

The Holographic Nature of Homeopathic Practice in Australia Reflected in a National Portrait

AIM

To measure contemporary homeopathic practice in Australia. In an innovative mixed methods study practice diversity and demographics across many clinics all over our continent were measured. Age, gender, nationality, location, main complaint, remedy were recorded for patients visiting their homeopath during an 8 week period Jan – Mar 2019. Characteristics of homeopaths were also recorded. Particular focus in this research investigated the demographics of children (0 – 18 years) visiting homeopaths. Project has human ethics approval HREC20181005.

Assumptions

Patients seen once a month
Homeopaths might be demoralised by Australian strategic attacks on profession
Obstacles to participation
- Practice activity levels
- IT access

Limitations

Treatment outcomes not assessed
Style/case taking model used not recorded
Homeopaths' years of practice and experience were not recorded.

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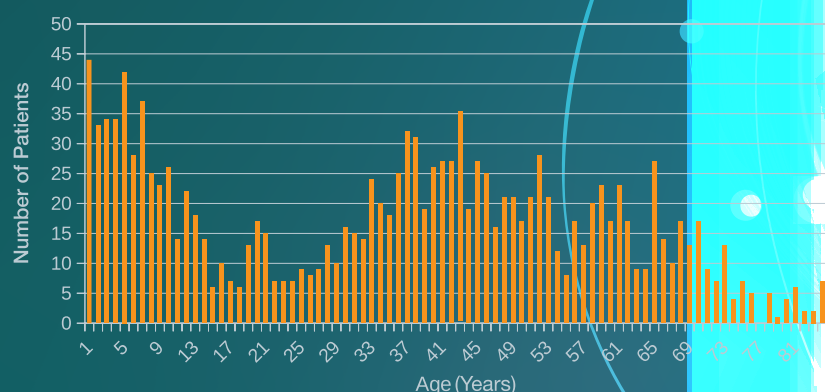
HomeoStats
New York 100710

METHOD

Homeopaths gave informed consent to participate before the survey period and informed consent was obtained from each patient prior to using their data. Each patient's main complaint was recorded using the International Classification of Primary Care 2 model (ICPC2) in the online data recording tool, HomeoStats. A total of three complaints could be recorded for each visit as well as remedy prescription. Homeopaths were provided with comprehensive information packs, weekly support messages and extensive online support to assist during the survey period. Patient demographics and case characteristics were recorded on the first visit. On a repeat visit, the main complaints and remedy prescriptions were recorded.

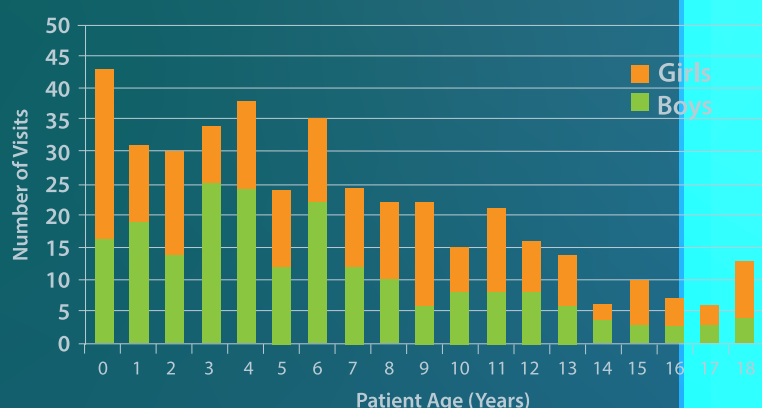
RESULTS

Figure 1: Age of Patients



Equal visits
of girls &
boys
 $\chi^2=0.00$

Figure 2: Visits of Girls and Boys



19 yrs >
75% women
25% men

FUTURE RESEARCH

Second survey:

- winter period
- include patient self-reflection measure (MYMOP2)
- evaluate remedy prescription

Expand initial data collection and include:

- highest education level (in any discipline)
- number of modalities practiced
- years of practice
- year major homeopathy qualification obtained
- name of homeopathy qualification
- style of homeopathy

Expand population of practitioners' eligibility

- naturopaths
- practicing homeopaths registered outside AroH

Homeopaths
59 women
6 men

RESULTS

Figure 3: Frequency of Visits to Homeopath for Patients 0 -18

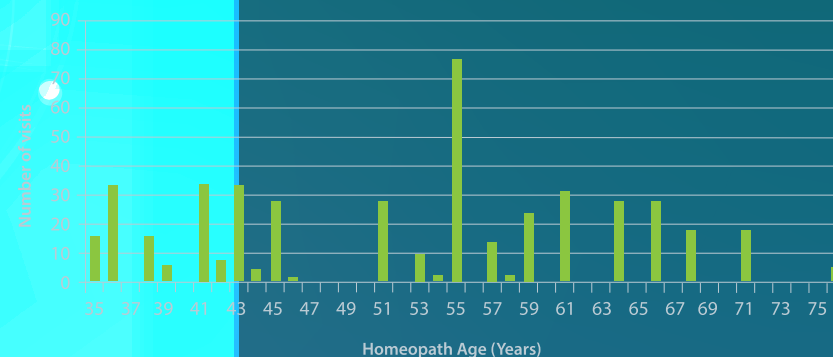
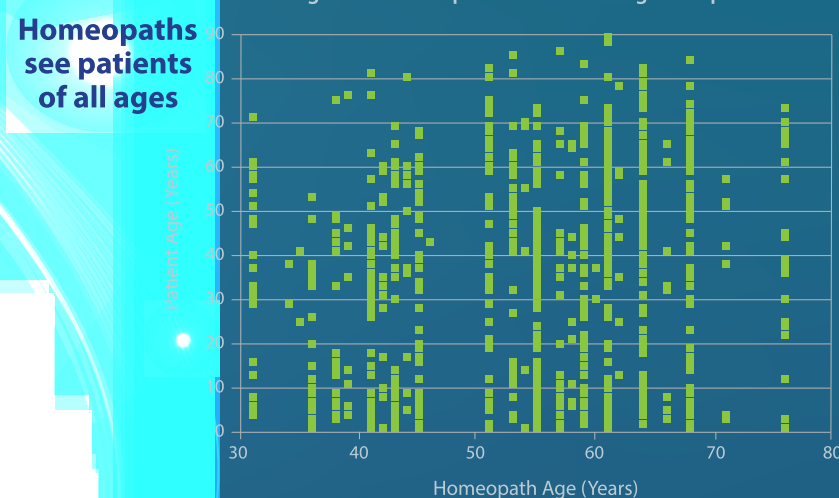


Figure 4: Homeopath and Patient Age Comparison



Homeopaths
see patients
of all ages

Table 1: Main Complaint Recorded for Children

Main Complaint	Age Range (Years)					Female	Male
	0-1	2-4	5-8	9-14	15-18		
Face	22	1	0	0	0	11	12
Gastro	8	17	7	6	3	18	23
General	10	11	12	15	5	21	32
Mind	3	23	41	18	14	53	46
Nose	1	9	0	5	0	9	6
Respiration	6	8	7	9	0	13	17
Skin	6	14	10	16	6	25	29
Other	37	11	13	17	5	30	19
Unknown	3	7	14	10	3	31	38
Total	96	101	104	96	36		

* numbers are visits made

Face
category
includes
teeth, gums,
lips, jaw

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