**POSTER PRESENTER**

**POSTER #1**

**ASSESSING THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE OSTEOPATHIC PROFESSION IN NEW YORK CITY’S ASIAN COMMUNITIES**

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**BACKGROUND:** Despite having practice privileges in over 50 countries, many immigrant minority communities in the United States are unexposed to osteopathic physicians (DO) prior to re-establishing healthcare in the United States and thus may be reticent to osteopathic manipulative medicine (OMM).

**OBJECTIVE:** To identify literature in osteopathic outreach to minority communities and assess osteopathic awareness in New York City’s Chinese community.

**METHODS:** An anonymous survey prepared in Chinese and English was used to gather demographics, education level, healthcare habits, and knowledge of the osteopathic profession. Participants over the age of 18 were randomly selected to complete a paper survey, with the option to decline.

**RESULTS:** 96 surveys fit inclusion criteria, with participants questioned on familiarity with DOs and OMM. 54 males and 42 females were included in the survey, with an age range of 18-80 and an average age of 40. Overall, only 18% of surveyees (n=17) indicated knowledge about OMM while only 16% (n=15) seemed to recognize the DO profession. Gender, age, highest level of education, country of birth, and English proficiency did not reveal any statistical significance in regards to knowledge of DOs or OMM (p-values >0.05 for all).

**CONCLUSION:** There exists a general lack of awareness of OMM and DOs within the Chinese community in New York City. Compared with similar past studies, this study found the gap in minority osteopathic familiarity even greater than previously noted, with less than one in five participants indicating knowledge of osteopathy. While this difference can be ascribed to numerous factors, it stands without doubt that greater osteopathic outreach needs to be done in minority communities.

**KEYWORDS:** *osteopathic medicine, community health, Asian health, Chinese, New York*