History of Naturopathic Medicine

As a distinct American health care profession, naturopathic medicine is almost 100 years old. Its roots go back through medical history to the healing wisdom of many cultures and times. At the turn of the century, practitioners combined natural therapeutics in a way they hadn't been combined before, and joined together to form the first professional naturopathic medical societies.

In the 1920's, there were more than 20 naturopathic medical colleges and naturopathic physicians were licensed in a majority of the states. Naturopathic Medicine experienced a decline in the 1940's and 50's with the rise and popularity of pharmaceutical drugs and the idea that drugs could eliminate all disease.

The 1970's brought about a new golden age of naturopathic medicine. Today, naturopathic medicine is recognized as a single, licensable profession on the federal level and in fourteen states, where licensed N.D.'s are bound by the statutes regulating their scope of practice. They conform to state and local health department regulations, abide by state insurance laws, and generally meet with any other state or public health requirements.



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OCAANP

The Ohio Chapter of the American Association of Naturopathic Physicians



The Ohio Chapter of the American Association of Naturopathic Physicians

(OCAANP) is a professional association of naturopathic doctors (NDs) who live and work in Ohio. Our members are graduates of accredited four-year, graduate-level, in-residence naturopathic medical schools. The OCAANP is dedicated to advancing the principles of naturopathic medicine and expanding Ohio consumers' access to this important natural, prevention-based form of health care.

www.ocaanp.org

About the OCAANP

The Ohio Chapter of the American Association of Naturopathic Physicians (OCAANP) is the first and only naturopathic organization in Ohio requiring all members to be naturopathic physicians who have graduated from accredited naturopathic medical colleges, who have passed national (NPLEX) board exams, and who all must carry a license from states who currently license naturopathic physicians. In fact, checking whether a naturopathic physician is an OCAANP member is the easiest way to insure a Naturopathic Physician is properly qualified to practice modern naturopathic medicine.



Naturopathic Medical Education

A licensed naturopathic physician (N.D.) attends a four-year graduate level naturopathic medical school and is educated in the same basic sciences as an M.D., but also studies holistic and non-toxic approaches to therapy with a strong emphasis on disease prevention and optimizing wellness. In addition to a standard medical curriculum, the naturopathic physician is required to complete four years of training in clinical nutrition, acupuncture, homeopathic medicine, botanical medicine, physical medicine (spinal manipulation, physical therapy and massage), psychology, counseling and minor surgery. A naturopathic physician takes rigorous professional board exams so that he or she may be licensed by a state or jurisdiction as a primary care general practice physician.

Our Mission

The mission of the OCAANP is to bring modern naturopathic medicine to Ohio. This is being done in many ways. First we are committed to educating the public and other health care practitioners. We strive to answer the question of, "what is a naturopathic physician" by bringing clear and accurate information on our educational background, clinical training, and current standards of practice. We also educate whenever possible by bringing light to the latest research of evidence-based low or non-invasive therapies.

Next we serve as a network for naturopathic physicians coming to Ohio who need to know where to find their colleagues. This helps all of us continue to learn from each other as well as know who to refer patients who are moving to other areas or may need someone with particular experience that would best serve that patient.

The OCAANP works to improve public access to Naturopathic Medicine by taking an active role in Ohio's political process for licensure of Naturopathic Physicians. The OCAANP will continue to lobby and involve ourselves in this work until naturopathic medicine is available to all residents of Ohio.

Donations are greatly appreciated to further the licensing efforts of naturopathic medicine in Ohio. The OCAANP is a non-profit organization. To donate, go to www.ocaanp.org or call 216-707-9137.

Thank you for your support.

OCAANP Membership Application

There are currently three types of OCAANP membership: professional, student, and supporting members. For more details on the types of membership, go to www.ocaanp.org or call 216-707-9137.

Professional Membership

Regular, accredited ND member - \$100/yr First year, accredited ND member - \$50/yr Retired, accredited ND member - \$10/yr

Student Membership

For those currently attending a 4 year accredited naturopathic medical school. Student Membership - \$10/yr

Supporting Membership

For those who support naturopathic medicine. Supporting member - \$40/yr

Name:
Address:
City, State Zip:
Phone:
Email:

Please enclose a check payable to: **OCAANP**

SEND TO: OCAANP Treasurer

Nicholas Parasson, ND 1680 Akron Peninsula Road #103 Akron, OH 44313