



The International Council for Homeopathy
Representing Homeopaths around the World

ICH position statement on the availability of homeopathic medicinal products

This document has been produced and agreed by the Affiliated Member Associations of the International Council for Homeopathy ICH. ICH represents associations of professional homeopaths worldwide.

ICH's mission is

To represent and support national member associations of Homeopaths.

To further the growth and development of the Homeopathy Profession worldwide

ICH is a global body advocating for

An individual's freedom of choice to access their preferred healthcare approach, including Homeopathy.

International availability of homeopathic remedies within nations and across borders between nations.

High standards in homeopathic practice, education and training.

The freedom to practice as a homeopath.

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ICH Position Statement on the availability of Homeopathic Medicinal Products ©ICH 2025

Introduction

The International Council for Homeopathy (ICH) is an international body representing the Homeopathic profession through its national member associations

The ICH places particular emphasis on ensuring that all consumers have access to homeopathic medicines and Homeopathic practice. Since homeopathy's inception access to and safety and availability of homeopathic medicines has been a cornerstone in the development and practice of homeopathy as a legitimate science.

Homeopathic remedies are utilized by millions of people^{i,ii} for the benefit of their health and are used to alleviate acute and chronic diseases.

History of Homeopathic Medicines

Samuel Hahnemann, founder of the system of Homeopathy, lived in the late 1700-1800's and was a physician, chemist, and pharmacist. Through experimentation he developed the method of manufacturing homeopathic remedies and created a template that holds true to this day. The historic significance of homeopathy and the process of manufacturing is fully documented in his treatise the Organon of Medicine, published in 1802.ⁱⁱⁱ

Homeopathic remedies are unique products prepared from plant, animal and mineral/metal sources as found in nature. They are now prepared in homeopathic pharmacies throughout the world which conform to the standards of production and manufacture according to these guidelines. These manufacturing practices have been maintained in Homeopathic Pharmacopeias^{iv} and can be easily replicated.

The nomenclature of Homeopathic medicines is based on the Latin names of the original substance, accordingly, they each bear the same source name assuring consistency in every country.

Consumer access

The position of the ICH is that homeopathic medicinal products (remedies) should be freely available as Over the Counter (OTC) products in all countries. We recognize that some nations may decide to limit OTC access to certain remedies or potencies based on specific legal constraints placed on specific substances. However, in principle, freedom of access to the health products and modalities of one's choice must be recognized as a fundamental human right.

National laws that oversee the regulation of pharmacies^v and/or dispensaries, and the manufacturing of homeopathic medicines as Over the Counter (OTC) products are to maximize^{vi} as opposed to restrict^{vii}, consumer access. We also suggest that regulations governing the importation of homeopathic medicines for direct consumer consumption pay particular attention to the unique quality of these products.

Access through the practice of homeopathy

Access to homeopathic medicinal products stands alongside access to homeopathic practitioners. For practitioners to practice lawfully, all national legal avenues must be sought to ensure access to the best educational standards and competencies previously established within the international homeopathic community regardless of previous medical licensure. If there are no such nationally established licensures, alternative pathways of practitioner recognition, registration or certification must be established that allows for consumer access to alternative health practices.

In order to practice Homeopathy, practitioners must have access to all homeopathic medicinal products available from homeopathic pharmacies and/or dispensaries. In situations where there are no national homeopathic pharmacies or manufacturers of homeopathic medicinal products, regulations governing importation of homeopathic medicinal products for practitioner access should be facilitated for the same reasons as above.

Professional governance of homeopathic medicinal products

The ICH asserts that Homeopathic pharmacopoeia compendia are to be maintained within the Homeopathic profession. National and international homeopathic bodies may be referred to by any governmental regulatory agency for recommendations or advice for legislation. In homeopathic literature, and in existing homeopathic pharmacopeias, there are documented models of manufacturing, labeling, and access.^{viii} National regulatory bodies overseeing access to homeopathic remedies can use documentation existing within the homeopathic profession to model their regulation of manufacturing and dispensing.

This process must be streamlined and also easily accessible to homeopaths to submit new remedies to.

Representatives from the homeopathic profession^{ix}, homeopathic pharmacists and other professional organizations can work along-side government regulatory agencies to ensure that manufacturing and safety standards are optimized, and standardized methods of evaluation applied to ensure ethical guidelines, transparency, safety, and effectiveness of the homeopathic products produced.

Regulation of, and guidelines for, pharmacies and dispensaries

Many countries already have their own economic infrastructure in place for regulation and registration process regarding the manufacturing of homeopathic medicinal products and maintain a list of remedies that have completed that registration process. India, the USA, South America, and European countries, have their own pharmacopeias and regulatory processes. These pharmacopeias can be adopted by any country where homeopathic medicines are to be manufactured or sold. Existing regulatory frameworks can also be used as models by which to establish one unique to that country.

