



European Federation of
Homeopathic Patients' Associations



MEMBER REPORTS FOR THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- Stuttgart, Germany -

October 2018

REPORTS WERE RECEIVED FROM THE FOLLOWING MEMBER ORGANISATIONS:

BELGIUM	Pro Homeopathia
FRANCE	Association Homéo Patients - France
FRANCE	L'Association Pour La Promotion De La Médecine Homéopathique
GERMANY	HAHNEMANNIA
GREAT BRITAIN	British Homeopathic Association
GREAT BRITAIN	Friends of the Royal London Hospital for Integrated Medicine
HUNGARY	Hungarian Homeopathic Medical Association (MHOE)/Patient Group
ICELAND	Félag áhugafólks um hómópatíu á Íslandi
NETHERLANDS	Koninklijke Vereniging Homeopathie Nederland
NORWAY	Norsk Homøopatisk Pasientforening
SPAIN	L'Associació catalana de pacients, amics i usuaris de l'homeopatia
SPAIN	Similia Asociación de Usuarios y Amigos de la Homeopatía del País Vasco
SWITZERLAND	Homöopathie Schweiz

Apologies for not sending a report this year were received from our Austrian members.

BRUSSELS

Pro Homeopathia:

Association Belge des Patients de l'Homéopathie – PH



2017-2018 Association activities

- Pro Homeopathia provides patients with information about homeopathy-related topics that are given little coverage in standard printed and electronic media (the latest scientific research, as well as about legislation (both Belgian and European) and the unclear/hypocritical positioning of political parties, etc.)
- Pro Homeopathia lobbies captains of industry and wealthy families to convince them to support the patients' organisation and to finance basic research (the Belgian Dynhom project).
- We respond to political parties when they clearly distort or ignore the facts about homeopathy. And we remind them of the many homeopathy patients who cast their votes in the polling booths. (Belgium had municipal elections in October 2018. Regional, Federal and European elections will take place in 2019.)
- Our association cooperates very closely with the Belgian Federation of Homeopathic Doctors (Unio Homoeopathica Belgica – UHB). Moreover, the President of Pro Homeopathia is now also a member of the UHB Board. As a patients' organisation, Pro Homeopathia can publicly express opinions that doctors are not allowed to disseminate.
- We have been contributing to the Dynhom basic research project for a few years and continue to support scientific research, although all scientific evidence is immediately discarded by the 'scientific establishment' (universities, pharmaceutical groups) and most media.
- We attend various congresses, courses and symposia to meet a wide variety of healthcare providers and decision-makers.
- We act as a 'discreet society', preferring to act through networking. Pro Homeopathy avoids direct, vain and energy-consuming confrontation with opponents and the media on the lookout for a sensational story line to pick up on and distort. Diplomacy works better.

Current local situation for homeopathy

- Homeopathy is freely accessible to all in Belgium.
- Some health insurance funds reimburse a fraction of homeopathic care (consultations, remedies).
- The average age of homeopathic doctors (61) is rising fast because academic brainwashing feeds a strong loathing for homeopathy among young doctors. The homeopathic schools are almost empty. It takes approximately 10 years for a few conventional doctors to become sufficiently disgusted by conventional practices to possibly consider homeopathy.
- As a possible consequence, we notice that tensions appear between homeopathic doctors in Belgium, causing damage to the credibility and the membership of both the

Belgian Federation of Homeopathic Doctors (Unio Homoeopathica Belgica – UHB) and some homeopathic schools. A general feeling of bitterness prevails after a series of deplorable personal attacks. The constant crushing that the homeopathic sector undergoes seems to trigger a process of self-destruction. We are extremely concerned.

- The Belgian universities refuse to host homeopathic education. However, some non-university higher education institutions may accept homeopathy as an extra subject.
- Dating from 1999, the Colla Act on complementary and alternative medicines is still awaiting enforceable provisions. All progress is being blocked by our current Minister of Health, an outspoken opponent to homeopathy, to whom Pro Homeopathia sent a very straightforward letter in 2014.

Local Challenges and Actions

- General information about homeopathy is available everywhere. Our patients' organisation therefore prefers to focus on information that truly 'empowers' the patients as people who manage their own health capital. We emphasise personal health practices, as Hahnemann did, leaving the choice of remedies and the curing/healing process exclusively to homeopathic doctors.
- We inform patients about 'how' homeopathy works, 'why' it works and what external (political, economic, behavioural, etc.) factors may thwart it. We do so through our newsletter (3 times a year), e-mailings, conferences and, to a lesser extent, our website and the social media.
- Our independence is our most valuable asset. We therefore refuse any kind of sponsorship from health-related organisations. Nevertheless, because our activities require a degree of funding, we kindly ask our members to pay a modest non-mandatory yearly contribution of € 10.00.
- Funding scientific research in homeopathy remains one of our priorities. We managed to convince to donate € 8,000.00 to the Dynhom research project.

