

Professionals' Perspective

BORDERS OF ACTS BETWEEN PSYCHOMOTRICISTS AND OTHER PROFESSIONALS IN FRANCE

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Introduction

Care is a polysemous term regrouping a number of definitions and spheres of action.

For the sake of clarity this essay will mainly focus on the health sphere as it is the one shared by all these medical and paramedical professions as well as all healthcare professions. Through this article we shall compare various profession to that of the psychomotor therapist. To that end, we will mention health rehabilitation workers, technicians, medico-social professionals, and Medical doctors, who in turn are the prescribers of paramedical professionals.

Those comparisons come from the historical reshuffles of the professions and notably the overlap as much in the general fields of application of each profession as in the separation of the procedures themselves.

The National Education professionals' work overlaps in many ways the practice of the psychomotricist as well. This is due to the history of the psychomotor therapist profession which initially focused on school-age children and even preschoolers. While the evolution of the profession is not key, it is crucial to understand it in order to better grasp the inter-branch relationships.

State-qualified Psychomotricist professional history

The first hygienist practices relating the body to the mind date back to balneology, both in Egypt and in Rome. Those preventive practices flourish in Northern Europe. In the early XXth century, three schools of thought prevailed: neurophysiology, cortical pathologies, and neuropsychiatry. In those three approaches neurology predominates and, one school has a psychiatric approach.

Meanwhile the first psychomotor practices emerge with medical soft gymnastic methods. After the Second World War, we redefined how we thought about children,

Abstract

This article is in part intended to shed a light on the situation and relationships between the various practitioners and psychomotor therapists. In order to fully understand the different bridges and complementarities of the mentioned professions we will have to look into the evolution of the decrees of skills and the history of psychomotricity as a profession. This article follows a previous one which assessed the state of schools and other formalities regarding psychomotor therapists by region in France. Throughout this essay it will be interesting to retain the direct and indirect links between the various health practitioners and the National Education.

Keywords: Psychomotricists, paramedical professions, links, Bachelor-Masters-Doctorate

going from item-child to the child as an individual. Thus affirming the preeminence of education, social assistance measures are established, the child's legislative civil status is changed. The number of rehabilitation centers increased and new professions came into existence like child psychiatrists as well as school psychologists. Some disorders, formerly neglected, are now studied, like tics or stuttering.

In this context two lines of research overlap: the National Education and the medical field. This is how the premise of psychomotricity are asserted and that consultations in child care institutes appeared. In the branch of the National education, physical rehabilitation centers are set up, allowing psychomotor practices' arrival. These movements emerged from various professions, physiotherapists, teachers, psychologists, even artists; as reported by Boscaini (2010).

In 1947, De Ajuriaguerra is offered to create several teams including that of Mrs Borel-Maisonny which successfully established a profession concerning language: speech therapy. A certificate of ability, which isn't a national diploma, will be given, granting a proximity with a State diploma.

Around sixty's, Professor De Ajuriaguerra wrote a large amount on child psychiatry which, like psychomotricity, is a human science which account for the human as an entity.

Mrs G.B. Soubiran leads another team which framed the first didactic elements of psychomotricity. In that way we can say that Professor De Ajuriaguerra is the "father" of child psychiatry and Mrs G.B. Soubiran the "mother" of psychomotricity. Her work lays the ground of psychomotricity, her life reflects it; as recounts her biography (Giromini, 2014).

The first occurrence of formation are quickly created and go from six month to one year, and then to three year formations until they got rewarded with a State diploma (in psychorehabilitation) in 1974.

It is interesting to note that psychomotricity boast this breadth of exercise and exchange which took precedence in the framework offered by Professor De Ajuriaguerra. It borrows basic knowledge and theories from several subjects: anatomy, physiology, psychology, body self-expression, neurology, pedagogy, philosophy in order to create a new crossroad-subject with fertile and original products. Subsequently, psychomotor assessments became an essential concern for the profession and will not stop growing (Vincent & Giromini, 2018)

As previously mentioned, psychomotor therapists will be formed from 1960 by the National Education whereas the medical faculty will form psycho-rehabilitators, who will become state-qualified psychomotor therapists. In this field, notions regarding neurology and psychoanalysis were taken into account, while both psychomotor therapist professions did not encompass the same profession. The conceptual framework is thus widely different and leads to more or less happy evolutions.

