

***The Codex Alimentarius Commission and Naturopathy**

Editorial by John Gilbert, Ph.D.

Any alternative health care product or service that replaces any pharmaceutical drug is slowly being phased out by CAC, FDA and licensing agencies in the USA. The only traditional naturopaths under direct attack now are those who are very visible in their efforts to replace pharmaceuticals. Over the next two years this will change dramatically as CAC and the FDA implement CAC guidelines more and more. Traditional naturopaths who want to save their profession and protect their income will need to make several changes in the way they do business.

CAC intends to change naturopathy forever. At this writing, CAC is lobbying 19 interested states to license Naturopathic Medical Doctors (NMD). Other states have already passed similar licensing legislation. The remaining states have indicated no interest but CAC continues to lobby them anyway.

At the same time, CAC is working with several traditional naturopathic colleges to offer optional courses in pharmacology to all students. Some of these colleges will agree and they will become the training ground for licensed NMDs in their area.

This is the way CAC works. The state legislatures believe they're doing a good thing for the public by licensing naturopaths. The schools believe pharmacology courses are optional. But, under the Codex Alimentarius Treaty which the US and Canada have already signed, just the opposite is true. These courses will be mandatory and graduates who become licensed will have the legal right to prescribe drugs to their patients.

CAC will control the process for selecting members to these licensing boards just as they have in those states that already license naturopath medical doctors. The boards will mandate pharmacology - the curriculum for these classes has already been created by CAC - because CAC will "advise" them to comply with the Codex Treaty. Licensed NMDs will be required to take the pharmacology course or relinquish their license. Licensed NMDs who do not prescribe drugs as their first intervention will be counseled and "harmonized" or relinquish their license.

If you thought the phrase "Naturopathic Medical Doctor" was an oxymoron, you haven't seen anything yet. Codex will turn them into drug dealers just as they did osteopaths and psychiatrists. Those naturopaths who do not elect to become drug dealers will no longer be naturopaths. Codex will eliminate traditional naturopaths and homeopaths by December 31, 2009 under the terms of the Codex Treaty unless these traditional practitioners comply with Codex regulations and become "harmonized" as drug pushing medical naturopaths.

The only way to avoid this is to stop the federal government from implementing the Codex Treaty each and every time legislation is introduced to implement the next phase. I suggest you subscribe to the newsletter at Health Freedom USA and stay informed. Then take whatever action is necessary to save your profession.

At the same time, it may be in your best interest to protect yourself so you can continue to practice naturopathy even if the Codex Treaty is fully implemented in the USA. Here's the recommended strategy for protecting yourself:

- Become certified as a Board Certified Traditional Naturopath
- Become certified as a Board Certified Nutritional Coach
- Become licensed as a Spiritual Health Coach or Spiritual Healer
- Create and use a solid Informed Consent Form
- Carry malpractice insurance to have access to great attorneys

While there are several agencies that certify traditional naturopaths, there is only one with a track record of helping naturopaths defend themselves against charges of practicing anything without a license. There is only one that offers certification internationally as a Board Certified Traditional Naturopath. And there is only one that provides traditional naturopaths with viable options for surviving the full implementation of the Codex Treaty. You're visiting that board now.

If you practice anything else, become certified or licensed in that area of expertise too. Your primary purpose is to protect your income and save your job from extinction. Do anything reasonably necessary to serve that purpose. If you also provide aromatherapy, biofeedback, energy healing, homeopathic, hypnotism, nutritional, reflexology, spiritual or other alternative health care services, it's to your advantage to become certified or licensed in that specialty.

* "The views expressed in this letter are my own personal opinions and are not to be attributed to the Natural Therapies Certification Board. Upon receipt of information that proves that my expressed views are false or incorrect I will issue the appropriate retractions and apologies." Dr. John F. Gilbert