Plans for 2018-19

- A new member has joined our Board in 2017. Celine Soens is a nurse. She is in charge of lectures and conferences, which we intend to organise more regularly, given the success of the previous ones. Celine will now become our new treasurer.
- Celine also meets numerous medical and nursing students. She may help us to establish contact with these students and inform them about what homeopathy really is. As patients, Pro Homeopathia is probably more credible than healthcare professionals in convincing young practitioners.

*Erik Buelens, President - Pro Homeopathia
Belguim, October 2018*

FRANCE

Association Homeo Patients France – AHP – France



The number of members is significantly increasing, our actions are many and varied, however both practice and use of homeopathy are questioning.

2017-2018 Activities of the association

- presence in the EFHPA General Assembly, Edinburgh, October 2017,
- presence during the 22nd Congress of French Homeopathic National Institute (INHF), Paris, January 2018,
- holding of the AHP France annual meeting, February 2018,
- presentation of our association during the 7th Assizes of the French Homeopath Doctors' Union (SNMHF), Paris, March 2018,
- publication of two issues of our Similis newsletter, January and June,
- creation of a new information letter and publication of two issues, March and September,
- supply of flyers for doctors, alternative or complementary practitioners, pharmacies, organic food sectors, ...
- research, dissemination and sharing of information through our Website and Facebook page.

Current local situation for homeopathy

Homeopathy in France is being threatened.

In March 2018, more than a hundred general practitioners and healthcare professionals signed a very fierce article against homeopathy, which was published in the "Figaro" a daily newspaper. In this tribune:

- they denounce homeopathy practice by homeopath doctors, (calling them quacks),
- they ask for the suppression of refund for homeopathic medicinal products,
- they want Universities to stop teaching homeopathy.

Relying on the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Australian report of 2015, on the European Academies Science Advisory Council (EASAC) statement in 2017, and on the National Health Service-England (NHS) example, radios, televisions and newspapers have started an extensive media campaign in order to run down and denigrate homeopathic practice.

The French Ministry of Health has ordered an evaluation about the covering and payment conditions for homeopathic products. (Deadline February 2019)

Local challenges and actions

Engage patients, support doctors and act as effectively as possible facing the risk of:

- not refund for homeopathic products,
- stopping homeopathy teaching in the Universities,
- loss of recognition and less integration of homeopathy within the healthcare system.

Plans for 2017-2018

- presence of the association during the 44th Homeopathic Discussions of Paris organized by the National Federation of the French Homeopathic Medical Societies (FNSMHF), Paris, October 2018,
- keep presenting AHP France to homeopath doctors, to federations and to groups working in the field of homeopathic, alternative and complementary medicine,
- keep providing information to members and patients (4 newsletters, website, Facebook, and conferences).

*Joël Siccardi, for the Board, AHP France,
September 2018*

FRANCE

***Association pour la Promotion de la Médecine
Homéopathique
APMH – France***



The management of the association

There is a President, Vice President, Treasurer, 2 Directors and 4 Administrators on the Board of Directors.

Projects and Activity Reports

We had several agri-homeo internships this year, the first beginning of April in Drôme Provençale and the second in September in the Marne, these two courses have benefited from the support of the MSA through the association Adria. The year 2018 begins very strongly, since there have already been 3 courses in Dijon, Vienna Castle in February, and 1 internship in Belgium in early March!

In 2017 we had more than 100 registered in the Family home online course and about twenty people who have booked for the Jean Lacombe seminar in Lyon this year.

Our presence at the Salon Primrose last year was a real success, a lot of spin-offs, so we renew our presence this year, taking a corner stand, the smallness of a simple stand is too restrictive. We printed 5000 flyers for the occasion, with a rejuvenated look.

For the first year, the APMH attended the European Federation of Homeopathic Patients' Associations (EFHPA). Capucine de Bretagne represented us in Edinburgh. She wrote a full report which was printed in our newsletter no.85. Capucine explained about the aims and membership of EFHPA and reported that the two days of exchanges were very friendly between the various representatives of the patients' associations with the bonus of a tour of Edinburgh and the promise of meeting again next year.

The homeo-paleo weeks in Morocco are continuing, with a good balance between Moroccan and French participants.

Our homeopathic training courses continue to be successful. We have a hard core of about ten women in Skoura who come very regularly for homeopathic training and have mastered 28 remedies. Ditto for the agro-homeo with farmers who have benefited from a vet-homeo training with Didier Notre Dame, veto-homeo of Rouen.

USB keys of agro-homeopathy: data to all trainees agro-homeopathy trainees and sold to others: 30€ for APMH members and 40€ for non-members.

We finally found balanced wooden dice for the homeo-chase game. Daphné Courraud-Vurpas has agreed to help with new cards for a more professional layout.

Number of Google views on the APMH: 12 400 users of the site over the year of all cities in France but also from abroad. (Canada, Belgium, United States, Morocco).

Membership numbers need to be watched, but some improvement was seen following a call in the last newsletter for members to recruit one new person each. In the last year we published 4 newsletters (No.85-88).

Finally, we voted to the change the address of the head office which is now at 23B, rue Bourget 69009 Lyon.

