

**General
Chiropractic
Council**



Annual registration report 2015

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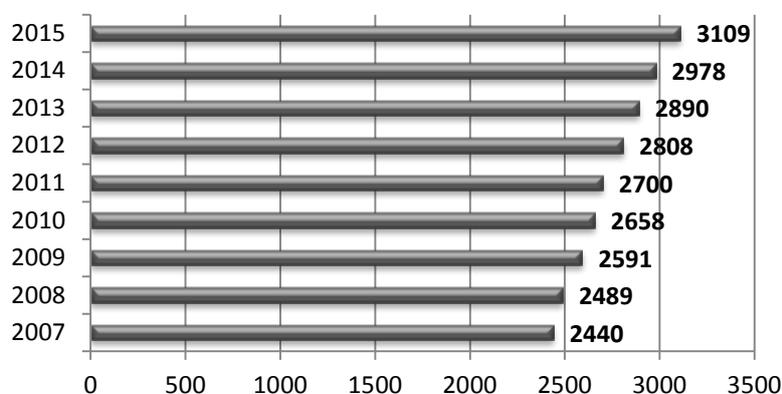
Report on the 2015 registration year

This report provides an overview of the work undertaken by the registrations department of the General Chiropractic Council (GCC) during the period from 1 January to 31 December 2015.

The Register

The Register of chiropractors opened in 1999 and since that time the GCC has registered over 4,300 chiropractors. As at 31 December 2015 there were 3,109 registered chiropractors, with 2,788 practising and 321 non-practising.

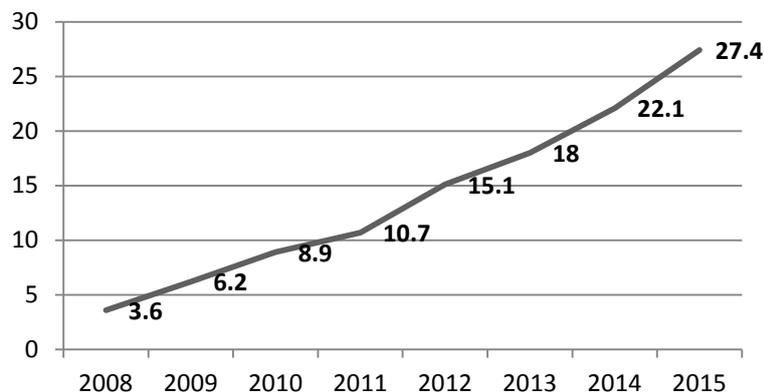
Figure 1 – total number of registrants at the end of each year since 2007



What this tells us

There has been a steady increase in the total number of registered chiropractors since 2007. With 669 more registrants at the end of 2015 than 2007, this means that on average the Register is increasing by around 84 registrants each calendar year.

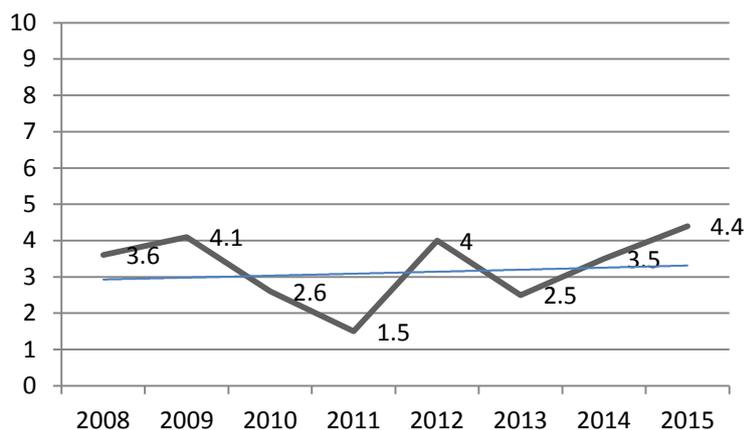
Figure 2 – accumulative percentage increase in registrant numbers since 31 December 2007



What does this tell us

The accumulative percentage increase on the 31 December 2007 figure of 2,440 is 27.4%. Given that the chiropractic profession in the UK is relatively small and the market is not saturated, there is further scope for growth in the profession and we should expect this trend to continue into the future.

Figure 3 – accumulative percentage increase in registrant numbers since 31 December 2007



What this tells us

The Register of Chiropractors grows annually on average between 3% and 3.5% as shown by the trend line in figure 3 above, although there has been a low of 1.5% and a high of 4.4% and if the trend continues we should expect to see the Register grow to in excess of 3,600 over the next five years.

Further consideration is given to the potential for growth of the Register on page 16 – Trends in initial registration figures.

New Registrants during 2015

An overview of 2015 new registrants

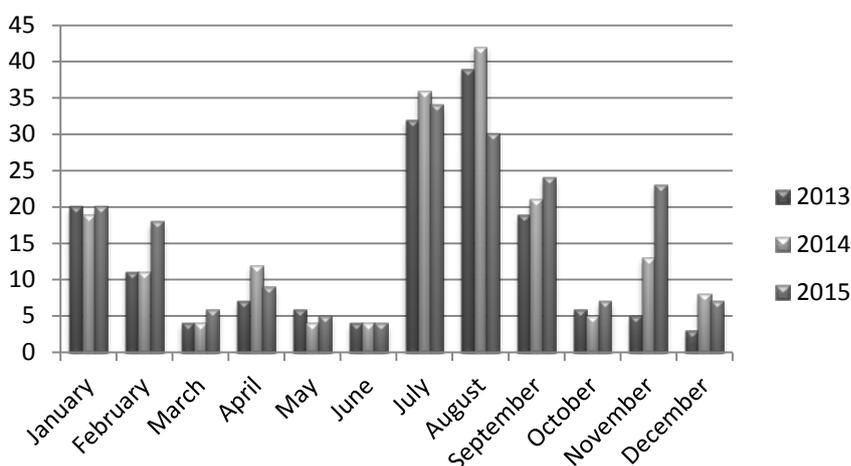
In total 187 new registrants joined the Register during 2015 representing an increase of 8 from 2014, when 179 were registered. The monthly split of new registrants was as follows:

Table I – number of new registrants by month from 2013 to 2015

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
2015	20	18	6	9	5	4	34	30	24	7	23	7
2014	19	11	4	12	4	4	36	42	21	5	13	8
2013	20	11	4	7	6	4	32	39	19	6	5	3

The chart below shows clearly where peaks in initial registration applications occur during the year.