The National Diploma is currently issued by the Prefect while the degree is issued by the Ministry of Higher Education and Research according to decree 2002-481.

We will here look into the sanitary aspect as it is the one the one that developed in France. To that end we will detail the current framework of health professions and then touch upon the academic setting up in order to understand the stakes.

Bachelor-Masters-Doctorate Process (BMD)

The Bologna Accord (1995) justifies the concrete implementation of the BMD System (Bachelor-Masters-Doctorate) for the whole of higher education. As a candidate, Hollande guaranteed a steady status entry in the process with a due date of 2017. As soon as 2008, psychomotor therapists presented a job description reference file to the government, competency and training. HERMANT, 2014. From these observations ensued the notion of re-engineering – which will end up leading to Universitarization – still ongoing for our profession. It is completed for most other rehabilitation workers, highlighting the operating disparities that exist from the very beginning, which makes the comparison more complicated. Nevertheless, our comparison is based on the great works of the past which support the updated implementation of the professional practice in every field, including the health sector. It must be noted that, to this day, the psychomotor therapist practice only on medical prescription, placing the Medical Doctor (as Doctor of Medical Science (DMCs)) at a different rank.

Sadly, the professions with a greater workforce were put first chronologically. The observation of unequal status led the government to put an entire stop to the re-engineering work for x-ray technicians, dieticians and psychomotor therapists, while every other profession finished it.

The regulatory framework of SQ psychomotor therapists' professional practice should be pointed out here: regulations are determined by a tutorship of both the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Higher Education. In this regard, we will base the following descriptions on crossed classifications. Thus, the general framework is suggested by the “Plan National d'Actions des Autorités Françaises” (National Action plan of the French Authorities) we will give more precise details on the notion of pathway (related to higher education) for similar professions.

Interprofessional comparison

According to (French authorities, 2016), Directive 2013/55/UE, revising Directive 2005/36/CE regarding acknowledgement of vocational qualifications, is calling each Member State to conduct a census of professions within its scope and examine, for each of them, the compatibility of the requirements with the principle of free movement within the European Union (non-discrimination, necessity, proportionality).

Article 59 of this Directive formulates the approach for the census (exercise of “transparency”) and for the regulatory review (exercise of “evaluation”) of relevant professions. It also provides that each Member State indicate to the European Commission the requirements which they plan on maintaining, those that were or will be suppressed, or relaxed in order to ease the mobility of qualified professionals, contributing to the improvement of employment situation and supporting economic growth.

In compliance with the statement of the Commission of 2 October 2013, in May 2015 France transmitted to the Commission the first national action plan presenting the census of regulated professions, the evaluation of the requirements of the professions in the first group of sectors defined by the Commission (service, construction, real estate, transportation, wholesale and retail trade) as well as the expected evolution of their requirements.

The current report provides an update on the implementation of the actions taken, especially for the professions from the first group of aforementioned sectors and presents the evolutions that occurred since then. Regarding professions from the second group of sectors (health, social services, education, tourism, entertainment), it reports the evolution of the requirements to which the French authorities proceeded and presents the accomplished actions and those which will be taken in the following months.

European Directive 2013/55 relative to the recognition of vocational qualifications must soon be applied into French law through an order which will modify the Public Health Code.

To satisfy the European Commission, the government repealed in its draft ordinance the obligation for foreign nationals wanting an authorization to practice in France to follow a post-secondary course, creating tensions among the associations and unions defending the profession on the national scale. (French Authorities, 2016)

This census is part of a more expansive organization plan of healthcare in France. This is what we shall study in the upcoming section.

Health sector

According to the National Action plan of the French Authorities published by (French Authorities, 2016), France regulates seventy-seven healthcare professions and one social service profession (social worker). The seventy-seven-healthcare profession can be divided into three groups: medical and pharmaceutical professions which includes 47 specialisms, medical auxiliaries which includes 25 specialisms, and other healthcare professions which includes 5 specialisms. We are going to detail some of them throughout this article.

