
50 Years of History

Ireland

Name of organisation: Chartered Physiotherapists in Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy (CPMT), clinical interest group of the Irish Society of Chartered Physiotherapists (ISCP).

Year organisation started: 1984

Member of IFOMPT since: 2008

Key influencers of OMPT through the years:

CPMT began as ISCPMT, with its first meeting in 1984 attended by Geri Cleary, Eithne Fitzpatrick, Miriam Downey and Ann Willoughby. Evie Crowe completed manual therapy in Australia and taught workshops in Dublin in the late 70's early 80's. Jean Taylor completed Part 1 and 2 of the MACP training in 1979 and 1981. Other key influencers include Anne Blaney, Louise Wilson, Susan Quin, Helen French, Catherine Doody, Kieran O'Sullivan and Caitriona Cunningham.

Development over the years:

CPMT aims to lead and promote high standards of musculoskeletal physiotherapy in Ireland. We endeavor to improve communication, research and education, advocacy, finance and membership for physiotherapists providing musculoskeletal care. We have an active twitter account and encourage members to follow us for CPMT events and educational updates. We provide education at basic, intermediate and advanced level in musculoskeletal therapy for our members. In addition we provide education events for members of the public. We offer a number of research bursaries to our members for participation in research, presentation of research at conferences and attendance at educational events. In 2009, CPMT developed two tiers of membership. Level 1 members have a special interest in musculoskeletal physiotherapy but who do not hold a recognised post-graduate qualification and Level 2 members have completed an IFOMT recognised Manual Therapy Masters and are entitled to call themselves "Chartered Musculoskeletal Physiotherapists"

Major changes challenges in the last 50 years:

One challenge that has arisen is a pause on our current IFOMPT accredited program due to a difficulty with clinical placements. In addition, we face challenges in attendance at in person events post Covid-19.

Current status and challenges:

CPMT is the largest clinical interest group in the ISCP serving over 500 physiotherapists with an interest in musculoskeletal physiotherapy.

Future of the organization:

Adapting to changing nature of musculoskeletal practice with less focus on manual therapy. Staying contemporary and addressing the needs of Irish physiotherapists, as well as aligning with international best-practice and emerging/evolving evidence. Withstanding and responding to pressures in health system including development of Advanced Practice in Ireland and the important role that postgraduate (e.g. MSc) level training provides in developing advanced MSK diagnostic and management skills. Development of digital health and where it plays a role in management of MSK conditions