Figure 4 – number of new registrants by month during from 2013 to 2015



What this tells us

The majority of initial registration applications are received at the beginning of the year (January – February) and from July to September. This follows students graduating from the three UK institutions offering accredited chiropractic training courses and makes up the vast majority of registration applications.

The flow of work is largely in line with projections, although there was a small spike of applications in November 2015. There was also a slight increase in registrations in November 2014 on the 2013 figure, but this was surpassed in 2015 by 70% on the previous years figure. It is therefore worth looking at the November figures in more detail to understand why registrations have increased in this particular month over the past three years.

Table 2 - November registration figures by educational institution

	2013	2014	2015
MCC new grads	1	3	11
MCC deferred ¹	0	0	4
University of Glamorgan/ South Wales	4	5	3
AECC	0	3	2
EU applicants	0	2	2
Foreign qualified	0	0	1
Total	5	13	23

What this tells us

Table 2 shows that the largest proportion of registrants for November 2015 were recent graduates from the McTimoney College of Chiropractic (MCC) and who would have achieved their qualification in October 2015 (11 out of a total 18 graduates). Although there was a cohort of MCC students in October 2014 of 13, many appear to have decided not to apply for registration initially. As a result of this we may see a corresponding reduction in new registration applications in January 2016.

Table 3 - 2015 new registrants by registration route

Registration route	Total new registrants
Route 1 – UK accredited course	162
Route 2 – Foreign qualified	17
Route 3 – EU General Directive	8
Total	187

What this tells us

In total 162 new registrants were graduates of colleges offering GCC recognised qualifications and made up the largest proportion of new registrants during 2015 as they have done for many years now. In addition, 17 were registered on the basis that they have a foreign chiropractic qualification and by passing the Test of Competence, while the remaining 8 registrants were registered on the basis that they hold EU community rights and had practised within the EEA. Numbers applying on the basis of an overseas qualification remain small at only 13% of the total. Figures for all routes to registration were marginally greater for 2015 than in previous years.

¹ graduates from previous years cohorts who deferred their registration

Routes to GCC registration

The route an applicant takes to registration depends largely upon the chiropractic qualification held and, in cases where European law comes into play, nationality also plays a part.

Route 1 – by accredited course (UK)

By holding a chiropractic qualification recognised for the purposes of registration by the GCC. As the GCC has only been asked to accredit courses within the UK, only graduates of accredited courses from the three UK colleges are eligible through this route, (Anglo-European College of Chiropractic, McTimoney College of Chiropractic and the University of South Wales).

Route 2 – unrecognised overseas chiropractic qualification (Test of Competence)

By the applicant holding a chiropractic qualification other than from the UK that meets the requirements of the relevant GCC rules and also meeting the Standard of Proficiency by passing the Test of Competence.

Route 3 – EU General Directive (establishment)

By virtue of European Union (EU) General Directive 2005/36/EC. Applicants must possess EU community rights and meet the requirements of establishment in another European Economic Area (EEA) member state.

Route 4 – EU General Directive (temporary and occasional)

By virtue of European Union (EU) General Directive 2005/36/EC. Applicants must possess EU community rights, meet the requirements of establishment in another European Economic Area (EEA) member state and also intend to practise in the UK only on a temporary and occasional basis.

Applicants holding a UK recognised qualification (route 1)

The GCC recognises courses from three UK educational institutions, which are the only UK courses allowing individuals to apply for registration once completed.

The GCC accredits courses that meet the standards set out in its GCC Degree Recognition Criteria, which is in turn linked to the Code of Practice/ Standard of Proficiency. The accreditation process is the system the GCC uses to ensure the outcomes of those courses and includes annual reviews to assure the quality of the course.

The following table gives the numbers of 2015 graduates from accredited courses who had gained registration by 1 March 2016.

Table 4 – new registrants during 2015 by institution

Educational institution	Month course completed	Number of graduates	Number registered	% of graduates registered during 2015
McTimoney College of Chiropractic (MCC)	October/ December 2014	37	32	86.5%
Anglo-European College of Chiropractic (AECC)	June/ July 2015	105	42	40%
University of South Wales	June/ July 2015	74	49	66.2%
Total	-	216	123	57%

What this tells us

A much greater percentage of graduates from MCC go on to register than for the other colleges as they have a smaller number of overseas students who then return to their home country upon graduating.

Table 5 – percentage of graduates from educational institutions registering from 2013-2015

Educational institution	2013	2014	2015
McTimoney College of Chiropractic (MCC)	86%	86%	86%
Anglo-European College of Chiropractic (AECC)	43%	53%	40%
University of South Wales	92%	75%	66%

What this tells us

While roughly the same percentage of MCC graduates have gone on to register over the past three years, the percentage of graduates registering from the University of South Wales has decreased significantly over the same period. This may be due to an increase in the number of overseas students who return to their home country after completing the course.

In 2014 the numbers registering from the AECC had risen to over 50%, however for 2015 the number dropped below the 2013 figure of 43%. It is unclear whether this is simply due to a higher proportion of overseas students taking the course in that cohort, or whether more of those decided to register in 2014.

Applicants holding a relevant foreign chiropractic qualification (route 2)

For those who achieved a chiropractic qualification outside the UK, GCC registration is possible by taking the additional step of passing the Test of Competence. The Test of Competence is designed to ensure that applicants who do not have a qualification accredited by the GCC meet the same standards as those who do.

Table 6 – new foreign qualified applicants registered during 2015, by educational institution

Educational institution	Country	Number of registrants	Year of graduation (total graduates in brackets)
Durban Institute of Technology	South Africa	1	2010 x1
Life University	USA	1	2014 x1
Macquarie University	Australia	4	2014 x4
New Zealand College of Chiropractic (NZCC)	New Zealand	7	2010 x1 2013 x2 2014 x1 2015 x3
Palmer College of Chiropractic	USA	2	1989 x1 2004 x1
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology	Australia	2	2008 x1 2012 x1
Total	-	17	-

What this tells us

Those gaining registration through this route were from a similar range of colleges to the figure seen for 2014 when 13 applicants gained registration.

The majority (82%) of applicants graduated within the 5 years before registration, with 52% having graduated within 1-2 years. This is a similar figure to the 2014 figure when 55% had graduated within the same period.