*Notes extracted from the APMH General Assembly
17 March 2018*

GERMANY

Hahnemannia



2017-2018 Activities of association

- Followed the invitation of the “Sozialministerium Baden-Württemberg” to the dialog with different social organisations and action groups at the “Health Conference” in Stuttgart in November 2017.
- Followed the invitation of the “Institut der Geschichte für Medizin der Robert-Bosch-Stiftung” in Stuttgart. The “Hans-Walz-Award” for the history of Homoeopathy” in December 2017
- Participation the workshop for homoeopathy networking in Karlsruhe DHU in December 2017
- Celebrate the birthday of 150 years Hahnemannia in February 2018
- Participation in the Annual General Meeting in Ulm in March 2018
- Participation in the Annual General Meeting in Obersulm in March 2018
- Participation in the Annual General Meeting in Albershausen in March 2018
- Visit the “Institute for the History of Medicine” with all board members of Hahnemannia in March 2018
- Meeting with the DZVhÄ and Hufelandgesellschaft in Berlin in March 2018

- The member association of Berghülen celebrated the 90 anniversary in March 2018.
- Annual General Meeting of Hahnemannia in Giengen in April 2018
- Participation the workshop for “Komplementärmedizin goes Campaignin” in Berlin in April 2018
- Participation in the Annual General Meeting in Ansbach in April 2018
- Meeting with the members association in Winterbach in June 2018
- Interview for the DHU campaign “Homöopathie-natürlich”
- Interview for Homeopathy Switzerland
- Video for the campaign “Release the first report”

Current local situation for homeopathy

- 38 member associations
- 3942 members and 11 individual members

Plans for 2017-2018

- 150th anniversary on 20.10.2018
- Member association of Königsbrunn celebrate the 100 anniversary on March 2019.

*Mario Hopp, President, Hahnemannia
September 2018*

GREAT BRITAIN

British Homeopathic Association – BHA



The past year has again been a challenging one where the British Homeopathic Association (BHA) has continued to face challenges to National Health Service (NHS) homeopathy but it has also been busy developing a number of projects to promote homeopathy and make it more accessible to the public.

NHS (National Health Service) homeopathy



Provision of homeopathy on the NHS has nearly disappeared with only services now offered through the Royal London Hospital for Integrated Medicine, Glasgow Centre for Integrated Care, NHS Tayside Clinic and a handful of GPs practicing and prescribing across the UK.

Last year we reported that we had launched along with 4Homeopathy and other complementary health groups a campaign against NHS England (overarching body for the National Health Service in England) about their consultation to recommend all local NHS services in England stop free prescriptions of homeopathy in general practice.

In practice this is seen by local bodies as stopping prescriptions and ergo practice of homeopathy in general practice.

The consultation ended the 21 October 2017. Prior to the conclusion of the consultation, our lawyers wrote repeatedly to NHS England highlighting issues with their consultation and how it was in breach of good practice, was fundamentally flawed, to which they did not respond meaningfully.

The BHA threatened a judicial review (which a particular kind of law case that challenges government decision making and has unique rules much different that criminal proceedings) and with no meaningful response by NHS England after repeated attempts the BHA filed for a judicial review against NHS England just prior to the closing of the consultation.

On 30th November NHS England Board agreed to implement their recommendations to issue guidance to all England care providers (CCGs) to remove prescriptions of homeopathy in general practice. The information gathered was seriously flawed and did not address people with disabilities and in protected groups and had no useful patient data about who would be most affected by their decision.

This decision was added to our judicial review challenge papers which had been submitted to the court but not reviewed. The first phase of a judicial review normally is to gain approval from the court that you have appropriate grounds for a challenge and if given approval, then you are given a court date. Right before the Christmas break in 2017 we received word that we had been granted a rolled-up hearing which is special process. This is when the court hears the case and at the same time decides if there are grounds for a judicial review. We were told the case would be heard at the start of May 2018.



Taking on a court case and the immense costs involved is a serious matter. The loser in a judicial review case must pay a proportion of the winner's costs so when making the decision to proceed, the worst case scenario must be taken as a real possibility. The BHA Trustees felt that a challenge had to be made and was in a financial position to so. We also knew we had the sector behind us ready to fight and help fund this challenge.

Therefore the BHA with support of the sector and particularly the Friends of the Royal London Hospital for Integrated Medicine (who were the only active interested party in the proceedings), took on the case.

