



**European Parliament
Thursday, 2 April 2009
13:30**

12:45 - 13:15
Registration

13:30
Opening
Dr. Ton Nicolai, President European Committee for Homeopathy, Moderator

13:35
Welcome address
Marian Harkin MEP

13:50
Introduction to the seminar
Dr. Ton Nicolai

14:00
Endometriosis and me
Helen Llewelyn, Patient, United Kingdom

14:20
Patients' rights in the European Union as regards complementary medicine
Prof. Dr. Jaap G. Sijmons, Professor of Health Law, Utrecht University, The Netherlands

14:50
Coffee break

15:15
Integrated medicine in the EU: the best of both worlds
Prof. Dr. George Lewith, Professor of Health Research, University of Southampton, United Kingdom

15:45
Homeopathy and complementary medicine in Tuscany, Italy: integration in the public health system
Dr. Elio Rossi, Homeopathic Clinic, Campo di Marte Hospital, Lucca, Regional Reference Center & Consultant of the Regional Ministry of Health of Tuscany, Italy

16:15
Panel discussion and audience debate

16:50
Close
Dr. Ton Nicolai

17:00 - 19:00
Reception
Welcome address
Marian Harkin MEP



Second EU Homeopathy Day

1. Facts and figures

- 65% of Europeans report they have used complementary and alternative medicine (CAM); 30-50% use CAM as self-support and 10-20% have seen a CAM practitioner in the last year.
- Homeopathy is a long-standing European therapeutic tradition with an overall positive safety record first established over two hundred years ago; it is used today by more than 100 million Europeans and enjoys continuous growth in popularity with patients, doctors and practitioners.
- Three out of four Europeans know about homeopathy and of these 29% use it for their own healthcare.
- 150,000 doctors have taken training in CAM in Europe.
- There are 54,000 specialised homeopathic medical doctors and practitioners in Europe.
- Between 25% and 40% of European healthcare practitioners prescribe homeopathy occasionally, 7% on a regular basis.
- Thousands of homeopathic medicinal products have been safely on the market in Europe for many decades; these products are low risk, mostly derived from natural substances and usually highly diluted.
- The industry for homeopathic and anthroposophic medicinal products represents 1% of the European pharmaceutical market and 7% of the European non-prescription market (In 2005 this was equal to €1 771 million at consumer prices).
- Sales of homeopathic and anthroposophic medicines in Europe are growing by an average 5% a year.
- The top ten EU Member States in terms of sales volumes are France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Belgium, Great Britain and Poland. France has the highest consumption per head of homeopathic medicinal products in Europe with an average spend of €7 per citizen in 2005. Poland is the biggest player in the CEEC Member States in terms of sales.
- 8 out of 27 EU Member States have issued national policies on CAM including homeopathy (Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Portugal, United Kingdom); other EU Member States have specific regulations on homeopathy (Latvia, Lithuania, Romania); some Member States have delegated that task to the medical associations. In Germany, Austria, Switzerland and Latvia homeopathy is recognised as an additional medical qualification by the national medical associations. In France, Spain, Italy and Greece the national medical associations are favourably disposed to homeopathy; in France and Italy they have asked the government for legislation in this field.
- Studies demonstrate that GPs who integrated homeopathy in their practice achieved better results for similar cost. A French Government Report showed that the total cost of homeopathic care per physician was approximately half of the total cost of the care provided by conventional physicians, with the overall cost per patient under homeopathic care 15% less.
- Homeopathic medicines cost considerably less than conventional drugs; in France they represent 5% of all medicines prescribed by physicians, and only 1.2% of all drug reimbursements.