Unlike the past two years, 7 registrants graduated from the New Zealand College of Chiropractic, while only 4 came through Macquarie University. In both 2013 and 2014 the numbers of those from Macquarie had been much higher, while we had only seen one graduate from NZCC over the same period.

The remainder of registrants came from a range of other chiropractic colleges from the USA, Australia and South Africa.

Test of Competence

The new Test of Competence no longer requires candidates to attend a one day examination, but is made up of the following components:

1. applicants submit:
 - application form
 - a completed Evidence of Practice Questionnaire, to show how they meet the standards of the GCC Code of Practice and Standard of Proficiency, in addition to their understanding of chiropractic in the UK.
 - anonymised patient records to illustrate their responses
 - a copy of their CV/ Resumé; and
 - evidence of the content of their chiropractic degree
2. where the candidate has provided all documentary evidence, they are eligible to attend an interview, which is the final part of the test
3. prior to the interview, the chiropractic qualification is mapped to the GCC Degree Recognition Criteria and an assessment panel then meets to review the documentation provided by each candidate. This is to see whether any part of the Code of Practice and Standard of Proficiency may not have been fully met, and if so, questions will be tailored by that panel for the interview to ensure these aspects are covered.

While it's possible to submit an application for the Test of Competence at any time, the GCC is only able to run tests on a given number of days each year. These are currently taking place during January, March, June and September, largely in line with the previous version of the test.

Test outcomes

Unlike the previous version of the test, where outcomes were limited to either a pass or fail, there is now the possibility of a third outcome. Where insufficient evidence has been provided by the candidate and additional information is needed by the panel to cover minor aspects of the Code of Practice and Standard of Proficiency that have not been met, the candidate may be asked to submit additional information. Following successful submission of this additional information, the applicant is likely to go on to pass the test.

The results

While there have only been four of the new version tests and 26 attempts thus far, it's worth reviewing the results.

Two candidates who deferred and withdrew their application, are not included within the result data, but are included in the application data.

Table 7 - test results by individual test

Initial test results	Jan-15 ²	Mar-15 ³	Jun-15 ⁴	Sept -15	Total	Total %age
Pass	1	3	2	4	10	38.5
Fail	2	1	1	2	6	23.0
Insufficient Evidence	1	3	5	1	10	38.5
Total	4	7	8	7	26	100.0

Figure 5 – 2015 test results

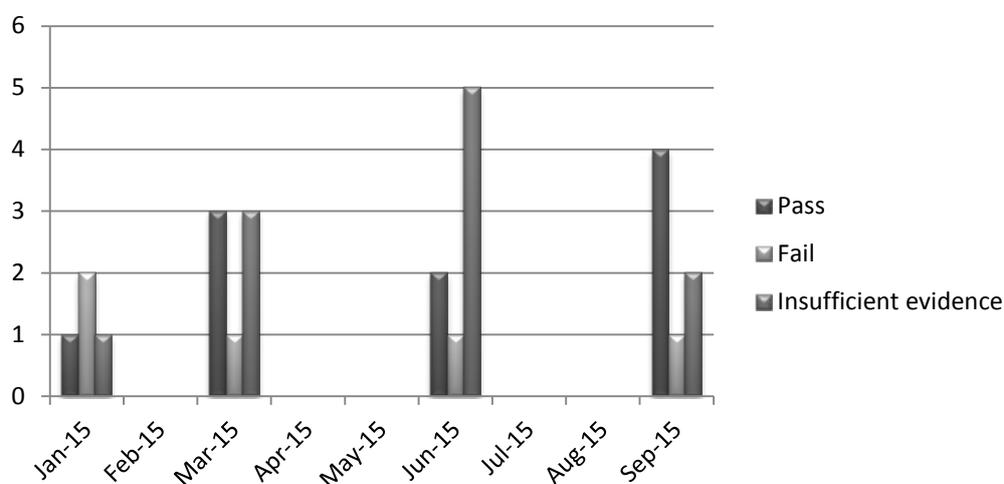
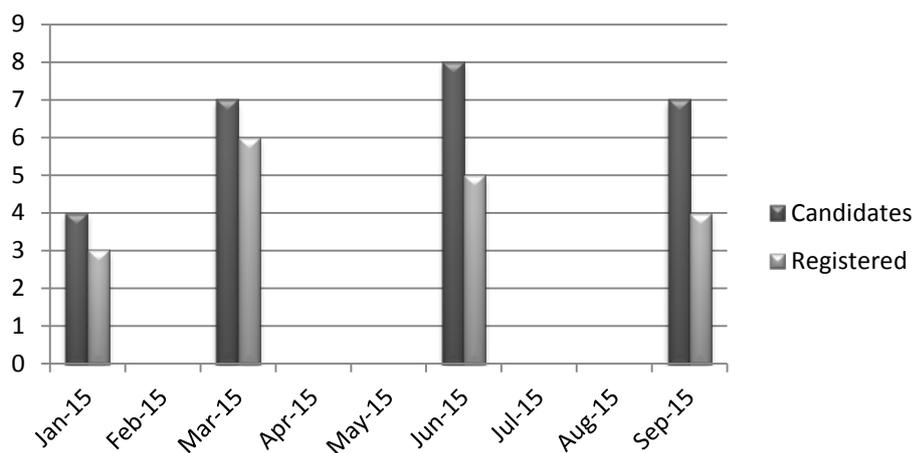


Figure 6 - number of candidates per test vs number from test now registered



² One of those candidates failing the January test has subsequently passed.

³ A candidate deferred to the June test and is not included within the results for March 2015.

⁴ A candidate withdrew from the June test and is not included within the results

What this tells us

It should be borne in mind that with only 26 attempts at the new version of the test so far, and with the test being very new, we have no way of knowing whether current trends will continue or if they will change as more data is assessed.

Initially the first test resulted in 2 out of 4 candidates failing, although the failure rate has dropped subsequently. As a result the overall failure rate is only 23% which, when compared to the results of the 2014 tests in aggregate, is lower than the 30% seen for that year.

It should be noted that the overall pass rate of 38% is lower than the 70% seen in 2014. While on the face of it this may cause concern, it should be remembered that the result of the previous version of the test was limited to either a pass or a fail, whereas a third option, referred to as *Insufficient Evidence*, is now possible and which will necessarily reduce the results for the other two categories in the first instance.

