing an Osteopathic Neuromusculoskeletal Medicine +1 at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in Pennsylvania.

Kim Wolf, DO, Ambulatory Pediatrics, Columbus, OH

Dr. Wolf has been with the Nationwide Children's Hospital since 2013, serving in the ambulatory pediatrics section which uses a multidisciplinary focus to provide comprehensive, continuous, and convenient care for children ages 0-21. She has expertise with patient/caregiver satisfaction surveys and a special interest in the parent relationship in healthcare.

Additional contributors include the DO-Touch.NET Coordinating Center and the Osteopathic Center San Diego.

To date, the following research interests have been identified:

- Structural Variants, Clinically Significant Correlates, and OMT,
- Parent/Caregiver Satisfaction, and
- Use, Effectiveness, and Safety of OMT in the Pediatric Population.

If your research interest is in pediatrics, please let us know if you would like more information about becoming a member of the Pediatric Research Alliance and the collaborative opportunities available.

Patient-Reported Adverse Events (AE) from Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment Study

We have made a few minor adjustments since starting the AE study and wanted to review a few of the office and management procedures for the study.

- Since most sites/clinicians are averaging a 50% survey return rate, we are requesting that each participating clinician distribute all 40 survey packets that were included in their “study in a box” and then contact the Coordinating Center. Do not stop at 20, but continue to hand out all packets. This will eliminate some communication between the Coordinating Center and research sites and should speed up the completion process.
- Each site should establish a day for each clinician to begin participant recruitment. From that point forward (daily), a survey should be given to any interested patient who has received OMT until all 40 have been distributed. This process should only vary in special circumstances (e.g., research coordinator not available every day, OMT patients only seen on certain days of the week).
- Once all 40 packets have been distributed, contact Lisa Norman (lnorman@atsu.edu), DO-Touch.NET Network Manager. She will then let you know the total number of packets returned and update you on the OMT Documentations Forms that need to be completed and any participant information needed for compensation. She will also forward more packets if necessary to finalize your 20 completed surveys.

*****WEBINAR DATES FOR OMT AE STUDY *****

September 14, 2016, 8:00 — 9:00 AM (Central)
September 14, 2016, 4:00 — 5:00 PM (Central)
September 15, 2016, 7:00 — 8:00 AM (Central)
September 15, 2016, 12:30 — 1:30 PM (Central)

Those DO-Touch.NET members who are participating in the “Patient-Reported Adverse Events from Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment” study will receive a Zoom invitation to each one of these webinar sessions. Please try to accept one of these invitations and attend the meeting. This meeting will address any problems sites might be having with participant recruitment or study administration and will review any study protocol and procedures updates.



German Collaboration

The DO-Touch.NET Coordinating Center has been invited to present and host a booth at the International VOD Congress being held in Bad Nauheim, Germany, September 30-October 2, 2016. This invitation will give us the opportunity to increase network membership, expand AE Study participation, and provide a points-based (CME) ASO program to our German affiliates.

We thank them for this opportunity!

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members, meetings,
and more.



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