

INTRODUCTION

The HCPC has assessed the length of time that UK route registrants remained registered for following their first registration. Registrants who came through the UK route must have completed an approved training course in a UK institution. This analysis is hoped to contribute to wider workforce planning efforts.

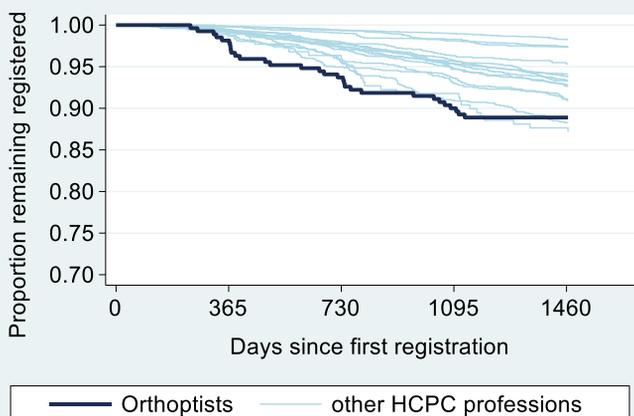
METHODS

All new UK route Orthoptists who made their first registration between 01 June 2013 and 31 May 2017 were included in the analysis and their registration status at least four years later determined (n=270). The Kaplan-Meier method was used to estimate the percent remaining registered and the corresponding 95% confidence intervals for those estimates.

RESULTS

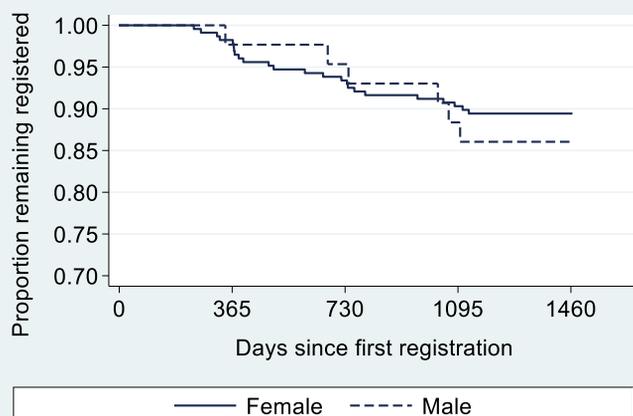
Overall retention

After two years 93.7% (95% CI: 90.1 to 96.0) of new Orthoptists remained on the HCPC register and after four years 88.9% (95% CI: 84.5 to 92.1) remained registered.



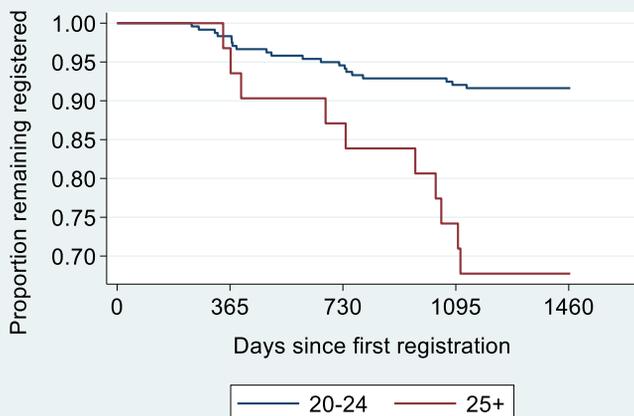
Gender / Sex

There was a negligible difference between the proportions of females (89.4%) and of males (86.1%) remaining registered after four years. The majority of new Orthoptist registrants were female (84%).