Our campaign to support our legal challenge included a parliamentary petition, which is a petition lodged with parliament and is open to UK residents and citizens. We secured more than 34,000 signatures. Contrast that with NHS England who only had 3,000 people participating in their consultation which ran for three months which demonstrates the lack of engagement they secured! We had people writing to their MPs expressing concerns about That NHS England. The BHA launched crowdfunding for the court case and raised over £36,000. In total, we received donations totalling over £110,000 which sadly represented

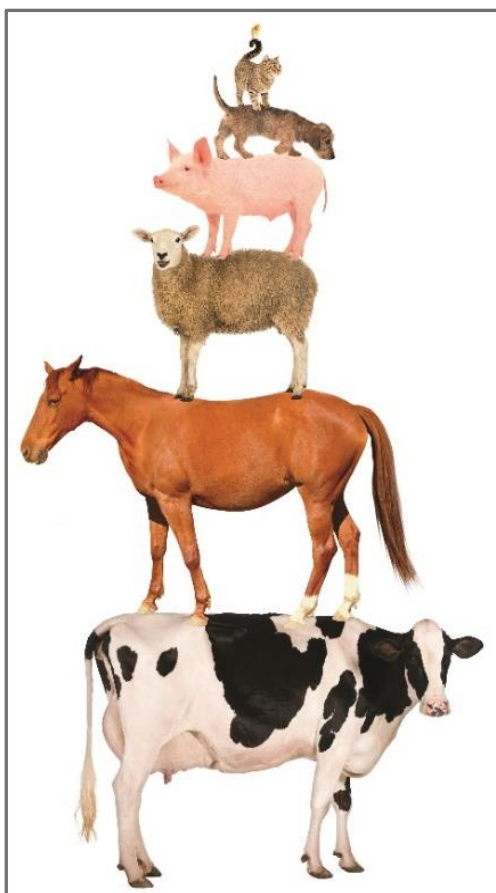
about a quarter of the costs. A large part of the campaign was through social media with Facebook live sessions and ongoing updates on developments in the case.

The case was heard in the high court on 1 – 4 May 2018. Our QC put forward our grounds admirably. There was over 5,000 pages of paperwork with witness statements from patients, GPs on the ground, representatives from the BHA and Friends of the RLHIM; there were submissions around the evidence base for effectiveness, a full breakdown of 2010 Science & Technology Report and why it should not have been used in a consultation document, evidence around the use of homeopathy from around the globe, evidence on the predetermination of NHS England around removing homeopathy and critical issues about the Equalities Impact Assessment as it applied to homeopathy patients.

Sadly, Justice Supperstone who heard the case, did not find for the BHA. Although our grounds were found arguable and worthy of holding a judicial review it was his view that although NHS England had not done an admirable job, it was not poor enough to be considered unlawful.

Despite this disappointment, the BHA remains committed to defending homeopathic services. We will continue to champion homeopathy's health benefits, cost effectiveness and the right of patients to choose the therapy when it is appropriate for their condition.

Veterinary Homeopathy



This year also saw a challenge to vets practicing CAM and particularly homeopathy. The professional and regulatory body for veterinarians, called the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS), issued a position statement which would seek to limit CAM treatment to only when others pharmaceutical or surgical interventions fail and ideally remove CAM all together as a treatment choice.

The British Association of Homeopathic Veterinary Surgeons (BAHVS) along with all of 4Homeopathy and a patient campaign group call CAM4Animals, supported a demonstration march outside parliament and to the doors of the RCVS on April 16th.

For the march, placards and T-shirts with the image to the left were provided through 4Homeopathy with the tag line Stand up 4 Homeopathy – Natural choice, Healthy Animals.

The march went well and a petition calling on the RCVS to retract its position statement attracted over 20,000 signatures. At present the RCVS is reviewing its position and the BAHVS is continuing to apply pressure to the RCVS. We all await further developments.

Homeopathy Awareness Week (HAW)

In the UK, the annual celebration of homeopathy we asked patients and practitioners to do a short video for social media to share their experiences of using homeopathy successfully. This had limited success and are looking forward to next HAW and perhaps targeting millennials.

Charitable status

Last year we had noted there had been a consultation by the Charity Commission about registration of charities involved with CAM (Complementary and Alternative Medicine). The consultation closed in May 2017 and there has yet to be any statement or position issued by the Charity Commission. The BHA is a registered charity but opponents of homeopathy are campaigning to have the charitable status of organisations promoting CAM removed. Their efforts have forced the Charity Commission (the government department that regulates charities in the UK) to conduct a public consultation on the issue. We await the consultation's result and what changes – if any – the Charity Commission will be making to how it grants charitable status to CAM organisations.

Charitable clinics

The BHA has embarked on an ambitious programme of opening a network of charitably run homeopathy clinics throughout the UK. The first BHA clinic opened in Norwich in 2011, after we received a generous legacy from a local supporter. Its success in terms of growing patient numbers and patient satisfaction has been the main driver behind our current plans. In 2017 we opened clinics in Bath, York and Edinburgh. We will be opening clinic in Liverpool at the start of 2019 and are aiming to also target London, Cardiff, Oxford and potentially Birmingham and Manchester. All the clinics are run by Faculty of Homeopathy members. Consultations are free or at a greatly reduced fee, but patients are encouraged to make a donation to help secure the long-term future of the clinics.

As well as bringing quality homeopathic care to people who may not have been able to afford it, each clinic is collecting data so that we can compile accurate patient outcome measures over a period of time.