2. EU initiatives

January – March 2009 Several Parliamentary Questions have been tabled asking the Commission to explain the poor functioning of the legislation for homeopathic medicinal products in the Community. (see <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/QP-WEB/application/search.do>)

23 October 2007 Second Program of Community Action in the Field of Health (2008-2013). *The EP amended the Commission proposal and included complementary medicine in the scope of the Program. "The Program should recognise the importance of a holistic approach to public health and take into account, where appropriate and where*



there is scientific or clinical evidence about its efficacy, complementary and alternative medicine in its actions". European funding will be open for studies on the contribution of complementary medicine to public health.

18 December 2006 Seventh Community Framework Research Program (2007-2013). *The EP amended the Commission proposal and included complementary medicine in the scope of the Program. European funding will be open for studies on the delivery of complementary health care services.*

17 December 2003 EP decision Second Reading on the adoption of Directive 2004/27/EC and 2004/24/EC amending Directive 2001/83/EC: *Rejection of all the amendments that could have solved the problems of homeopathic medicinal products because of lack of time expressed by the Commission due to the accession of the new Member States in May 2004 and the end of the term of the Parliament in June 2004.*

2 October 2002 Report European Parliament - Environmental Committee on the proposal for a EP and Council directive amending Directive 2001/83/EC on the Community code relating to medicinal products for human use *Rapporteur Françoise Grossetête mainly repeated the amendments of the EP proposed in 1998 during the creation of Directives 2001/82/EC and 2001/83/EC.*

28 October 1998 Report on the Commission report from July 1997 to the EP and the Council on the application of Directives 92/73/EEC and 92/74/EEC on homeopathic medicinal products. *The report and the proposed resolution underlined all conclusions of the European Commission and asked for expansion of research funding. This report is a critical assessment of the legal regime brought about by Directives 92/73/EEC and 92/74/EEC.*

29 May 1997 EP Resolution on the status of non-conventional medicine of the European Parliament. *The Resolution related to MEPs Collins and Lannoye was voted with a very large majority. In the conclusion the Parliament calls on the Commission to launch a process of recognizing non-conventional medicine.*

3. Homeopathy: cost-effectiveness

Although a full-scale economic evaluation of homeopathy has not yet taken place, there are a number of studies and reports that point to its cost-effectiveness

- Two studies of non-randomised, parallel-group, design recorded the outcomes and costs of treatment by German¹ and French² General Practitioners (GPs) who integrated homeopathy in their practice, compared with those who did not. The results of the two studies are congruent: **GPs who integrated homeopathy in their practice achieved better results for similar cost.** (See below for study details).
- A 1991 French Government Report³ showed a significantly reduced cost from homeopathic care versus conventional medical care. The total **cost of homeopathic care per physician was approximately half of the total cost of the care provided by conventional physicians.** However, because homeopathic physicians, on average, saw significantly fewer patients, **the overall cost per patient under homeopathic care was still a significant 15% less.** It is also interesting to note that these savings appear to increase the longer a physician has been using homeopathy.
- A 1996 study of 130,000 prescriptions⁴ confirmed the results of the 1991 French government report (above) and suggested significant benefits and savings as a result of homeopathic treatment. This survey also noted that **the number of paid sick leave days by patients under the care of homeopathic physicians were 3.5 times less (598 days/year) than patients under the care of general practitioners (2,017 days/year).** These figures suggest further benefit and savings to the homeopathic approach to care.

¹ Witt C, Keil T, Selim D, Roll S, Vance W, Wegscheider K, Willich SN (2005).

Outcome and costs of homeopathic and conventional treatment strategies: a comparative cohort study in patients with chronic disorders. *Complementary Therapies in Medicine*, 13:79–86.

² Trichard M, Chauferin G, Nicoloyannis N (2005). Pharmacoeconomic comparison between homeopathic and antibiotic treatment strategies in recurrent acute rhinopharyngitis in children. *Homeopathy*, 94:3–9.

³ French Government Report: Social Security Statistics, CNAM (National Inter-Regulations System) 61, January, 1991.

⁴ Caisse Nationale de l'Assurance Maladie des Travailleurs Salaris, 1996.

