

## INTRODUCTION

The HCPC has assessed the length of time that International route registrants remained registered for following their first registration. This analysis is hoped to contribute to wider workforce planning efforts.

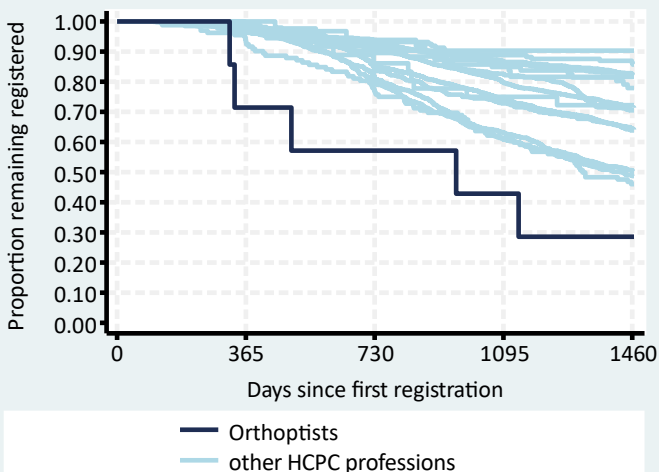
## METHODS

All new international route Orthoptists first registering between 01 June 2013 and 31 May 2017 were included (n=7) and their registration status at least four years later determined. The registrant's nationalities were grouped by World Bank income categories as at 2015 into High Income Countries (HIC) or Low & Middle Income Countries (LMIC). The Kaplan-Meier method was used to estimate the percent remaining registered and the corresponding 95% confidence intervals for those estimates.

## RESULTS

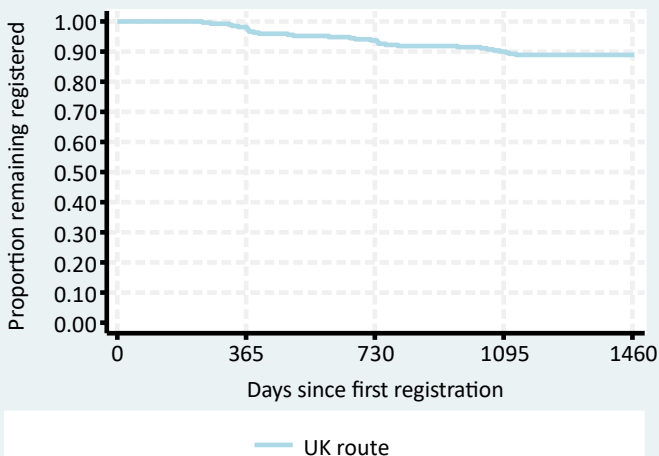
### Overall international route retention

Orthoptists remaining on the HCPC register:  
After two years: 57% (95% CI: 17% to 84%)  
After four years: 29% (95% CI: 4% to 61%)  
See Table 1 for further details.



### Comparison of routes and nationalities

No international route groups for Orthoptists had sufficient numbers to present in comparison with their UK route.  
See Table 2 for further details.



### International route demographic groups

No international route demographic group had a sufficient number of registrants (n>=20) to enable the calculation of retention rates.  
See Tables 3 & 4 overleaf for further details.

**Table 1: Overall international route retention**

Profession	n	%	95% CI
Operating dept. practitioners	31	90.3	72.9 to 96.8
Clinical scientists	161	86.3	80.0 to 90.8
Practitioner psychologists	574	82.5	79.2 to 85.4
Biomedical scientists	863	82.1	79.4 to 84.5
Arts therapists	49	81.6	67.7 to 90.0
Hearing aid dispensers	86	77.9	67.6 to 85.3
Prosthetists / orthotists	36	72.2	54.5 to 84.0
Radiographers	2,056	71.5	69.5 to 73.4
Paramedics	998	70.5	67.6 to 73.2
Physiotherapists	3,457	64.5	62.9 to 66.1
Dietitians	548	63.9	59.7 to 67.7
Occupational therapists	1,114	50.5	47.5 to 53.4
Speech & language therapists	623	48.7	44.7 to 52.6
Chiropodists / podiatrists	132	46.0	37.3 to 54.3
<b>Orthoptists</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>28.6</b>	<b>4.1 to 61.2</b>

**CONCLUSIONS**

Orthoptists had the smallest number of international route registrants and the lowest retention rate of all the professions, though this may in part be an artifact of the small count. Only two of the seven international route registrants remained on the HCPC register after four years.

For all HCPC professions combined, lower four-year retention rates were observed in international route registrants who were one or more of younger, female or from HIC, particularly from those outside of Europe.

In these regards, international route Orthoptists, in comparison to all other HCPC professions combined, were:

- more likely to be aged 30+ (43% vs. 34%)
- more likely to be female (100% vs. 68%)
- less likely to be from LMIC:
  - HIC Europe (43% vs. 45%)
  - HIC other (43% vs. 36%)
  - LMIC (14% vs. 18%)

With such a small count, it is difficult to attribute the low rate to any particular characteristics.

**Table 2: Comparison of routes and nationalities, Orthoptists**

Route and country group	n	%	Retention rate	
			%	95% CI
UK route	270	97	88.9	84.5 to 92.1
Intl. route: HIC Europe	3	1	-	-
Intl. route: HIC other	3	1	-	-
Intl. route: LMIC	1	<1	-	-

**Table 3: International route demographic groups, Orthoptists**

Demographic group	n	%	Retention rate	
			%	95% CI
HIC Europe: Female 20-29	2	29	-	-
HIC Europe: Female 30+	1	14	-	-
HIC Europe: Male 20-29	0	0	-	-
HIC Europe: Male 30+	0	0	-	-
HIC other: Female 20-29	2	29	-	-
HIC other: Female 30+	1	14	-	-
HIC other: Male 20-29	0	0	-	-
HIC other: Male 30+	0	0	-	-
LMIC: Female 20-29	0	0	-	-
LMIC: Female 30+	1	14	-	-
LMIC: Male 20-29	0	0	-	-
LMIC: Male 30+	0	0	-	-

**Table 4: Largest international route nationalities, Orthoptists**

Country of nationality	n	%	Retention rate	
			%	95% CI
Australia	3	43	-	-
France	1	14	-	-
India	1	14	-	-
Netherlands	1	14	-	-
Portugal	1	14	-	-