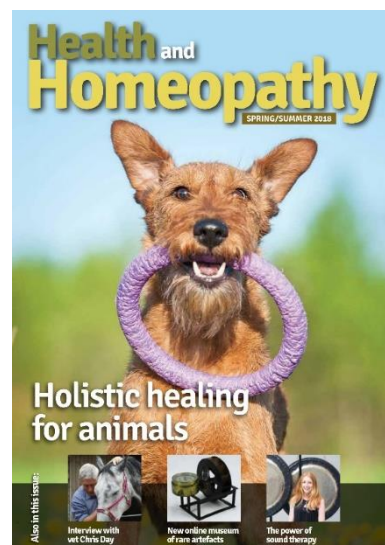
Health & Homeopathy magazine

We are currently about to unveil our online version of our magazine, Health & Homeopathy.

<https://magazine.britishhomeopathic.org/>

This will allow, upon its launch, the public to freely read the current issue of the magazine and also read prior issues. The articles will be tagged to help Google and search engines to find content and help our rankings.

We are gradually adding back issues which is the more time consuming task but we anticipate having more than 5 years of back issues available in the first six months of 2019.



We will be considering, after an initial period of perhaps a year, charging a small donation for full access or pdf copies of articles.

Coming year

- Launch charitable clinics and other partnerships around natural healthcare in the UK
- Create virtual museum of Hahnemann House artefacts and attend conferences with small pop-up display of featured small items
- Rebrand the BHA to increase its reach in the public and particularly engage the 79% of the public open to homeopathy.
- Work with the Faculty of Homeopathy to provide educational seminars for the public and awareness events for both public and health professionals
- Host and co-host screenings of homeopathy documentaries across UK

*Cristal Sumner MBA, Chief Executive, BHA
October 2018*

GREAT BRITAIN

Friends of the Royal London Hospital for Integrated Medicine – Friends RLHIM



Our role is to support the work of the hospital and its staff and this we have continued to do throughout the last 12 months by giving grants to the education department and various projects which could enhance the standing of the hospital within our National Health Service (NHS) and its parent group – UCLH NHS TRUST.

Our NHS decided after 70 years that homeopathy was not effective and should no longer be part of the service. They had to consult the public about this decision and went through the motions even though it was plain from the outset that they had decided to discontinue covering it.

The British Homeopathic Association decided to challenge their decision and went to court, asking for a judicial review. The Friends were glad to support them as an interested party and we also contributed towards the huge cost of taking legal action.

We produce two newsletters for our members each year and have various items on sale to raise funds, including jute shopping bags and Christmas cards. We continue to run a Snack bar for patients entirely staffed by volunteers.

*Friends of the RLHIM
October 2018*

HUNGARY

Magyar Homeopata Orvosi Egyesület / Laikus szekció –
MHOE: Patients' section



Recent activities of association

There were a lot of threats in media publicity: the media are constantly sending false information due to the EASAC statement. The homeopathic course for nutritionists and nurses was banned at the Semmelweis University.

E-learning courses are ongoing for general practitioners and users.

Media situation till 2018: attacks from denialist and sceptics, media is absolutely imbalanced with homeopathy. Our media strategy is: Conscious communication! We have an active Press staff, and have to organize communication trainings for dedicated members! And the message is: be interested instead of scandalous!

We founded a research group to be most up to date in research findings.

We ended to create two separate website, one for professionals and one for laypeople.

Situation for homeopathy

Only medical doctors can practice on homeopathy in Hungary.

The Association of the Art of Healing held an accredited four-year program for healthcare workers and for laypeople. The Friends of Homeopathy Club organized one-day courses and Schüssler courses again. Together for Homeopathy Club organize one-day courses. The users clubs are sponsored by two pharmacy companies. We must stand together against attacks.

Unfortunately there are fewer young members each year in MHOE because of continual outer attack.

The support from the HP pharmacy is accidental, but they financed some of our project.

According to the Hungarian Academy of Science: the homeopathy is ineffective!!!

Local Challenges and Actions

- JOD (Just one drop) movie presentations in several big cities and small clubs in Hungary.
- Minimum twice a week posting on FB.
- We have been providing weekend phone call for years.

Plans for coming year

Based on the new marketing and media strategy our plans are:

- placing more and more link, article and video our website and FB

- ready-to-use visual design: photo, graphic, picture for other surfaces, platforms
- info graphics for making understand hp., funny pictures, cartoons
- videos, short films, longer films- with celebrities and doctors interesting story
- coordinated communication with partner organizations
- we would like to consult with healthcare commission members of the Parliament and cooperate with decision makers
- to continue contact with MTA (Hungarian Academy of Science)
- we are planning to found an independent users association after all because the medical community is hopeless.

*Dr Gabriella Kovacs,
Leader of MHOE Patients' Section
October, 2018*

ICELAND

Félag áhugafólks um hómópatíu á Íslandi - FHI

Recent activities of association

We have done our best to inform people about the benefits of homeopathic remedies and warning them about the serious side effects of many of the modern drugs that continue to be spread throughout the world.