Insufficient evidence

Those candidates the interview panel felt had weaknesses not great enough to warrant a fail, but where some concern remained as to their ability to practise safely and competently, are now asked to provide additional evidence to show how they have addressed those weaknesses, which is evaluated by the Test of Competence panel.

Of the 10 candidates asked to provide additional information, seven have subsequently done so and passed the test by 31 December 2015. This then brings the pass rate for the new test to around the 65% mark, rising further once additional evidence arrives from the remaining candidates, which will result in pass rate being higher than the previous version of the test. In total 14 subjects required further evidence between 10 candidates, meaning that several candidates failed to pass initially on multiple subjects.

Candidates were asked to undertake additional learning and submit evidence of completion of this learning on a range of subjects. With only 10 candidates so far being required to provide additional evidence, it would be premature to draw conclusions from the data to hand. However, it is worth giving details of the most common subjects were candidates demonstrated only limited knowledge, to aid future candidates as part of their study.

Table 8 - number of subjects with insufficient evidence

Subject	Total
Limited knowledge of evidence based practice	6
Limited knowledge of common over the counter medications and commonly prescribed medications	4
Insufficient knowledge of the Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations	4
Total number of subjects	14

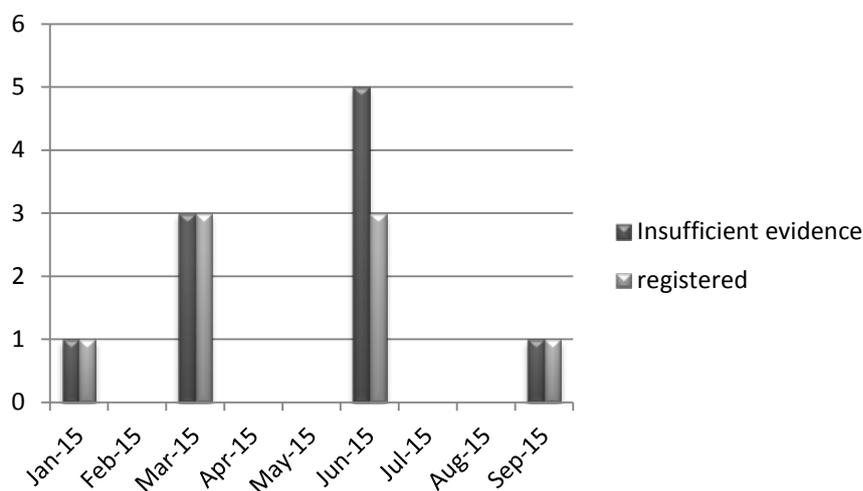
What this tells us

Two thirds of candidates asked to provide additional evidence were required to do so as they were unable to demonstrate a sufficient level of knowledge on evidence based practice. Given that there have been only 26 attempts at the test so far, this represents a quarter of all attempts at the test so far.

In addition, two other subjects came up multiple times related to medications and ionising radiation regulations. The remaining subjects not successfully demonstrated by candidates largely related to different aspects of patient care and management.

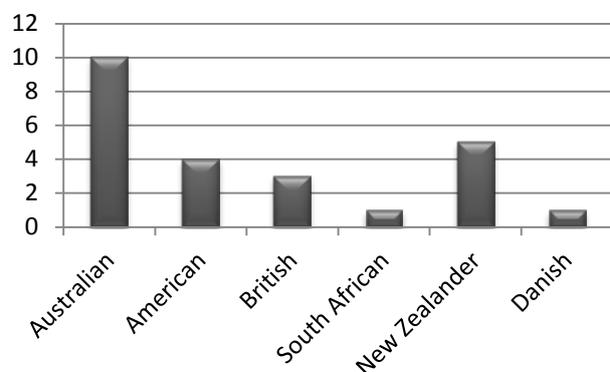
We believe that making this information available to potential candidates will allow candidates to gauge the aspects of the test for focused study to ensure they have a better chance of passing first time.

Figure 7 - Those with insufficient evidence who had passed as at 31 December 2015



Nationality of test candidates

Figure 8 – Test candidates by nationality



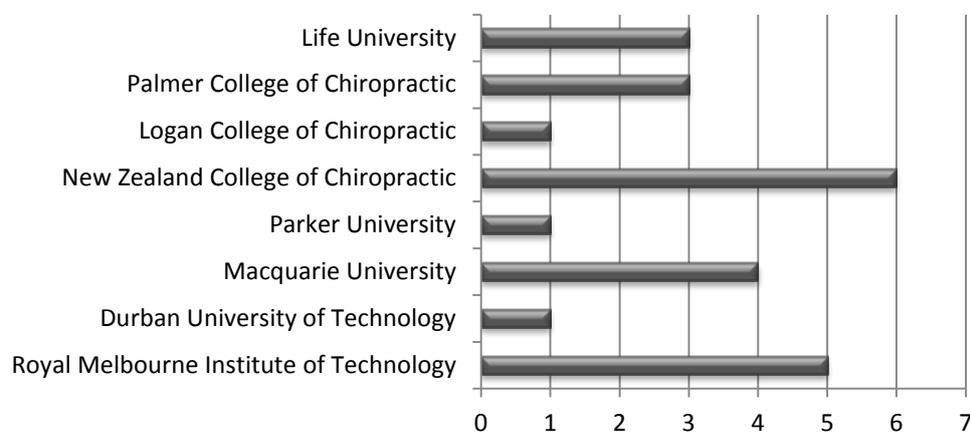
What does this tell us?

Of the 24 candidates who took the test during 2015, 15 were from Australasia, with 10 originating from Australia and five from New Zealand. This means that only nine candidates were from outside Australasia, being from the United States, South Africa, United Kingdom and Denmark respectively.

It should be considered that applicants from Australia and New Zealand will often have the opportunity to work in the UK on ancestry visas therefore swelling the number, while this is less likely for someone, for example, from the United States.

Qualification of applicants

Figure 9 - applicants by nationality



What does this tell us?

Given the numbers graduating from the local educational institutions, we should not be surprised to find this largely correlates with the nationality of candidates. For example, we see that those graduates of Macquarie University and RMIT make up nine candidates in total, from the ten Australian candidates, while the six from the New Zealand College of Chiropractic were New Zealand nationals.