- Homeopathic medicines are reimbursable under the French health care system, in part because they **cost considerably less than conventional drugs** (on average, the cost of a homeopathic medicine is 7 French francs (€1) versus 23.00 French francs (€3.5) for conventional drugs). Although **homeopathic medicines in France represent 5% of all medicines prescribed by physicians, they represent only 1.2% of all drug reimbursements** due to the lower cost per prescription.⁵



- **Witt et al. (2005)⁶** This study compared homeopathic and conventional GPs' outcomes in chronic diagnoses commonly treated in general practice (adults – headache, low back pain, depression, insomnia, sinusitis; children – atopic asthma, dermatitis, rhinitis). They collected data on symptom severity as rated by patient and doctor, quality of life and costs of consultations, medication, physiotherapy, hospitalisation, sick pay and medical devices at 6 and 12 months. The study was sponsored by a Krankenkasse (health insurance company), which also provided the economic data. 493 patients were treated by 101 homeopathic and 59 conventional GPs. The patients treated by the two groups of GPs were generally similar, although those who attended homeopathic GPs generally had a higher level of education; adjustment was made for these differences in the analysis. **The conclusion was that patients who sought homeopathic treatment had better outcomes for similar cost.**
- **Trichard, Chaufferin & Nicoloyannis (2005)⁷** This study compared two treatment approaches ('homeopathic strategy' vs. 'antibiotic strategy') used in routine medical practice by allopathic and homeopathic GPs in the management of recurrent acute rhinopharyngitis in 499 18-month to 4-year-old children. **The GPs using homeopathy had significantly better results in terms of clinical effectiveness, complications, parents' quality of life and time lost from work, for lower cost to social security.**
- **Van Wassenhoven and Ives (2004)** This study gathered data about routine homeopathic general practice from eight general medical practices in Belgium where physicians were homeopathic doctors. Compared to previous conventional treatment, patients reported that consultations were longer but cost less. **Prescription costs (including conventional medicines) were one third the general practice average.** Patients were very satisfied with their homeopathic treatment, both they and their physicians recorded significant improvement. Costs of homeopathic treatment were significantly lower than conventional treatment and many previously prescribed drugs were discontinued.
- **Smallwood et al (2005)⁸** This study investigated the potential contribution of mainstream complementary therapies to healthcare in the UK. To the extent that homeopathic treatments are effective, **they appear to offer the potential for substantial cost savings, particularly in drugs bills for primary care.** The evidence also indicates fewer adverse effects than conventional remedies and a reduced need for follow-up appointments.

⁵ See footnote 4.

⁶ See footnote 1.

⁷ See footnote 2.

⁸ Smallwood C (2005). The role of Complementary and Alternative Medicine in the NHS – an Investigation into the Potential Contribution of Mainstream Complementary Therapies to Healthcare in the UK.

4. Speakers

Dr. Ton Nicolai , *Moderator*

President, European Committee for Homeopathy

Dr Ton Nicolai is the President of the European Committee of Homeopathy (ECH), a European association of medical doctors specialised in homeopathic medicine. Dr Nicolai has specialised in homeopathy since 1983 and currently runs a medical practice in Rotterdam.

In 2007, Dr Nicolai was awarded a Royal Distinction on behalf of the Queen of the Netherlands, the Companion in the Order of Oranje-Nassau, for his tireless efforts for homeopathy in the Netherlands and abroad.

He is a board member of the Dutch Homeopathic Doctors' Association (VHAN), a member of the International Homeopathic Medical League, and an Honorary Fellow of the Faculty of Homeopathy in the UK. He received his medical degree from Leiden University in 1972.

Dr Nicolai's most recent publications include 'Homeopathy: Overview and analysis of clinical research' and 'Towards a new model of health and disease: A new perspective on how to achieve good health for all across the EU (2004)'. He is a member of the World Health Organisation's editorial group for a report on the worldwide status of scientific research on homeopathy.



