Professional situation of Prosthetics and Orthotics recent graduates in ESTeSL

2004/2015 to 2012/2013 - a sociographic portrait

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1. Introduction

The career of prosthetics and orthotics in Portugal have a recent formative path:

Need to investigate the employability and employment of the graduates in Prosthetic and Orthotics (P&O) in ESTeSL between the academic years of 2004/05 and 2012/13

Approaching to socio-demographic data and also academic and professional path

The questionnaire was applied to the P&O professional population graduated in ESTeSL

The results had been important to observe the future perspectives trends for the profession.

Graphic 1: Percentage of answers in the questionnaire
2. Sociodemographic Characterization

2.1 Gender and Age Group
2. Sociodemographic Characterization

2.1 Gender and Age group

3 in 4 individuals are females

91% are between 20 and 30 years old

Graphic 2: P&O professionals gender distribution.

Graphic 3: Age groups of P&O graduates.
3. Academic trajectory

3.1. Degree and post-degree education
The final degree classification is important to select practices and first job offers (Marques, 2007).

Graphic 4: Final Degree Classification.

Graphic 5: Percentage of P&O professionals with post-degree courses.

4.3% MSc Degree
8.7% with MSc Degree in course
4. Profissional Path

4.1. Actual employment situation

4.2. First job

4.3. Actual job
## 4. Profissional Path

### 4.1. Actual employment situation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Looking for the first job</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On professional internship in P&amp;O</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prosthetics and Orthotics employee</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>62.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed in other professional area</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>92</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1: Actual employment situation.

P&O unemployment rate 8.7%

Unemployment rate with Superior Education level 10.0%

Rates of 2014
In INE: PORDATA February 2015

Nacional unemployment rate 13.0%

In INE April 2015
4.2. First Job

Shearching job timespan

Match with GENDER

Don’t Know/ Not aplicated

Less than 1 month

Between 2 and 6 months

Between 7 and 12 months

More than 12 months

• 95,7% employed males
• 83,9% employed females

Graphic 6: Match between gender and shearching job timespan.
4.3. Actual Job

Workplaces

- Other institution type: 14.30%
- Orthopedic houses: 63.10%
- Public-private partnership: 1.20%
- University + Orthopedic houses: 2.40%
- University: 3.60%
- Public Hospital: 1.20%
- Private Hospital: 3.60%
- Pharmacy: 1.20%
- Orthopedic and hospital products company: 4.80%
- Clinic: 4.80%

63.1% Employees in Orthopedic houses
3.6% have exclusively teaching functions

Graphic 7: Workplaces of the actual job.
5. Geographic Mobility

5.1. Mobility from curricular Internship to actual job
5. Geographic Mobility

5.1 Curricular Internship to actual job

Graphic 8: Distribution of curricular internship and actual job

- Foreign countries:
  - Internship: 28%
  - Actual job: 17%

- Portugal:
  - Internship: 72%
  - Actual job: 83%

Graphic 9: Comparisson of the graduate’s distribution in different countries: Curricular Internship, First job and actual job

- Spain:
  - Internship: 50%
  - First job: 28%
  - Actual job: 17%

- Brasil
- France
- Germany
- Finland

These graphs illustrate the distribution of curricular internship, first job, and actual job among graduates in different countries.
6. Conclusions

The majority are young female professionals

Lack of post-graduated education in Portugal

Easier employment for male gender – less time searching

The mainstream of P&O professionals are working in Orthopaedic Houses, performing laboratory and selling functions

Nowadays the employment in Portugal is concentrated in Lisbon
6. Conclusions

Nearly half of student’s curricular internships were abroad

The European Mobility programmes for curricular internships reveals more employment abroad.

- New competences and experiences
- Learning new technics and methodologies
- Compliance – very useful in the work market
Special acknowledgement from the working team

The ISPO congress organization

The investigation study guiders

Thank you very much for your attention
7. References

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