There were three British candidates who took the test during 2015, all having graduated from colleges in the USA as did the Danish candidate. This means that only half of the eight candidates from US colleges were US nationals, the remainder being EU nationals.

In comparison to the 2014 candidates⁵ and according to nationality of qualification, nine out of the 13 candidates were from Australia, three were from the United States with one from South Africa. However, there were no candidates from New Zealand during 2014 and in fact only one during 2013, yet five 2015 candidates were New Zealanders. It is unclear at

⁵ Figures for 2014 test applicants can be found in the GCC Annual registration report 2014 <http://www.gcc-uk.org/UserFiles/Docs/Registrations/Report%20on%20the%202014%20registration%20year%20FINAL.pdf>

this stage whether we shall see a continued increase in the number of candidates from New Zealand in the future or if 2015 in particular is an anomaly.

Applicants applying under European Union (EU) General Directive 2005/36/EC

Establishment (route 3)

The number applying through the EU General Directive has remained at around the same level as last year, with eight applicants gaining registration. Those eight applied on the basis that they intended to practise within the UK on a permanent basis, which is referred to in the Directive as ‘establishment’.

Table 9 – educational institution of applicants through the EU directive

Educational institution	Country	Number of registrants	Year of graduation (total graduates in brackets)
Institut Franco-Européen de Chiropraxie (IFEC)	France	5	2014 x2 2015 x3
Real Centro University	Spain	2	2012 x1 2013 x1
Scandinavian College of Chiropractic	Sweden	1	1999 x1
Total	-	8	-

What this tells us

Five of the seven applicants applying through the EU general directive route were French graduates from IFEC. Given the limited number of institutions offering chiropractic courses in Europe, it is of no surprise that a higher number were from France and the IFEC.

However, unlike those applying through this route during 2014 when we saw all but one applicant through IFEC, in 2015 we received our first applicants from both Real Centro University in Spain and the Scandinavian College of Chiropractic in Sweden.

Table 10 – nationality of applicants through the EU General Directive

Nationality	Number of registrants
French	5
Spanish	2
Swedish	1
Total	8

What this tells us

Fewer French nationals made up those EU applications during 2015 than for 2014. Given that the numbers through this route to registration are small, it takes only a tiny number to drastically alter the trend and therefore caution is exercised in analysing the data. What we can see though, from past figures, is that a higher number of applicants are French nationals

graduating from IFEC than from other European colleges, which may simply be due to France's proximity to the UK.

Temporary registration (route 4)

Following from our first temporary registrant in 2014 we saw a further temporary registrant in 2015. Again the registrant was a French national holding a recent qualification from IFEC. In a similar development to 2014, the registrant subsequently decided to remain in the UK, and therefore now holds full registration under the EU General Directive on the basis of establishment and their data is included in the section above.

Trends in initial registration figures

When extrapolating trends it should be stated that while we can utilise previous statistics for this purpose, the many variables mean they should be considered as ‘best guesses’ only.

It may seem obvious that the largest variable is the number of UK new graduates who may apply for registration, but this is particularly important when forecasting using percentages since a small number of graduates either applying, or deciding not to apply for registration, will have a disproportionate effect. This can be seen by comparing the figures for new UK graduates applying for registration, which shows that 123 out of the 210 graduates from 2013 registered, equating to 58.6%, while in 2014 just 13 more graduates registered bringing the total to 136, increasing the percentage up to 65%. However, we see this figure drop back to 57% for 2015, appearing to indicate that the 2014 figure was something of an anomaly.

Also when forecasting numbers of new registrants for future years, the rate of attrition of students is important and the further into the future one looks the bigger the extrapolation has for error. This has a particular impact when looking at 4 year courses over a five year period, where students will not yet have enrolled as is the case for 2020.

Table 11 – potential graduates from UK educational institutions for the following five years

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Anglo-European College of Chiropractic	75	120	115	110	130
University of South Wales	108	65	84	60	80
McTimoney College of Chiropractic	43	34	29	28	31
Total	226	219	228	198	241

What this tells us

Each college has a dip in potential graduates at some point over the next five years – as seen by the shaded area in table 11. Although the overall figure remains relatively static, in 2020 a potential 10% increase in graduates occurs taking the figure to 241 from a low the previous year of 198. Natural erosion of student numbers is likely to reduce the total who go on to graduate in that year as some students drop out of the course, therefore shrinking the numbers seeking registration following completion of the course.

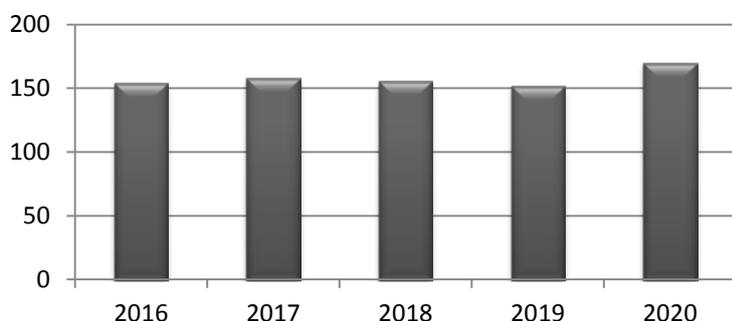
Table 12 – projected registration figures for the following five years

Educational institution	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
UK graduates*	137	133	139	120	147
Foreign Qualified**	15	15	15	15	15
EU Directive**	8	8	8	8	8
Total	160	156	162	143	170

* these figures have been calculated assuming a registration rate of 61% for UK graduates, which is the average for the past two years.

** these figures have been calculated based on the average number of registrants through this route to registration over the past two years.

Figure 10 - potential new registrants over the next five years



What this tells us

Over the next four years the initial registration figures are likely to remain relatively stable, with a small increase probable in 2020. We are unable to determine at this time whether this increase represents a pattern, or if it is a one off. The effect on the Register as a whole is likely to be that of continued growth at roughly the same rate, as covered on pages 2 & 3 of this report.

Retentions

Summary

By the end of the 2016 retention period on 31 December 2015, 3,109 registrants remained on the Register.