'Over 200,000 medical doctors all over the world who have specialised in homeopathy have the experience that homeopathy is an effective, safe and gentle first-choice therapy in many medical conditions, keeping more invasive conventional treatment as a second option.'

Marian Harkin MEP

Marian Harkin is an Independent MEP for the North and West Constituency of Ireland. Marian was elected as a Member of the Irish Parliament from 2002 - 2007 and has been a Member of the European Parliament since 2004. As the only Irish Member of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats (ALDE), Marian is a full member of the Regional Development Committee, ALDE Co-ordinator for the Petitions Committee and substitute member of the Employment and Social Affairs Committee. Marian is also a member of the Disability Interest Group, co-President and founder of the Carers Interest Group and the Volunteering Interest Group. Marian was nominated as MEP of the Year (2008) for spearheading the campaign to have 2011 declared the European Year on Volunteering.

Marian Harkin has been actively supportive of the Irish Association of Health Food Stores (IAHS) and the Alliance for Natural Health's (ANH) campaign in relation to the setting of the maximum permitted levels for vitamins and minerals in food supplements. As ALDE Co-ordinator for the Petitions Committee, Marian has supported the IAHS Petition which was signed by over 60,000 Irish citizens. Given that over 100 million patients throughout the EU choose homeopathic medicines - Marian Harkin is supportive of the important role that homeopathy plays in providing effective therapy, promoting health and preventing disease for many EU citizens.

Other areas of interest for Marian include, antidiscrimination legislation, cross border health care, patient safety, gender equality, active participation of young people and indeed all citizens in participative democracy in particular through inputting into consultation/review processes initiated by the EU Commission.



'100 million patients across the EU choose homeopathy as part of their health care. It is time for the European institutions to fully acknowledge the important role this safe and effective therapy plays in promoting health and preventing disease for so many European citizens. Complementary therapies such as homeopathy should be firmly integrated into EU health policy.'

Helen Llewelyn

Patient with endometriosis

Helen Llewelyn is 30. She works as a Production Manager in the advertising industry in London.

She suffers from Endometriosis, a debilitating and limiting disease suffered by one in ten women, in which the cells usually found in the lining of the womb exist outside, and adhere to abdominal organs such as the bowel and intestine. Conventional treatment consists of hormone therapy and risky operations.

Helen has suffered with painful periods since she was 13 years old. For a few years she managed her condition with conventional medicines but took a break from these due to her GP's concerns over the side effects. In 2007 she had an operation to remove the stray endometrial cells and also a large cyst from her ovary. The operation was successful but she still suffered from the psychological effects of her disease as well as lower level but constant pain.

At the end of 2007 she met a homeopathic doctor at a local Endometriosis Awareness Day. She asked her General Practitioner to refer her to the Royal London Homeopathic Hospital. Within a few months, homeopathy had significantly improved her state of mind and pain levels. It continues to help her today.



'Homeopathy helped me enormously and continues to help me today. For the first time in my disease's history, someone has understood, someone finally 'got' what I have been experiencing: I believe all patients should have access to the type of treatment I have received, if they so choose and doctors should be sufficiently trained to understand what homeopathy can achieve for patients and know when it is appropriate to recommend it, as in my case.'

Prof. mr. dr. dr. Jaap Sijmons

*Professor of health law - Utrecht University,
The Netherlands*

In addition to being professor of health law at Utrecht University, Jaap Sijmons is a barrister and partner of Nysingh advocaten-notarissen legal firm where he specialises in health care. He studied at University of Utrecht and has two PhDs, one in medical law and one in philosophy.

Professor Sijmons is an honorary member of the Arnhem Court of Appeals and is a member of a variety of other organisations including the Molengraaff Institute of Civil Law the Editorial Board of *Tijdschrift voor Gezondheidsrecht* (Journal for Health) and the Vereniging voor Wijsbegeerte en Recht (Society for the Philosophy of Law). He has also been a member of *Vereniging voor Gezondheidsrecht*, a scientific association for lawyers and others interested in healthcare since 1990 and a member of its Board since 2009.