Local situation for homeopathy

The Healers Association in Iceland lists 36 registered Homeopaths, most of them from the LCPH, which is the acronym of the London College of Practical Homeopathy. The Reykjavik metropolitan area has the largest number of Homeopaths. Three homeopaths are active here in Akureyri, but only 2 of them are listed as members of the Healers Association.

Over- the- counter remedies that were for sale in the local health shops and pharmacies suddenly disappeared from their shelves with the advent of the new price list of remedies published by the Minister of Health, on the 6th of April 2018, which reads i.a. as follows:

Article 7 - Homeopathic Remedies

An applicant for a permit to import, sell and distribute homeopathic remedies, that have a valid marketing permit in another EES member state and are exempt from the requirement of having a valid marketing permit in this country, shall pay to the Medicine Institute a fee in accordance with Paragraph 4, Article 3, of the Act of Law on Medicine No. 93/1994 , which is to defray the cost of evaluating it, in accordance with Section 1, Paragraph 1, Article 3 of the Act of Law on Medicine. This fee shall be in accordance with Appendix 1 of this List of Rates.

Each application is valid for a stock solution with dilutions.

A fee because of an application in accordance with Paragraph 1 is irrevocable, although the application is not approved.

As an example of an application for registration of a homeopathic remedy, which has a marketing permit in another EES member state, the application fee amounts to Icelandic Kronur (ISK) 14000 or approx. 100 Euros plus an annually collected fee of 2250 ISK. Needless to say this is a major deterrent for both homeopaths and patients. Supplying homeopathic remedies is thus in effect and as before, almost exclusively handled by the homeopaths themselves. Consequently ads from homeopaths about their services have not been seen any more.

Local Challenges and Actions

These are, mainly in the form of coping with common and prevalent society distrust of homeopathy, which is a daily and constant problem and pattern, which constitutes the kind of obstacle that cannot be overcome overnight and therefore presents us with an ever present and long term future task that will test our mettle for quite some time.

People in this country are still very conservative in most ways. The medical profession, however, is interestingly enough ever more recommending physical exercise and reducing the use of prescription drugs.

Plans for 2018-19

Planning a lecture would boost interest and reach out to more people in the community and we are now focusing on this aspect as soon as our finances give us a green light. We are furthermore going to test the import of homeopathic remedies for private use. There is a whole lot of work to be done, since the medical services are totally provided by the State and its health service.

*Danielle Palade & Ólafur Rafn Jónsson
Félag áhugafólks um hómópatíu á Íslandi*

NETHERLANDS

***Koninklijke Vereniging Homeopathie Nederland –
KVHN***



Members September 1st 2018 vs. 1st January 2018

	1 st January 2018	1 st September 2018	Growth
Number of paying members	7.587	8.339	10%

Members 1st September 2018 vs. 1st September 2017

	1 st September 2017	1 st September 2018	Growth
Number of paying members	7.254	8.339	15%

Number of website visitors October - September

2017: 307.000 visitors (25.000 per month)

2018: 340.000 visitors (28.000 per month)

Number of Facebook likes October

2017: 24.000

2018: 26.000

Source new members

1. Call center
2. Facebook
3. Homeopaths
4. Applicants Homeopathy Guide & other materials
5. Homeopathic pharmacist

Key Success factors in 2018

Call center

Last year we started gathering telephone numbers through our website. Every applicant of materials like the Homeopathy Guide is asked to fill in their telephone number. Afterwards we call them and about 15% is interested in a membership.

This year we have developed a Homeopathy Guide for pregnancy/kids and a Homeopathy guide for animals as well. This is how we keep on interesting new target groups for homeopathy and our organization.

Because of the success of the Homeopathy guide, we also started offering free memberships for a quarter. Afterwards all the free members receive a phone call and are questioned whether they want to become a member.

The call center we hire, also calls the defaulters of our organization.

Social media

Facebook is still of big importance for the Vereniging Homeopathie. We reach about 100.000 people each week with information about homeopathy.

This year we started a channel on Youtube. A homeopath visits someone who is very enthusiastic about homeopathy every month and makes a film/vlog out of it. We also have an Instagram account.

Homeopaths

Most of the homeopaths are very loyal to the Vereniging Homeopathie. Twice a year they receive 'become a member cards' which they can give to their clients. Every month dozens of their clients join our association.

Scientific research

We invest in several researches. We translate existing researches and place them on our website. We also invest in a research among farms and GP's. Our members think that it is very important for us to invest in these kind of researches.

Plans for 2018

- Keep on investing in recruiting new members
- Scientific research
- Spreading positive news about homeopathy

- By Facebook, YouTube, our magazine, our newsletter, Homeopathy guide, etc.
- Discuss problems with regulatory issues with politics
- Negotiate better terms with insurers

Goals for 2018

- 10.000 members
- Facebook: 35.000 likes
- Instagram: 5.000 followers
- Newsletter: 40.000 members
- YouTube: 5.000 followers

*Annemieke Laan, Chief Executive - KVHN
September 2018*

NORWAY

Norsk Homøopatisk Pasientforening – NHPF



The situation for NHPF 2018 was almost the same as the previous year, so our report is almost identical with the last one.