Factors affecting annual retention figures:

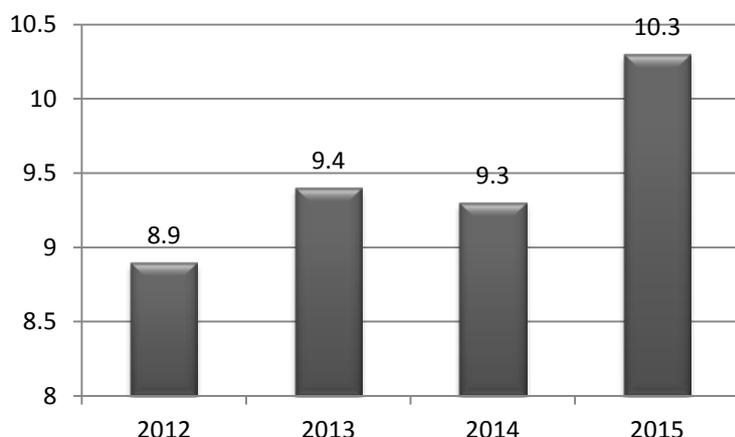
- as noted below, there are a number of reasons individuals may register as non-practising
- there are a number of people who will leave the Register on an annual basis; and
- there are a number of individuals who register for the first time after 10 November each year in order to pay the initial registration fee covering the following registration year only rather than paying both the initial registration and retention fee.

Non-practising rate of registration

Schedule 2 of the GCC (Registration) Rules 1999 allows a registrant not intending to practise as a chiropractor within the UK for the duration of a registration year to pay a reduced fee of £100. So that this is clearly reflected on the Register of Chiropractors we annotate a registrant's entry to show they are not practising. This is important as it ensures that potential patients and the public are aware which individuals are not practising when making choices on which professional to seek treatment from.

At the end of December 2015, 321 registrants had paid the £100 non-practising rate as they did not intend practising in the UK during 2016, representing more than 10% of the profession.

Figure 11 – percentage of registrants paying the non-practising fee since 2012



What this tells us

Figure 11 shows the percentage of the Register made up of those chiropractors paying the £100 non-practising fee has increased over the past four years. At the end of 2012, 265 registrants had paid the lower £100 fee, but by the end of 2015 this had grown to 321, representing a 20% increase on the earlier figure.

Since the non-practising rate does not fully cover the cost of regulating those individuals, they are effectively subsidised by registrants paying the higher £800 practising fee. Should this trend continue and the numbers paying the lower rate increase further, there maybe implications for the GCC’s income and its continued ability to perform its statutory function.

Table 13 - reasons given for paying the non-practising registration fee

	Number of registrants	%age of total
Health	12	3.7%
Financial	5	1.6%
Working overseas	193	60.2%
Travelling	4	1.2%
Education	18	5.6%
Sabbatical	7	2.2%
Not working as a chiropractor	37	11.5%
Maternity/ Child care	42	13.1%
Retired	3	0.9%
Total	321	100.00%

What this tells us

Most of those paying the non-practising rate did so as they were practising outside of the GCC's jurisdiction which makes up 60% of the total. The next largest group were those taking a break from their careers for maternity and child care reasons.

Only around 70 of non-practising registrants appear to be taking a short break from practice with the intention of practising again in the UK, with the remainder showing no clear indication or intent to practise again in the UK at any point in the future. This does raise a question as to why those not intending to work in the chiropractic profession again in the UK wish to remain registered when the concern of the GCC is to regulate those chiropractors offering chiropractic services in the UK.

Removals from the Register

Continued registration is dependant upon registrants complying with all requirements of registration. Failure to meet those requirements can lead to removal from the Register.

Removal from the Register can be for any of the following reasons:

Failure to remain fit to practise (struck-off)

Registrants who do not meet the standards as set out in the GCC's Code of Practice/ Standard of Proficiency, or who do not comply with GCC legislation, may be removed from the Register.

Failure to retain on the Register (lapse)

All registrants must provide a full application for retention on the Register before the statutory deadline of 30 November in any given registration year, which includes an application form and the retention fee. Should the application not arrive by the deadline a final warning notice is issued, allowing the registrant a further 14 days to comply. If at the end of those 14 days the application has not arrived then the registrant will normally be removed from the Register.

Failure to complete annual CPD requirements (CPD non compliance)

Each year all registered chiropractors must fill in and return a CPD record summary to show the learning they undertook to comply with the GCC's CPD scheme. Those registrants who do not provide a summary, or who fail to meet the requirements of the scheme, may be removed from the Register.

Voluntary removal

In addition to the above reasons, the GCC rules allow a registrant to remove his or her name from the Register at any time by submitting the relevant application form and a statutory declaration.

Table 14 - method of removal from the Register during 2015 by month

	Struck off	Lapse	Voluntary	Deceased	CPD non compliance	Total
January	0	0	0	0	0	0
February	0	0	0	0	0	0
March	0	0	1	0	0	1
April	0	0	1	0	0	1
May	0	0	1	0	0	1
June	0	0	0	0	0	0
July	0	0	0	0	0	0
August	0	0	3	0	0	3
September	0	0	2	0	0	2
October	1	0	2	0	25	28
November	0	0	1	0	0	1
December	0	44	10	0	0	44
Total	1	44	21	0	25	81
2014	3	39	21	2	42	107

What this tells us

Essentially table 14 shows us that the majority of removals from the Register fall in October at the end of the CPD period and after the retention period in December. The remaining removals occurred throughout the year and are made up of those taking voluntary removal from the Register or, in one case, having been struck-off the Register following a hearing before the Professional Conduct Committee.

The 81 removals for 2015 was lower in number than the 107 removals seen for 2014 and, on analysis, there were significantly fewer removals for non-compliance with the CPD rules in 2015 and a small number more registrants who allowed their registration to lapse than in 2014.

In 2014 we had, for the first time, uncoupled the requirement to provide a completed CPD summary from the retention process and required it be with us by 30 September. We found in several instances registrants preferred to come off the Register rather than fill in the summary, presumably as they had failed to complete the 30 hours of learning needed, despite it being a legal requirement to do so. Now in its second year, the lower number of removals for CPD compliance failure may be due to a greater familiarity with the change of deadline.

Reasons for no longer remaining on the Register

As in most cases registrants do not formally notify us of the reasons for coming off the Register, these figures have been collated from voluntary removal application forms and email correspondence with registrants. Where a registrant's last known registered address

was overseas, it has been taken that the reason they did not wish to remain on the Register was that they were no longer resident in the UK.