Background

Access

Access to homeopathic medicinal products varies greatly across the world's population. While some countries regulate access to homeopathic treatment and the availability of homeopathic medicines through various legislative measures, there are other countries where homeopathic remedies are available but not regulated and/or regulated against and not freely available. In some countries Homeopathic products can be purchased over the counter (OTC), in pharmacies, apothecaries or in health food stores and supermarkets. In other countries access to remedies is limited to a vague legal status of the practice of homeopathy where in some cases homeopathy is not recognized. In some instance a licensed prescription is required for certain remedies and others are only available in certain potencies.

Even though homeopathy is the most popular form of complementary/alternative medicine in the world, there are still large areas of the world where homeopathic medicinal products are not found.

As outlined by the World Health Organization, the development of Traditional, Complementary and Integrative Medicine practices, in line with the guidelines of evidence-based medicine, is an important goal to realize.^x Evidence-based medicine is a commonly used term to clarify the validity and science behind any health product. This covers a broad range of evaluation criteria. Clinical outcomes, historical records, and empirical case studies in homeopathic practice and research are to be recognized as valuable components of evidence-based medicine. This offers a more inclusive perspective to evaluate homeopathic medicinal products.

Research and Safety

Homeopathic remedies are unique products as they are highly diluted substances which have no toxicological side effects. This is assured by the homeopathic potentization process of dilution and succession which renders potentially toxic substances to non-toxic healing agents.

Research in homeopathy through clinical trials and case studies continues to increase the body of evidence towards safety, effects, and effectiveness of homeopathic medicinal products.^{xi}

Conclusion

The International Council for Homeopathy (ICH) aims to set a benchmark for optimal national and international policies supporting access to homeopathy and homeopathic remedies through progressive legislation and regulation that supports an individual's sovereign right to access the health care option and medicaments of their choice.

Homeopathic medicinal products are the heart of homeopathic treatment. Without availability, any meaningful therapy would not be possible.

We appeal to all those involved in the national and international regulation, registration, and manufacturing of homeopathic medicinal products, international trade laws, and the economics governing the importation of these products to work towards increased access for consumers worldwide by streamlining, standardizing, and harmonizing all levels to enable access to the full scope of the homeopathic pharmacopoeia. As a part of the global TCIM ecosystem, homeopathy should be available, respected, researched, and integrated for the benefit of global health and well-being.

With regard to the WHO's Traditional, Complementary, and Integrative Medicine (TCIM) Strategy 2025-2034, the manufacturing of homeopathic medicines has already met the standards set out in this ten-year plan.

ⁱ [WHO Global Report on Traditional and Complementary Medicine 2019 - Google Books](#)

ⁱⁱ <https://www.homeobook.com/who-report-2019-homeopathy-practiced-in-more-than-100-countries/>

ⁱⁱⁱ Hahnemann, S, Organon of Medicine. <http://homeoint.org/books/hahorgan/index.htm>

^{iv} Homeopathic Pharmacopoeias (examples)

- USA <https://www.hpus.com/document/homeopathic-pharmacopoeia-of-the-united-states/>
- Germany https://www.bfarm.de/DE/Arzneimittel/Zulassung/Zulassungsrelevante-Themen/Arzneibuch/_node.html

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- France [Évènement - Comité français de pharmacopée - Homéopathie - ANSM](#) Comité français de pharmacopée - Homéopathie
 - India https://pcimh.gov.in/show_content.php?lang=1&level=1&ls_id=59&lid=57

^v EU Legislation Directive 2004/27/ EC amendment
<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2004/27/oj/eng>

^{vi} Least restrictive legislation EU Simplified registration for homeopathic remedies <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=legisum:l21230#:~:text=Specific%20provisions%20apply%20to%20homeopathic,used%20for%20research%20and%20development.>

^{vii} Restrictive legislation USA FDA <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/information-drug-class/homeopathic-products#:~:text=Under%20federal%20law%2C%20homeopathic%20products,for%20safety%2C%20effectiveness%20and%20quality>

^{viii} WHO approved recommendations [Safety issues in the preparation of homeopathic medicines](#)

^{ix} Homeopathic professional organizations

International Council for Homeopathy ICH <https://www.homeopathy-ich.org>

Liga Medicorum Homoeopathica Internationalis LMHI <https://www.lmhi.org>

European Central Council of Homeopaths ECCH <https://homeopathy-ecch.org>

European Committee of Homeopathy <https://homeopathyeurope.org/>

^x WHO Complementary medicine recommendation
Global Traditional Medicine Strategy 2025-2035

^{xi} Research Links

- HRI Homeopathy Research Institute <https://www.hri-research.org/>
- Wisshom <https://www.wisshom.de/?lang=en>
- KiKom University of Bern Dr. Stephan Baumgartner
https://www.ikim.unibe.ch/ueber_uns/staff/baumgartner_stephan/index_ger.html
- CORE-hom database <https://www.hri-research.org/hri-research/learning-more-from-existing-evidence/core-hom-a-world-class-online-database/>