He has published a numerous books, studies and articles on health and the law.



'Complementary medicine and in particular homeopathy have a long tradition in Europe and are used by millions of patients across the EU. These traditions suffer and may even disappear because EU harmonisation measures are tailored to mainstream medicinal products and not suited to complementary medicines. The availability thereof is thereby threatened. As the preference for complementary medicine is deeply rooted in patients' rights, this situation cannot last. Appropriate legislation and regulation is urgently needed, as a matter of good political and governmental policy in the field of health care.'

Prof. George Lewith MRCP, MRCGP, MD (PhD)

Professor of Health Research at the University of Southampton

Professor George Lewith is professor of Health Research at the School of Medicine at the University of Southampton where he leads the Complementary and Integrated Medicine Research Unit within the Department of Primary Care. He also works part-time as a physician practicing integrated medicine (acupuncture, homeopathy, nutritional medicine and conventional medicine).

Professor Lewith studied biochemistry at Trinity College, Cambridge and has both an MD and a PhD. In 1978, he trained in acupuncture in China. Dr Lewith is a member and Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians (MRCP) a member of the Royal College of General Practitioners.

The Complementary and Integrated Medicine Research Unit is focused on differentiating the specific from the non-specific effects of complementary medicine and developing models that will help explain patient perceived benefits of these interventions. The unit is currently using pain, arthritis and cancer as illness models, investigating the effects of acupuncture, homeopathy and herbal medicines. It contributes substantially to the centre of excellence within the Department of Primary Care at Southampton University.

Professor Lewith has published over 100 peer reviewed papers and contributed to over 30 books during his career. He is the former president of the International Society for Complementary Medical Research) (ISCMR) and has consulted many national and international government agencies, funding bodies and charities.

Dr. Elio Rossi

Homeopathic Clinic, Campo di Marte Hospital, Lucca, Regional Reference Center & Consultant of the Regional Ministry of Health of Tuscany

Dr Elio Rossi specialises in infectious diseases and in homeopathy. He is the Director of the Homeopathic Clinic of Campo di Marte Hospital in Lucca, Italy, the regional reference centre for the region of Tuscany region.

He graduated from University of Milan in medicine in 1979, specialising in infectious diseases in 1982. He studied natural and homeopathic medicine between 1977-78 at the Institute of Homeopathic Medicine (IMO) of Milan with further studies at the Groups of Homeopathia Europea.

Dr Rossi is the editor, co-author, author, scientific supervisor or contributor to a number of books and research on homeopathy and complementary medicine. He is scientific director of *Medicina Naturale*, the main Italian journal about complementary and alternative medicine. He writes a weekly rubric "The Other Medicine" for *La Repubblica*, the Italian national newspaper.

Dr Rossi is the teaching director and professor at the School for Classical Homeopathy *Mario Garlasco* in Florence and has taught homeopathic courses at the Universities of Florence, Bologna and Ravenna, Pisa and Siena. He is a Member of the Faculty of Homeopathy of London and has been a member of the National Commission on complementary and alternative medicine of Italian Ministry of Health and the Regional Commission on complementary and alternative medicine of Regione Toscana (Tuscany).



'Complementary and alternative medicine is very much a patient driven agenda with the EU, with approximately 20% of EU citizens using some form of CAM each year. Most clinicians working in primary care in the EU see the benefit of an integrated approach and many practice some forms of CAM. We need to build on this largely positive perception from both patients and their clinicians to improve the quality of care within complementary medicine as well as the communication between conventional and complementary practice.'



'The Region of Tuscany's integration of complementary medicine (acupuncture and Traditional Chinese Medicine, phytotherapy and homeopathy) in the public regional healthcare system is unanimously considered to be the most significant in Italy and at European level. This level of integration has been achieved also thanks to the Health Regional Ministry of Tuscany.'