NHPF is working steadily to promote homeopathy by producing three (earlier four) numbers of the periodical *Homøopatisk Tidsskrift (Journal of Homeopathy)* for our members. We have decided to reduce the numbers of the journal to save money, starting 2018. The numbers of sides are still the same.

Like in the rest of Europe, the conditions for homeopaths to practice have been quite bad the last years, because the Sceptics have a really bad influence on the media. A lot of homeopaths have resigned and closed down their practice. The few homeopaths that still practice, have too few patients to be able to retain a livelihood. Homeopathy seems to be non-existing in the society, as the media never talk or write anything about it.

The possibility for patients to get homeopathic treatment and remedies is reduced after 01.07.17 because The Norwegian Medicines Agency has decided that registration of homeopathic remedies is going to cost a fortune. I suppose this is the general situation in Europe. But the problem is bigger for a small country like Norway, because the turnover of homeopathic remedies is very small compared with big countries with many millions of inhabitants. We have to import a lot of remedies ourselves now.

The condition on Wikipedia is very difficult for homeopathy in Norway. We suppose this problem is the same in other European countries. As soon as someone writes the truth about homeopathy, sceptic homeopathy-haters, crosses it all out, and writes incorrect information instead. These people are eager in their work, so they succeed all the time.

In Norway homeopaths have the same kind of difficulty with NIFAB, which is a website for NAFKAM, Norway's National Research Center in Complementary and Alternative Medicine. This website is providing the Norwegian population with evidence-based information about complementary and alternative medicine (CAM). The website proclaims: "NIFAB shall neither hinder nor promote the use of CAM, but is tasked with creating greater clarity in a complex field, by offering unbiased information as a decision-helper for the public to make informed choices about health and treatment". It is totally based on The Cochrane Library. Almost everything that is said about the different CAM therapies ends with the same conclusion: This principle has no support in science.

NHPF keeps in contact with NHL, *Association of Norwegian Homeopaths*, who represents the main promoter for homeopathy in Norway.

The board has no special plans for 2019 except for writing good articles in our journal, on the website and Facebook, and to participate in meetings with other institutions who also are promoting homeopathy.

The number of members is continually decreasing, but we will keep on working to stop this and even hope for more members in the years to come.

NHPF is updating the website all the time. The intention is to keep it active, with new articles as often as possible. (www.nhpf.no)

There is a lot of activity about homeopathy on our Facebook site, with a lot of likes and clicks every day. We hope this will bring new members to our patients association. But if not so, FB is a good place to inform about homeopathy - totally free of charge. (Norsk Homøopatisk Pasientforening)

*Hilde Moldestad, Chairwoman – NHPF
Norway, September 2018*

SPAIN

Associació Catalana de Pacients, Amics i Usuaris de l'Homeopatia - ACPAUH



Activities of association over the past year

During the last few months of 2017, our association was rather inactive due to the political events in Catalonia. Starting January 2018, we picked up a more consistent pace and resumed monthly board meetings.

Our membership has attained 150 members at this point, all of them contributing with an annual fee of a minimum of 25 € and a maximum of 50€. We have distributed our work in eight main areas, each one of them managed by a board member.

As of February 2018 we put in place our webpage. It does not have yet a definitive form but we have been able now to include much more material and we have abandoned the blog-format that we had put in place to be able to have a quick presence in the Web during our first months of existence.

In March 2018 we started to send a monthly newsletter to our members letting them know the work we are doing and all the topics relevant to the situation of the patients of homeopathy and homeopathy itself in our country.

In April we organised several events to celebrate the International Homeopathy Day. A debate with doctors at the “Acadèmia Medico-homeopàtica de Barcelona”, concerning the present situation of homeopathy in Catalonia and Spain and the steps that patients could undertake in order to secure their rights was particularly well received.

In May we took part in the making of a manifesto in favour of homeopathy that the Spanish AGP (Alianza General de Pacientes), -an association of patients not directly related to homeopathy - elaborated in order to put some pressure on the Spanish government, since a bill concerning homeopathic remedies was about to be passed. The law – long expected - turned out to be considered positive by a vast majority of homeopathic practitioners.

During the first half of the year 2018, the ACPAUH has fostered the creation of a united front with the rest of the associations of homeopathic patients in Spain. A first agreement was reached around the month of March and the president of ACPAUH, Miquel Peralta was designated as a spokesperson of this emerging structure. In the month of November, a first meeting of the six associations so far existing will be held in Barcelona in order to create a more permanent structure.

As far as our presence in the media is concerned, we have appeared in an extensive article in one of the most important papers in Barcelona and twice in television programmes that cover the area of Catalonia. We are also scheduled to appear in the next few weeks in a documentary produced by the Spanish Public Television channel (TVE).

We make a point of answering all the attacks and biased information that appear in the press and radio programmes even if our protests are often not acknowledged.

Local situation for homeopathy

The media situation has definitely worsened, with particularly disappointing attacks on homeopathy by so called “progressive” newspapers.