Medical professions

Medical and pharmaceutical professions regroup several professions. The first one being physicians who have followed specialist training (42 specialisms), the second one is dental surgeons and specialized dental surgeons (2 specialisms), the third one relates to midwives, and the last one pharmacist. The content and length of their training is currently regulated by the Public Health Code.

Medical auxiliaries who are in the second sector work on their prescription. Delegation of deeds/acts is an element of the willingness to mitigate the splits (silo formation) stated during the Great Health Conference. Incidentally it is now possible to get into second year of medical school with the ND.

<https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000034449796&dateTexte=&categorieLien=id>

This text highlights Mr HOLLANDE's government shown willingness to get out of (para)medical training's "organ pipe" logic.

Medical auxiliaries

Most medical auxiliaries (25 professions) act as a matter of principle on medical prescription. In France, most medical auxiliary professions established themselves to help with medical practice.

We will first discuss psychomotor therapists and their direct correspondents, and then their indirect correspondents, the professions regrouping the whole of medical

laboratory technologists, and we will finish with other profession within the medical field.

It seems wise to introduce the idea of pathway. This element, relative to initial training allows us to better take into account the overlapping exercise zone and the theoretical delimitations.

Psychomotricists

The profession is governed by a regulatory framework whose first acts date back to 1963. This non-exhaustive list provides information on the main degrees and laws governing the profession of psychomotor therapist. As a reminder, in 1974 decree N°. 74-112 established the state diploma of psycho-rehabilitator, then in 1988 a second decree advances our profession (N° 88-659) and on 6 May, a decree was issued concerning the performance of certain acts of psychomotor re-education. Then, in 1995, Decree No. 95-116 included psychomotricists in the list of Medical Auxiliaries and protected them against the illegal practice of the profession. In 2004, another decree came into force, modifying the 1998 decree and having an impact on the modalities of the preparatory studies for the state diploma of psychomotricists. All these decrees show the evolution of the profession and give its recognition to the practitioners of medical auxiliaries. All the modalities of practice are described in decree 2004-802.

Finally, the profession is governed by A4332 and the acts/fields/training by R4332.

Direct correspondents: rehabilitators' pathway

In addition to psychomotricists, 6 other professions are directly related to psychomotricists.

Physiotherapists

After the Hénart-Berland-Cadet report (Mr. Xavier Bertrand, Minister of Labour, Employment and Health, 2011) commissioned by the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Health jointly with the Ministry of Higher Education and Research, physiotherapists obtained a BAC +4+1, i.e. a "Master 1" with the possibility of doing a year of specialization conferring the grade "Master 2". The re-engineering was done according to the following principles:

- The training in masso-physiotherapy will be deployed over 4 years of specific training in a training institute from the beginning of September 2015. Every State graduate will benefit from 240 ECTS.
- The will of the government is to offer to the candidates equivalent chances to become physiotherapists whatever their place of residence and their resources. The objective is to abolish the competition from the beginning of the 2016 academic year.
- Pending the conclusions of work in progress on the most appropriate ways of entering health studies (first-year common curriculum in health reform), a year prior to entering a training institute is encouraged and takes various forms: first-year common curriculum in health, sports and exercise science and technology degree, 1st year of Bachelor of Science, allowing for a diversity of recruitment and profiles.

- Further work must be undertaken for the start of the 2016 academic year in order to determine the most relevant selection methods at the end of this year.
- In the case of a project for further studies, the first year validated may give rise to the capitalization of the ECTS resulting from it.

Order of September 2nd 2015 relating to the state diploma of physiotherapist.

Speech therapists

Speech therapists are in charge of the rehabilitation of the ENT sphere and of language in all its components. In addition to the mechanical aspects, we can talk about speech and language.

Orally, language corresponds to the construction of sentences while speech is composed of auditory elements around articulation, elocution, prosody. These acts are re-educated (if necessary) by the speech therapist. The voice, spoken or sung, is the setting in motion of a part of the vocal cords - ENT system. If I had to compare the oral elements with those of the written domain, oral language would obviously be the equivalent of written language. We find all the syntactic, orthographic, article and grammatical components. On the other hand, the equivalent of the "written word" would be the graphomotor act, the register of competence, on the rehabilitative level, of the psychomotorist. The act of writing is therefore a global act for expression and impression. This act encompassing the totality of the individual is, after all, psychomotor. (Vincent, 2010)

Speech therapists have been promoted to the master's degree. It should be noted that they originally had a certificate of competence and not a State Diploma or a national diploma, all of which is described by decree n°2013-798 of 30 August 2013 relating to the system of studies for the certificate of competence of speech and language therapists.

