

# CLINICAL UNCERTAINTY IN OSTEOPATHIC PRACTICE AMONG INTERNSHIP STUDENTS: A SURVEY RESEARCH

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## Introduction

Clinical practice is an important component in osteopathic training programs. In internship practice, clinical uncertainty is a natural problem that must be faced by students during their academic career, but an inability to cope with this phenomenon can unnecessarily distress them.

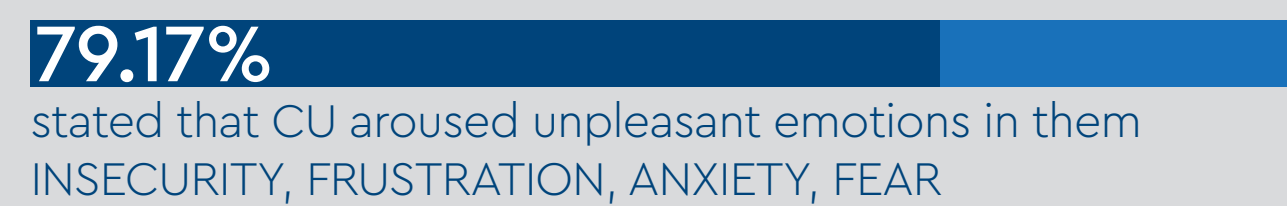
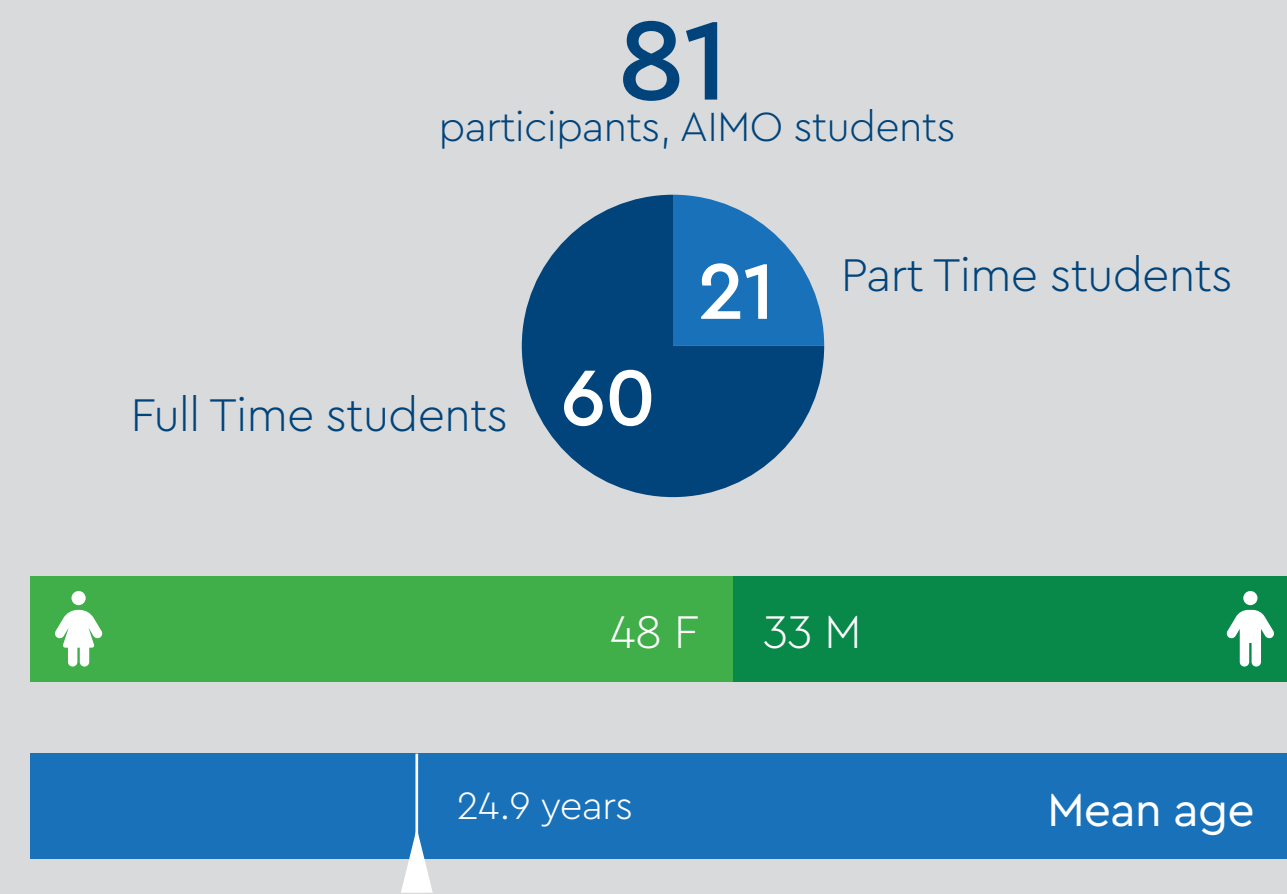
## Aim

The purpose of this study is to investigate through questionnaires how trainees experience and deal with clinical diagnostic uncertainty and how much differential diagnosis can help in the management of uncertainty and in the development of optimal clinical reasoning.

