

Dear all,

Through this report I will try to give an insight to one of the milestones of my professional career and my entire life, the one of becoming a MACP member following the graduation from the MSc programme titled 'Advanced Manipulative Physiotherapy' at University of Birmingham. The whole journey towards the MACP affiliation could not be characterised as something less than a massive and life-changing experience. During the academic part of it, plenty of moments remain as highlights of my physio-life until today. Interactions with some of the world-leading lecturers in their areas of expertise, opinion exchange between people from several countries where different clinical rules are applied and composition of the previous with the latest scientific evidence were all fundamental elements of it. Thus, synthesising knowledge and experiences from my undergraduate education (completed at my country of origin, Greece) with the high standards and the constant challenges of the MSc programme led to a tremendous transformation of myself.

Encompassing all the aforementioned in my clinical practice was the stepping-stone towards providing services of excellence. Crucial to this was the stage of the MACP mentored clinical practice. The opportunity to be challenged in terms of clinical reasoning skills, handlings and bringing the latest high quality evidence into this were all intimate parts of it. Plenty on reflection on- and in-action that gradually took usual levels of care into a different dimension. Having an increasing amount of evidence now supporting that clinicians' level and expertise could have an impact on patients' perceptions and expectation of outcome, I could argue for sure that meeting the standards of this association could almost guarantee on its own that this will be the case.

Completing the MSc programme and moving purely into clinical practice I can now recognise countless things I derived from the journey of becoming a MACP member. Except for my personal gains in clinical practice such as time efficiency and better outcomes due to the different approach towards a patient-centered assessment and management, plenty of career opportunities have also arised. Moreover, I feel much more confident in terms of inspiring more colleagues in their professional development and I always try to contribute actively in the development and improvement attempts of the departments where I work. I would attribute this to the fact that this experience has offered me much as a person as well apart from the educational and the clinical part.

Closing this report I would like to mention that I am more than thankful for what I have experienced and gained during my journey of gaining the MACP membership and I feel honoured to be part of this association. Furthermore, I would like to the thank for the bursary I was awarded with through the association, which was a significant assistance in covering part of my MSc fees. Best wishes to all colleagues working to maintain the standards of the association at this incredible level and hope we will take it even higher in the future.

Kind regards,

Achilleas Paliouras