Occupational therapists

In this field are occupational therapists, who have quickly received a bachelor's degree but are now claiming for a reevaluation.

Order of July 5th 2010 relating to the state diploma of occupational therapist.

Indirect correspondents: Nurses

We can notice the presence of nurses who have been granted a two-level degree. "Basic" nurses have a bachelor's degree, while 3 categories have a master's degree: anaesthetist, pediatric nurse, operating room nurse.

Order of July 31st 2009 relating to the state diploma of nurse.

The exercise boundary, beyond the therapeutic conceptions, becomes more complex, opaque even, with professions with miscellaneous university recognition.

Medical technologists

Medical laboratory technicians

Decree n°2016-1430 of October 24th 2016 relating to the accreditation terms and conditions of biomedical laboratories.

X-ray technicians

Decree of August 21st 2012 and order of 24 August 2012 relating to the diploma of higher technician in medical imaging and therapeutic radiology.

Dispensing opticians

Decree n°2016-1381 of October 12th 2016 relating to the conditions of issuing prescription glasses or contact lenses and the conduct of business rules of dispensing opticians.

Hearing-aid technicians

Decree n° 2013-756 of August 19th 2013 relating to the regulatory requirements of book VI and VII of the education code.

Health professions

This field is comprised of all the professions practicing in the healthcare field participating in the treatment of pathologies, but are not registered to the Public Health Code. This includes chiropractors, osteopaths, psychologists, and psychotherapists.

Osteopaths

Decree n°2007-437 of March 25th 2007 relating to the training of osteopaths.

Chiropractors

Decree n°2011-32 of January 7th 2011 relating to the acts and practice conditions for chiropractic.

Psychologists

Thus, psychologists, recognized at Master (Bac+5) are not paramedics. In most institutions they are non-functional managers, hierarchically directly dependent on the director of the establishment. Non-compliance with the doctor's or executive's customs regulations is a function that psychologists demand in order to guarantee their autonomy of thought. For many, psychomotricity emerges from the work of a psychologist. This is only partially true, as the psychomotricist in France is at the confluence of many different work streams.

Decree n°90-255 of March 22nd 1990 setting the list of degrees allowing the professional use of the title of psychologist.

Psychotherapists

In order to protect patients as much as possible, the use of the title of psychotherapist was regulated in 2010 in order to avoid phenomena of misappropriation of the title, i.e. people using the title of psychotherapist without training or with invalid training.

This title has been officially recognized since article 52 of law n° 2004-806 of August 9th 2004 as amended relating to public health policy regulates the use of the title of psychotherapist and requires the registration of professionals in the national register of psychotherapists.

The decree of May 20th 2010 on the use of the title of psychotherapist, amended by the decree of 7 May 2012, specifies the terms and conditions.

Its purpose is to prevent the uncontrolled practice of psychotherapy in order to protect patients. However, it is difficult (impossible?) to defend oneself against the use of psychotherapy. It is therefore the title that is protected. Psychomotricists may have the same problems concerning the exercise of re-education/rehabilitation of the graphic gesture.

Professions as a whole

The conditions of access to and practice of health professions pursue the same overall goal of protecting patients and public health. The protection of the title is necessary to prevent any risk of confusion in the minds of patients as to the extent of the qualifications of the professional in question, and protects vulnerable patients, particularly with regard to the risk of sectarian aberrations and control over individuals.

At European level, there are a number of rules that States must implement regarding the conditions for practicing professions in the health field.

Thus, the duration and content of training for the medical and pharmaceutical professions are regulated by Directive 2005/36/EC, which lays down minimum conditions that must be respected by the States within initial training courses. This harmonization makes it possible to give full effect to mutual recognition while strengthening confidence between the competent authorities of the host and home States. The fact that the training courses are of a higher level or that the conditions for practicing are different is therefore not likely to dissuade European professionals from settling in France, either temporarily or permanently, as has already been pointed out.