5. The Second EU Homeopathy Day is organised by the associations of patients, doctors, practitioners and manufacturers in the field of complementary medicine in Europe

Patients' associations



European Federation of Homeopathic Patients' Associations (EFHPA)

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EFHPA was formed in October 2003 in Marseille in response to the EU Commission's desire to deal with only one organisation on behalf of patients.

Prior to becoming EFHPA, the group developed and met regularly as the patient/users sub-committee of the European Committee for Homeopath (ECH). EFHPA remains affiliated to the ECH. EFHPA is a member of the European Patients' Forum (EPF) and is a corresponding member of ECHAMP (European Coalition on Homeopathic and Anthroposophic Medicinal Products). In 2007 EFHPA became a member of the EPHA (European Public Health Alliance).

EFHPA – Function and Mission

EFHPA represents patients in Europe using or seeking homeopathic treatment.

The following aims are stated within the statutes:

- Promotion of homeopathy
- Integration of homeopathy in European health care
- Raising political awareness about homeopathy in European health care authorities
- Support in founding and developing national patients' organisations all over Europe
- Representation of regional and national homeopathic patients' organisations
- Defend the right to freely choose homeopathy



European Federation of national Patient's organizations active in the field of Anthroposophic Medicine and health care

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EFPAM is a European federation of national patients' organisations active in the field of anthroposophic medicine and health care, which comprises at present of 13 associations in 13 European countries. EFPAM represents the views and interests of people who want to use anthroposophic medicine in all its forms, as an alternative or complementary to allopathic medicine. EFPAM is a strong ally in the defense of the individual right to self-determination in matters of health. It promotes an equal status of anthroposophic medicine and health care in European and national legislation and the inclusion of all forms of anthroposophic medicine in national and private health insurance schemes. The Federation promotes patients' awareness and responsibility for the preservation and promotion of their own health and encourages research into anthroposophic medicine and therapies.

EFPAM is an active partner in several initiatives in the field of complementary and alternative medicine.

Doctors' associations



European Committee for Homeopathy (ECH)

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The ECH (European Committee for Homeopathy) is the one and only European association of medical doctors specialised in homeopathic medicine. It represents 37 homeopathic doctors' associations in 24 European countries as well as many homeopathic veterinarians, dentists and pharmacists in Europe.

The ECH aims to promote and defend the quality of the science and medical practice of homeopathy, to promote harmonisation of the medical practice of homeopathy in Europe, and to represent both individuals and organisations throughout Europe that share the same aims. The final aim of the ECH is the full integration of homeopathy within the European healthcare system, which will meet the growing demand among European citizens for homeopathic care within a professional medical context.



European Council of doctors for Plurality in Medicine (ECPM)

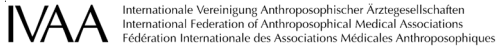
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ECPM (European Council of doctors for Plurality in Medicine) is a European federation which is grouping 48 medical associations (52.000 members) in the field of CAM (Complementary and Alternative Medicine) all over Europe. These associations are composed solely of doctors in medicine having an acknowledged diploma.

The objectives of ECPM are:

- to promote pluralism in medicine for integrative medicine becomes a reality at European level
- to co-ordinate the different activities on an international level in order to promote the official recognition of the diversity of CAM therapies
- to facilitate mutual assistance between the members in order
- to protect CAM therapies as regarding the legal environment.

Doctors' associations



International Federation of Anthroposophic Medical Associations (IVAA)

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The IVAA represents the international umbrella organization of the national anthroposophic medical associations in matters relating to political and legal concerns. In 2009 the IVAA has members in 18 EU Member States as well as Norway and Switzerland, and in a further 11 countries worldwide. As non-profitable NGO the IVAA stands for safeguarding of pluralism in medicine and for freedom of choice of treatment.