Table 15 – reasons for no longer remaining on the Register

	Number of registrants	%age of total	Since restored
Working overseas	36	44.4%	2
Not working as a chiropractor	13	16.0%	1
Retired	11	13.6%	0
Health	7	8.6%	0
Financial	6	7.4%	1
Maternity/ Child care	3	3.7%	0
Unknown	3	3.7%	0
Education	1	1.3%	0
Struck-off	1	1.3%	0
Sabbatical	0	0%	0
Travelling	0	0%	0
Total	81	100.00%	4

What this tells us

There were a range of reasons for registrants no longer remaining on the Register. Over a third of those coming off the Register did so as they were no longer working in the UK. Not surprisingly we find that those who have permanently left the profession, having either retired or moved on to another profession, make up in excess of a quarter of all removals.

Table 16 – status of those coming off the Register

	Number of registrants	As a %age of removers	%age on the Register
Practising	48	60%	89.7%
Non-practising	33	40%	10.3%
Total	81	100%	100%

What this tells us

A larger proportion of those coming off the Register during 2015 were non-practising than practising. This may be because registrants are initially cautious about relinquishing their registration and prefer to remain as non-practising in case their circumstances change. There is still a perception among a small number of registrants that restoring to the Register is a complicated process involving passing the Test of Competence, although this has never been the case.

Table 17 – Reasons for removal from the Register by registration category

Reason for removal	Practising	Non Practising	Total
CPD non compliance	9 (36%)	16 (64%)	25
Lapse	25 (73.5%)	9 (26.5%)	34
Struck off	0	1	1
Voluntary removal	14 (66.6%)	7 (33.4%)	21

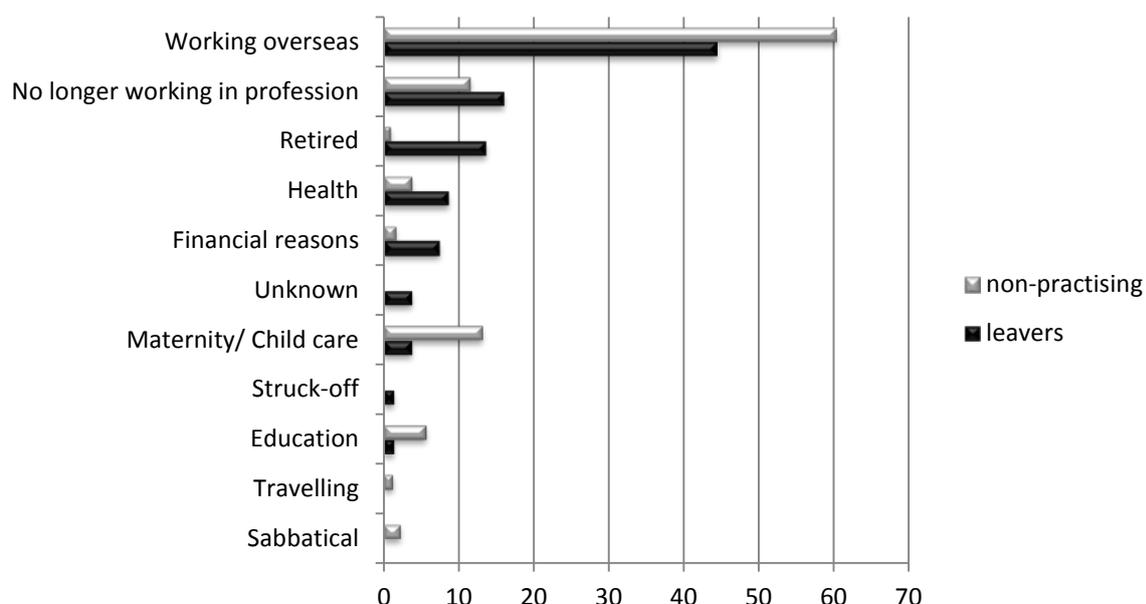
What this tells us

Table 17 compares the registration category of those who came off the Register by the reason for their removal. There is a very clear distinction between statuses, for those failing to comply with CPD requirements and those who allow their registration to lapse.

Nearly three quarters of those lapsing were registered (73.5%) as practising, while the majority of those having been removed for failing to comply with CPD (65%) were non-practising. This may be due to those non-practising registrants not completing CPD during the CPD year, which tends to lend to the theory that they would have been better off taking voluntary removal or allowing their registration to lapse the previous year. We make it clear to all non-practising registrants that they must still comply with CPD requirements and include reference to this on the letter confirming their annual retention on the Register.

A comparison of the reasons given for paying the non-practising rate or leaving the Register

Figure 12 - the main reasons given by those leaving the Register and those paying the non-practising rate as a percentage



What this tells us

Figure 12 shows that for both those registrants paying the non-practising rate and those leaving the Register, their main reason for doing so is an intention to practise overseas.

A comparative analysis shows that those who are taking time off for maternity or child care are more likely to remain on the Register as non-practising than they are to come off the Register, while those stating health reasons are more likely to come off the Register all together, rather than take non-practising registration.

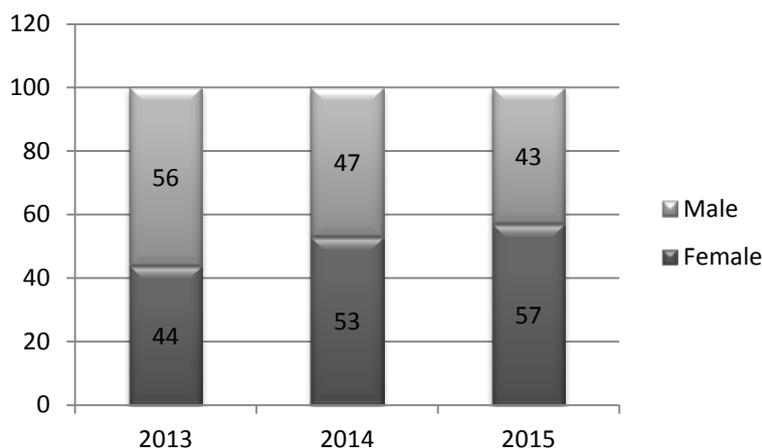
Diversity of the Register

The sex and date of birth of all applicants is collected on the registration application form.

Split by sex of new registrants

The following data gives details of the split by sex for all those registered between 1 January and 31 December 2015.