Age

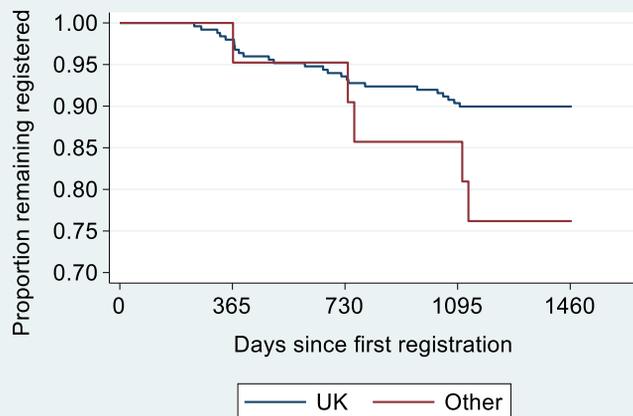
There was a significant difference in retention rates between the age groups at first registration. The majority (89%) of new Orthoptist registrants were aged 20-24, while 11% were aged 25+.



Nationality

Retention varied by nationality though the number of other nationalities was very small (n=21):

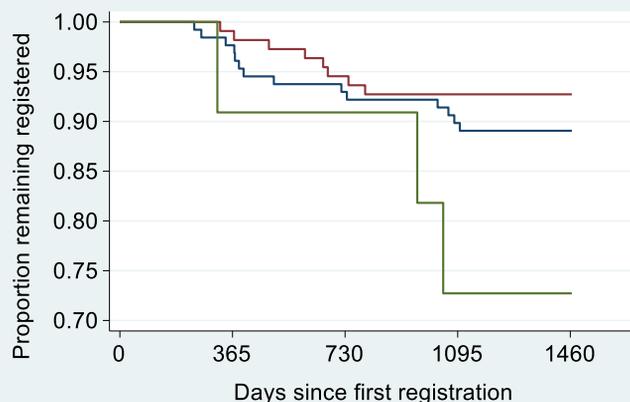
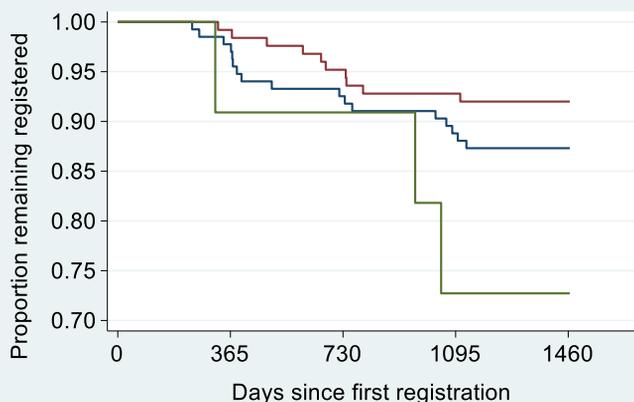
- UK = 90.0% retention (92% of registrants)
- Other = 76.2% (8% of registrants)



Location of training course provider

Retention rates varied considerably between locations of training course providers with a 19.3% gap between the location with the highest rate (North West, 92.0%) and the location with the lowest rate (Scotland, 72.7%) albeit with very few registrants from Scotland.

Restricting the analysis of training provider location to new UK route registrants of UK nationality decreased the gap between the two main areas marginally (from 4.7 to 3.6%).



Location of institution providing qualification used for registration	n	% total	% UK nationality	Retention: all nationalities		Retention: UK nationality only	
				%	95% CI	%	95% CI
North East & Yorkshire	134	49.6	95.5	87.3	80.4 to 91.9	89.1	82.2 to 93.4
North West	125	46.3	88.0	92.0	85.6 to 95.6	92.7	86.0 to 96.3
Midlands	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
East of England	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
London	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
South East	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
South West	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wales	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scotland	11	4.1	100.0	72.7	37.1 to 90.3	72.7	37.1 to 90.3
Northern Ireland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

CONCLUSIONS

The vast majority of new UK route Orthoptists remained on the HCPC register four years after their first registration with around 1 in 9 having left by then.

The greatest variation was observed in age, with older registrants having a significantly lower retention rate than the youngest ones.

The large difference between providers is largely the consequence of very small numbers at the smallest provider rather than the effect of nationality, which has been observed in some other HCPC professions.