The specific aims of the IVAA in the field of health and medicine include:

- Safeguarding the legal status of Anthroposophic Medicine (AM)
- Dialogue with politicians and civil servants in matters relating to AM
- Proactive development of political activities for AM within international and EU-frameworks
- Coordinating educational, training and research issues of AM with regard to political relevance
- Cooperating with other health organizations including the major European medical umbrella organizations in the field of CAM

The IVAA is a founding member of the NGO ELIANT (European Alliance of Initiatives for Applied Anthroposophy, www.eliand.eu), and a member of the European Public Health Alliance (EPHA), www.ephac.com. The IVAA is closely attached with the Medical Section of the School of Spiritual Science at the Goetheanum, Dornach, Switzerland. www.medsektion-goetheanum.org.

Health practitioners' associations



Association of Natural Medicine in Europe e.V. (ANME)

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The Association of Natural Medicine in Europe is the voice for Traditional, Complementary and Alternative Medicine TM/CAM in Europe. We are a non governmental organisation (NGO) which represents the interests of TM/CAM in the fields of health, nutrition, consumer protection and research at European and national level. We work for a common network in all European institutions. We organise an European Symposium titled "Natural Medicine in Europe – Quo Vadis?" with European speakers from all health-related political areas.

ANME stands for freedom in practice of TM/CAM and the patient's choice and possibility to use TM/CAM in future too. ANME stands also for the protection and support of traditional remedies and modern natural medicals. We demand urgently the recognition of TM/CAM as an 'Intangible Cultural Heritage- ICH'.

Health practitioners' associations



European Council for Classical Homeopathy (ECCH)

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ECCH (European Council for Classical Homeopathy) is a European council established in 1990 whose members are the professional associations of homeopaths across Europe. It currently has 24 full member associations and 3 applicant associations for membership in 23 countries.

Its aims are, in the interest of its members and all European citizens:

- To encourage and support the establishment of uniform high standards of the practice of homeopathy across Europe.
- To work with European and national government institutions – to promote and protect the legal practice of homeopathy by qualified homeopaths.
- To ensure the access of patients and homeopaths to the full range of homeopathic medicinal products necessary for effective homeopathic treatment.



European Federation for Naturopathy (EFN)

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The EFN - European Federation for Naturopathy is a European association. Members are non-medical practitioners and organisations which get involved with naturopathy.

The EFN-European Federation for Naturopathy is interested in keeping up naturopathic therapies and naturopathic remedies. Another interest of this association is well-founded education and further educations on a common level for all nonmedical practitioners in Europe.

The EFN-European Federation for Naturopathy tries to succeed by getting contact to responsible political and non political organisations, committees and universities of applied science and by public relations.

Naturopathy is a second column of public health care. Conventional and non conventional medicines complement one another. Thereby patient's right of free choice of therapy will be encouraged.



Manufacturers' association



European Coalition on Homeopathic and Anthroposophic Medicinal Products E.E.I.G. (ECHAMP)

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ECHAMP is the European Coalition on Homeopathic and Anthroposophic Medicinal Products and represents the vast majority of the industry for these products in Europe.

ECHAMP believes that homeopathy and anthroposophic medicine should be fully integrated into health care provision in Europe and works towards an appropriate EU legal and regulatory framework to ensure the easy availability of the full range of these medicinal products, essential for the successful practice and development of these traditional therapies.

International association



World Homeopathic Awareness Organization (WHAO)

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WHAO (World Homeopathic Awareness Organization) is an official non-profit, non-governmental organisation. It is incorporated as a foundation under the law of The Netherlands since the 21st of November 2008.

WHAO has created a network of organisations of homeopaths whether they are medical doctors or professionals trained in homeopathy as a discrete discipline in itself, patient organisations and others interested in homeopathy from more than 40 countries around the globe.

Its aim is to plan and co-ordinate an annual World Homeopathy Awareness Week. During and around Hahnemann's birthday on 10th of April, events are taking place to inform and educate the public.