## Methods

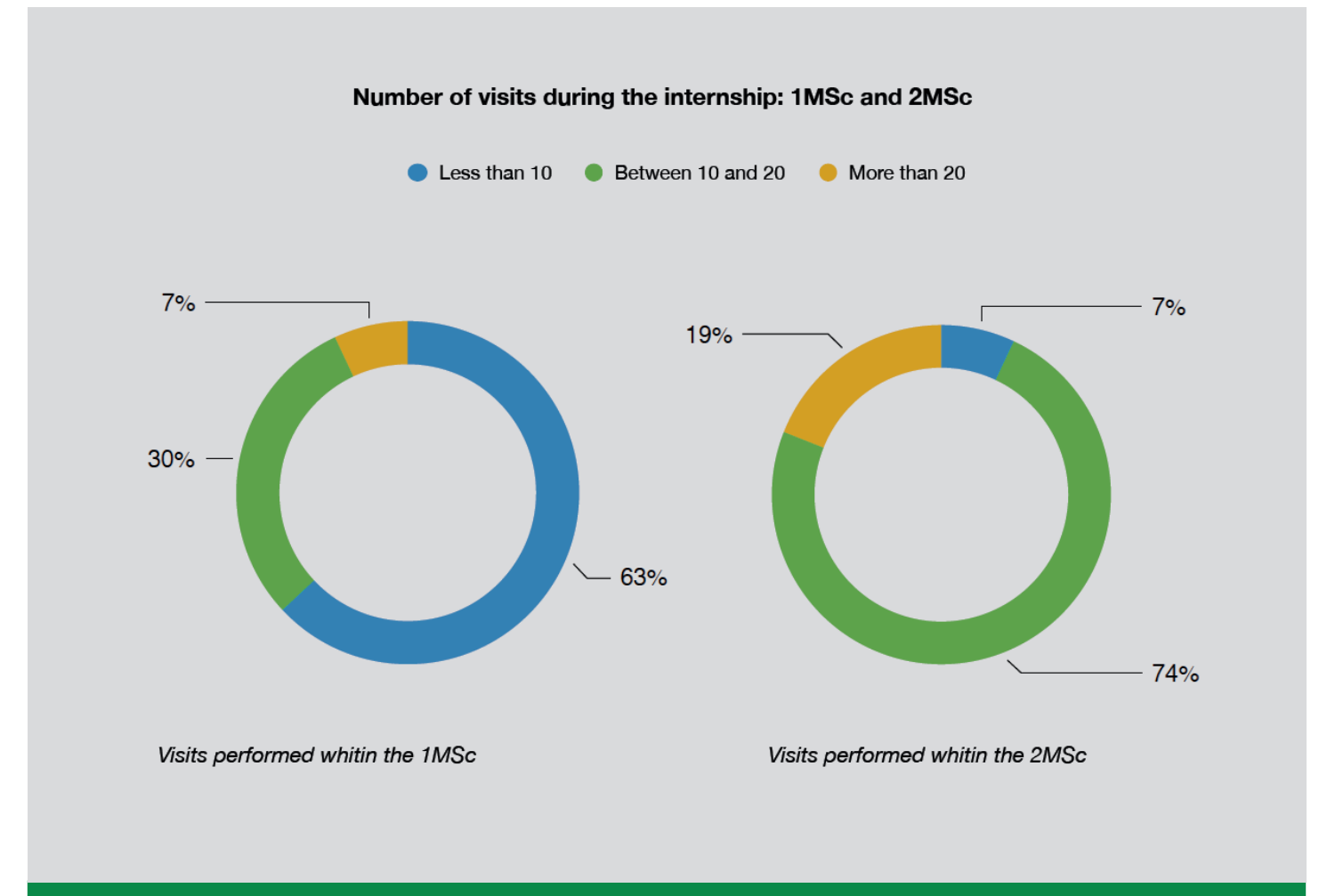
- ➔ Investigative research conducted through a questionnaire
- ➔ Administered online through Survey Monkey
- ➔ Sample: AIMO students (FT, PT)
- ➔ Four topics: training course, clinical experience, management of uncertainty and demographic information.

## RESULTS



- ➔ Clinical practice is to be considered a factor in favor of CU management: the greater the clinical experience of the students, the more cases dealt with, the more the degree of uncertainty will tend to decrease.

Chi-Quadro Test		P value
Experiencing of CU	Knowledge about Differential Diagnosis	0.93
	Stuies about CU in academic path	0.03*
	Clinical parctice Number of Visits	0.01* 1 MSc 0.83 23 MSc



## Conclusion

- ➔ The study showed that having taken courses in differential diagnosis is not enough to improve the management of clinical uncertainty, although students find this subject useful in dealing with clinical cases.
- ➔ Having discussed about CU during the academic career seems to favor the identification of CU itself. Those who know the subject will find it easier to experiment with it. This increases the possibility of learning to manage it. Universities should integrate lessons dedicated entirely to the argument of uncertainty.
- ➔ Clinical practice is to be considered a factor in favor of CU management: the greater the clinical experience of the students, the more cases dealt with, the more the degree of uncertainty will tend to decrease.

## Future Studies

Extend the survey to other academic realities as well.