The obligation for all health professionals to take out professional liability insurance, or a guarantee or similar package for treatment provided on the territory of a State derives from Directive 2011/24/EU of March 9th 2011 on the application of patients' rights in cross-border healthcare.

It should be stressed in this respect that rules relating to the number of trained professionals, such as the *numerus clausus*, are not enforceable against professionals trained in another Member State of the European Union or the European Economic Area and therefore have no effect on the mobility of professionals within the internal market.

The creation of interprofessional outpatient care societies (IOCS) by the law of August 10th 2011 amending certain provisions of the law of July 21st 2009 on hospital reform and relating to patients, health and territories, also allows the grouped and coordinated exercise of several health professionals. Health professionals (medical and paramedical professionals) can carry out certain targeted activities (therapeutic coordination, therapeutic education or cooperation between health professionals) together with other health professionals in the framework of multi-professional health centers set up in the form of (IOCS). »

In addition, other professions are on the fringes of the psychomotricists' professional practice.

Social services sector

We can find the educators who can boast of a work close to psychomotricity. The frontier is both in the legislative and formative framework.

The goal of the social work assistant is to care for disadvantaged populations in the best conditions. The most vulnerable sections of the population thus benefit from assistance in overcoming social difficulties and gradually gaining autonomy in order to

facilitate their integration into society. This profession is the oldest one in the social work sector.

"The profession is characterized by the exclusive protection of the use of the professional title (article L. 411-1 of the Social Action and Families Code). The regulations do not provide for

any monopoly of acts. After much consideration, the question of the regulation of the profession of social work assistant will undoubtedly be subject to an in-depth examination, bearing in mind that the profession is currently regulated solely by the use of the title." (French Authorities, 2016).

We can therefore see that the social services sector, according to the aforementioned action plan, only takes into account the social service assistant despite the wealth of practice on French territory; this has the aim of homogenizing practices at the European level.

National Education

Schoolteacher and other teachers

As mentioned in the introduction, these people have been, historically, the "frontline" correspondents of psychomotricists owing to the encounter with the child and consequently of their potential pathology. It is interesting to notice that the prevalence figures are indicative regarding both learning disabilities and psychopathologies (psychiatric).

Physical Education Teachers (PE)

The French government wishes to offer APA (adapted physical activities) through PE teachers, meaning they could, in the decree's initial version, offer physical activities to patients with certain chronic pathologies. The role of the psychomotricist and some other health professionals is important for carriers of serious and/or chronic diseases.

Practical implications: Controlling body of the profession

It seems appropriate to mention the bodies that regulate the profession internally (non-governmental bodies).

Corporatist unions

There are several entities that represent the profession of psychomotricists in France. As founding president of ANEP (National Association of Students in Psychomotricity) from 2005 to 2008, it seems tricky to me to refer to these bodies in a neutral way because "The aim is to form a conception of reality that includes ourselves and our point of view among its objects, but it seems that what forms this conception, whatever it is, will not be included in it". (NAGEL, 1993). It is important to appreciate that the rational is close to the moral; an element to be brought closer to the personal. It is therefore necessary to be as moral as possible, without this being entirely feasible.

I will thus quote the FFP (French Federation of Psychomotricists) for its investment in international organizations such as the EFP (European Forum of Psychomotricity) and the OIPR (International Organization for Psychomotricity and Relaxation).

National Professional Council of Psychomotricists

Its recent creation provides the profession with a direct link for the training of psychomotricists with the government through the National Agency for Continuing Professional Development. Concretely, the CNPP validates the competent training organizations with the government. It is assisted by an Independent Scientific Council (ISC).

Professional/Governing Board

As for the obligation to register with an Order, it allows to impose ethical rules and disciplinary jurisdictions on professionals. However, this is not yet on the agenda for French psychomotricists.

Conclusions

Knowing the legislation surrounding the profession of psychomotricists is important to better help it progress in the continuity of its history and in partnership with countries that benefit from the expertise of psychomotricists.

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Sitography

All the legal texts, decrees and articles are available at [https // www.legifrance.gouv.fr](https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr)

English translation by Fleur GOLDSCHMIDT