

50 Years of History

Austria

Name of organisation: Umbrella organization OEVOMT (Austrian Association of Orthopedic Manual Therapy) consists of two specialist groups representing Maitland Concept (OEVMPPT) and Kaltenborn Concept (OEGOMT)

Year organisation started: OEVMPPT 1995, OEGOMT 1984

Member of IFOMPT since: 2000

Key influencers of OMPT through the years: OMPT training has been significantly influenced by the two concepts, Maitland and Kaltenborn and their protagonists. Since the installation of the program at the University for Continuing Education Krems, corresponding scientific aspects have been incorporated into the program.

Development over the years: The first OMPT training courses were held in 1996 as community-based programs.

In 2004, dedicated physiotherapists from the two manual therapy organizations developed a cross-concept, university degree course. This OMPT course has been run successfully since 2006 as a Master's degree program at the University for Continuing Education Krems. Graduates of the program receive a university degree as "Master of Science in Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy".

Any major changes or challenges in the last 50 years: Over the past 25 years, OMPT training in Austria has developed into a postgraduate university study. This transformation to a university-based postgraduate course was a major challenge, especially in harmonizing the requirements of the university with the education standards of IFOMPT.

Current status and challenges: The study program in Krems is currently the only active OMPT program in Austria and is carried out as a cross-concept study program in accordance with IFOMPT standards. The 3rd international monitoring process is also challenging.

The future of the organisation: It is becoming increasingly difficult to recruit enough participants for this time-consuming and cost-intensive training.

It is therefore very important that the IFOMPT supports the member countries in promoting manual therapy and emphasizes the unique selling points of this qualification, such as mutual recognition.

As a member organization, each country is obliged to play an active role in developing the IFOMPT.
