



Naturopathic Physicians Summary

Catherine J. Stauber, DC, ND, DHANP: Introduction to Naturopathic Medicine & Naturopathic Physicians

- Differences b/t Naturopathic Physicians & “naturopaths”
 - a. Importance of NM “Unlicensed Practitioner Act” 2009
- Details of Naturopathic Medical Education
- Some examples and details of Naturopathic Physician Licensure
 - a. Scope of Practice b. Licensing Authorities
 - c. NPLEX
- A true “Integrative Medicine”
 - NDs practice in Integrative Clinics
 - Cancer Treatment Centers of America
 - National Institutes of Health Center for Complementary & Alternative Medicine
- Research Depts in Naturopathic Medical Schools
 - Student Clinician/Intern exchange with Conventional Medical Schools
Eg. University of Washington, Seattle and Bastyr University
- US Congress declares “National Naturopathic Medicine Week”
- A Paradigm of Excellence, Integration, and Collaboration

Traci Hobson, JD, LL.M.: The American Association of Naturopathic Physicians

- The American Association of Naturopathic Physicians (AANP) is the national professional society representing licensed and licensable naturopathic physicians, also known as naturopathic doctors (NDs). Who are licensed and licensable NDs?
 - Graduates (and students) of 4-year, post-graduate medical degree programs accredited by the Council on Naturopathic Medical Education (CNME). CNME is recognized by the US Department of Education as the national accrediting agency for programs leading to the Doctor of

Naturopathic Medicine (ND or NMD) or Doctor of Naturopathy (ND) degree.

- They passed a national naturopathic medicine exam, the NPLEX; and
- They meet annual continuing education requirements.
- AANP's mission is to enhance human health and wellness by advancing the profession of naturopathic medicine.
- AANP supports licensure of NDs in all 50 states by 2025.
- AANP's official position on licensure:
 - The AANP advocates licensure of NDs in all 50 states, as regulation provides transparency and protects public health.
 - Licensure of NDs enables patients and medical professionals to distinguish between qualified naturopathic physicians and "traditional naturopaths" who have little formal training.
 - It also provides a legal framework for NDs to practice medicine in accordance with their training, skills, and expertise.

Lilly-Marie Blecher, ND, DOM: Taos Practitioner

- Personal experience practicing in New Mexico
- Doctors of Oriental Medicine in New Mexico, scope as PCP
- The need for licensure
 - Scarcity in rural areas or NM in general
 - Clarity for patients and accessibility
 - Lab work and ability for patients to access full scope of practice

Denise Clark, ND: Past-President, Colorado Association of Naturopathic Doctors

- Naturopathic Doctors were regulated in Colorado in 2013
- Registration
- Director Model through Department of Regulatory Affairs
- Scope of Practice includes diagnosis and treatment of medical conditions
- Diagnosis using conventional laboratories and imaging and physical exam.
- Treatment includes the prescription of naturopathic formulary, epinephrine for the treatment of anaphylaxis, fitting of cervical caps, Vitamin B6 and B12 injections, naturopathic manual therapy and minor office procedures.
- First year of regulation: 95 NDs; In 2016 there are 135 registered NDs
- Traditional Naturopaths continue to thrive in Colorado. They are regulated under the Alternative Health Care Practitioner Law. They are exempt from medical practices act if they do not diagnose and treat and they are prohibited from treating children under 2 years of age and cancer.
- The state is in favor of continuing the law due to patient safety concerns

Juliette Mulgrew, ND, MS Ayurveda: Federally Funded Programs that include Naturopathic Physicians

- Indian Health Services (IHS)
- Diabetes Prevention Program, now Medicare DPP
- Affordable Care Act: section 2706; “requires private health insurers not to discriminate against *licensed* health care providers, whether they’re Naturopathic Doctors, Chiropractors, Acupuncturists, Nurse Midwives, Nurse Practitioners, etc.
- AANP has an initiative underway to prompt Medicare to study the health benefits - and cost effectiveness - of naturopathic care for seniors.
- Veteran Care: The AANP has presented a white paper to the VA’s Office of Patient Centered Care, headed by Tracy Gaudet, MD.
- The National College of Natural Medicine (NCCNM) Clinic in Portland, Oregon is accredited as a Patient Centered Primary Care Home (PCPCH).
- The accredited educational institutions are federally funded; students studying Naturopathic Medicine are eligible for the same loans as MDs, DOs, DDS, etc.