



American Naturopathic Association  
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□ POSITION PAPER □

**HOMEOPATHY**

Homeopathic medicines have been of demonstrated value as a modality used by naturopathic doctors for a century. It is a matter of record that hostile investigators have historically publicized faulty studies that seem to discount its efficacy while burying positive ones. Naturopathic doctors are very familiar with this tactic and recognize that if Homeopathy was truly worthless, its critics would not have to stoop to deception.

Pseudo-medical naturopaths are now beginning to distance themselves from Homeopathy in an attempt to be more palatable to those in mainstream medicine who are organizing “integrative medicine”. A 2019 paper published in the *Journal of Evidence Based Integrative Medicine*<sup>1</sup> had a team of naturopathic physicians essentially calling for homeopathic training to be omitted from naturopathic colleges. They wrote:

“...homeopathy has escaped, and continues to escape, biological plausibility; however, the persistence of this modality (and the insistence by both its consumers and practitioners that it provides benefit) speaks to the role of expectations, beliefs, values, agency, context effects, and the placebo-at-large. It is our contention that the progression of professional naturopathic medicine in the 21st century requires a major transition in how it approaches the subject of homeopathy.”

The presence of the term “evidence based” in the very name is evidence in itself—that the writers count on the casual reader assuming that they are scientific and what they criticize is not. Trained homeopaths have for generations observed *evidence* in the positive responses of not only human patients, but animals and plants as well. Since the placebo effect is impossible

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<sup>1</sup> Nelson, Perchaluk, Logan, and Katzman: The Bell Tolls for Homeopathy: Time for Change in the Training and Practice of North American Naturopathic Physicians; J Evid Based Integr Med. 2019 Jan 16;24:2515690X18823696.  
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in these last two groups, the claim of these writers that suggestion is the only possible mechanism does not bear serious consideration.

If the “integrative medicine”-oriented naturopathic physicians wish to distance themselves from Homeopathy, we cannot deny them this, as they have already downplayed so much of what made Naturopathy so vital in the first place.

It is the position of the American Naturopathic Association that the educational institutions accredited by the Associated Naturopathic Schools and Colleges of America (ANSCA) continue to offer homeopathic education and we encourage ANA members to incorporate Homeopathy into their treatment armamentariums.