Figure 13 - new registrants by sex



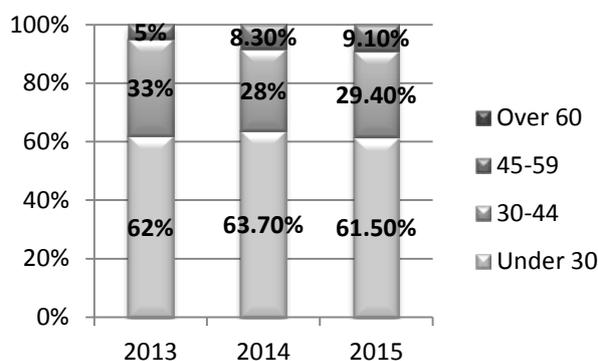
What this tells us

The percentage of female new registrants in 2014 was approximately 53%, higher by 5% than the 2013 figure. The split by sex within the profession as a whole has largely been 50:50 for some time, although in recent years there have been marginally more male new registrants than female. However, if the trend shown in figure 13 continues and we increasingly see more female new registrants each year, the composition of the Register will change overtime.

Age split of new registrants

The following chart gives details of the age split for all those registered between 1 January and 31 December in 2013 to 2015, with the data for past years being extracted from previous registration reports.

Figure 14 – percentage split of new registrants by age since 2013



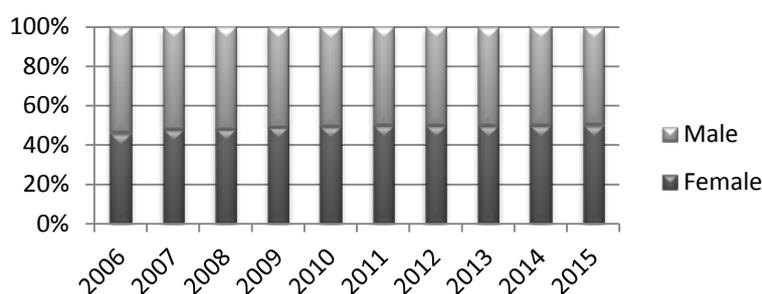
What this tells us

New registrants are largely made up of those under 30, which is as we would expect given that the majority of those are new graduates.

The trend seen over the past three years, whereby the under 30 age group makes up the vast majority of new registrants is expected and we anticipate this tendency continuing into the future as the majority to new registrants will graduate from chiropractic colleges in the UK and register shortly after successful completion of their course.

Split by sex of the Register as a whole

Figures 15 – percentage split of registrants by sex since 2006



What this tells us

While there is a near 50:50 split between female and male chiropractors, at the end of 2015 female chiropractors outnumbered their male colleagues for the first time. Given the trend of new registrants being more likely to be female (figure 13); this may increase in the future.

Spilt of the Register by age

Figure 16 – percentage split of registrants by age since 2006

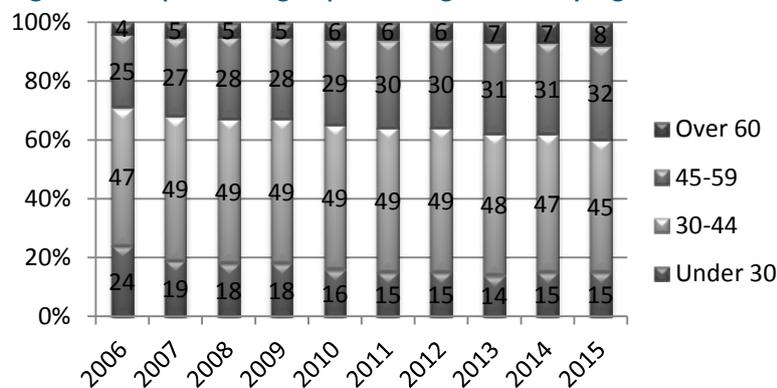
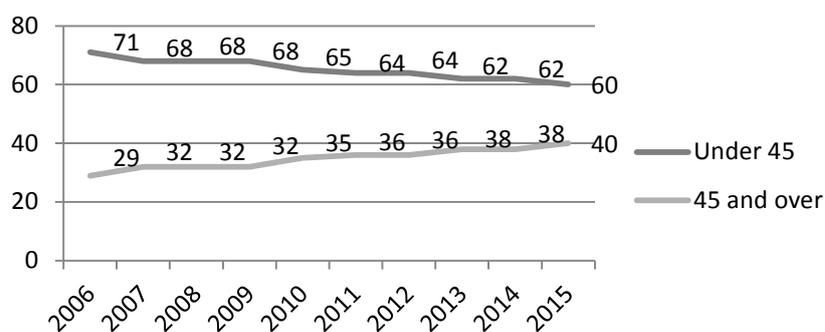


Figure 17 – percentage split of registrants by age since 2006



What this tells us

The overall age profile of registrants was roughly equal to 2014. The general trend is of a reduction in the under 45 bracket and an increase in those over 46 continues at a very slow rate. The over 60 bracket has steadily increased over the past 9 years and is double its 2006 figure. In addition the 45 to 59 bracket has increased by 7% over the same period, with a reduction for the under 45 bracket of 11%.

Communications

During 2015 the registrations team engaged with stakeholders in a number of areas.

New Continuing Professional Development (CPD) guidance

The GCC published new guidance to assist registrants when completing their annual CPD return, as well as documenting the audit process followed within the office with the aim of increasing transparency.

CPD learning points

For the second year the GCC published learning points for registrants based on the submission of CPD record summaries for 2014/ 15. The purpose of this publication is to show chiropractors where the most common errors occur, with the aim of reducing the number of mistakes in following years.

CPD quality assurance

As the GCC conducts more thorough annual checks of registrants CPD record summaries, a mechanism to assure the quality of those decisions was established, with the Royal College of Chiropractors undertaking the role. The purpose of the process is to ensure the integrity of decisions made and also to make sure that the procedure followed in determining decisions is fit for purpose.

Changes to GCC indemnity arrangement rules

New legislations came into force on 17 July 2015 varying the indemnity arrangement requirements for those registrants practising within the UK. The GCC consulted with stakeholders both before and after drafting the new rules, as well as publishing details of the changes to ensure registrants had plenty of time to comply.

Checks of registrants indemnity arrangements

An exercise was undertaken shortly after the rules were changed requiring all registrants with 'practising' registration status to provide details of their current indemnity details. Checks will now be completed on an annual basis to ensure registrants remain suitably indemnified and therefore in compliance with the rules.

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