Nevertheless, the bill passed in May was deemed positive by homeopathic doctors, since it asserts the legal status of homeopathic remedies.

Local Challenges and Actions

Most importantly, the number of members has to go up. So far, in our first year of existence we have had to put so many aspects in place that we have not geared our efforts especially towards this area. Therefore, we are confident that, once we organise a campaign, we will be able to increase our membership significantly.

Plans for 2018-19

The three main areas where we want to improve in the next year are:

1. Increase of membership (as explained in previous paragraph)
2. An improved presence in the areas outside Barcelona.
3. Starting a series of talks on different aspects of homeopathic medicine.
4. Improve the contents and graphic design of our webpage.

*Miquel Peralta, President ACPAUH
October 2018*

SPAIN

Similia Asociación de Usuarios y Amigos de la Homeopatía del País Vasco



Recent Activities of association

- Assistance to Donosti Homeopathy Congress (May 2016). Presentation of SIMILIA
- Assistance to Scientific Workshops of Homeopathy (Santander) 2017
- Communication course in Homeopathy (Santander) 2018
- Appearance in different media
- Members of a State Coordinator of Homeopathy Patients
- Dissemination of Homeopathy (talks, workshops)
- Open Doors Day in Bilbao, Homeopathy Our Choice (March 18)
- BAI Homeopathy Talk in Portugalete (April 18)
- Contact and collaboration with associations and federations of Homeopathy of the country (ANH)
- Preparation of writings, manifestos for public and private organizations
- Contact with Homeopathic laboratories
- Member benefits:
 - Web page
 - Social Media: Facebook, Twitter
 - Creation of a library and a homeopathic kit

Local situation for homeopathy

In less than ten years, they have completely changed the institutional and professional framework of homeopathy in Spain. In Spain, a group leads the strong campaign against homeopathy. This group, together with a patient association (APETP), has been able to influence the main national professional societies and associations, political parties and user associations, against homeopathy. All of them with the capacity to change the framework of the homeopathy sector. Thus, in the past last 5 years, all homeopathic courses have been banned from public institutions. There are 11 pharma societies, 25 medical societies, 3 political parties and 6 regional Governments that have made public statements against homeopathy.

The legal context, Homeopathic drugs are medicines according to European and Spanish law. At European level by Directive 2001/83 / CE, of November 6, 2001. In Spain, the art. 50 of RD 1/2015, of July 24, defines them as medicines. In addition, they are authorized in accordance with Transitory Provision 6 of Royal Decree 1345/2007, of October 11, which repealed RD 2208/1994 authorizing homeopathic medicines on the market. On April 27, 2018, the OM ISS/425/2018 was approved, which regulates the communication that must be made by holders of homeopathic medicines to which the transitory provision six of Royal Decree 1345/2007 refers.

Local Challenges and Actions

- To increase the number of members so that we get a larger representation in front of the institutions.
- Dissemination of the homeopathy (talks, workshops, conferences...).
- Joining and coordinating with other homeopathy members' associations.

Plans for the coming year

- To organise activities for the World Homeopathy Day on April.
- Attendance to the National Homeopathy Congress in Madrid (April 5th-7th).
- Attendance to the EFHPA General Assembly in Stuttgart (Germany) on the 20th October 2018.
- National encounter with homeopathy patients' associations.
- Homeopathy communication course for Similia.
- Open Door Day in Bilbao.

*Susana Otero for Similia - País
October 2018*

SWITZERLAND

Homöopathie Schweiz

Homöopathie Schweiz

Homöopathie Schweiz focussed on different projects for better public perception in 2017/18.

Projects

In 2017 we could start with the realisation of our register for medical and non-medical homeopaths: For homeopaths the new register is an attractive new platform to show their experience and competences. Patients get a high quality overview of homeopaths in Switzerland with this online-register. The register could get finished in the first quarter of 2018 and got online.

Further we worked on an information flyer that gives a short idea of our aims and duties. In future a larger target group can be approached and informed about Homöopathie Schweiz. This flyer is given without any costs to interested persons. It is planned to distribute it at different places as for example in pharmacies, in drugstores and community centres.

Offers/ public relations

2017/18 the office again was a reliable contact-point for all kind of questions concerning homeopathy. The office processed the orders of the publications of Homöopathie Schweiz and guaranteed the functionality of the online-channels.

In 2018 we already published 2 member magazines: the first one focussed on homeopathy in Europe and EFHPA. We planned to attract our members to come with Homöopathie Schweiz to the celebration in Stuttgart. The second one has the subject: homeopathy and the old age. As always, both editions have been published in German and French.

The number of fans on Facebook could be raised to 2'798 followers. The shares are rather popular, several parts have been watched by up to 1500 persons.

For the first time we offered a workshop to produce one's own homeopathic remedy in March. The participants could produce an Arnica D6 under the instructions of Fabienne Gigandet. It was an interesting and very informative afternoon for all participants.

*The board of Homöopathie Schweiz
October 2018*



European Federation of
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