To the Councils and Delegates of the anthroposophic doctors’ associations

Dear friends and colleagues,

“Can Anthroposophic Medicine as an individualised approach be applied to the large numbers in need?” This question from our annual meeting is brought into focus again by the recent catastrophe in the Philippines, and points to future challenges in a global perspective. The guidelines for good professional practice in anthroposophic medicine (read more on the IVAA homepage) state: “Anthroposophic medicine recognizes the connection between natural, psychological, moral and spiritual forces in each human being... In anthroposophic medicine the aim is to encourage the patient’s personal responsibility and self-development in health and illness... The fact that today human beings have become the main cause of illness and death, and that nature has become a new “patient”, implies a global professional responsibility in regard to medical actions.”

These guidelines are global, relevant to every contact with patients, and apply a spiritual dimension to our profession.

With thanks to Beatriz Sanchez, who worked on the translation, our colleagues in the Spanish speaking world will find the Spanish text as appendix (px1)

"Anthroposophic medicine is a new spiritual system without legal basis“ Michaela Glöckler replied.

You will find the minutes of the Delegate’s meeting attached (px2/ px3)

IVAA’s task is to safeguard the legal status of anthroposophic medicine, and to safeguard the availability of Anthroposophic Medicinal Products (AMP). For the time being this work has to be done mostly in Europe where the manufacture and registration of the AMPs are the preconditions to their present availability worldwide.

Read more about the availability of Homeopathic and Anthroposophic Medicinal Products in the EU in the report summary and the full report, given at ECHAMP’s launch presentation: “The Availability of Homeopathic and Anthroposophic Medicinal Products in the EU - Towards suitable regulation”, and have a look at ECHAMP’s new brochure: ‘Homeopathic and Anthroposophic Medicinal Products - A thriving European tradition’.

The scientific basis for a permanent regulatory framework is worked on by ESCAMP - Thomas Breitkreuz gave us an inside view of their strategies at the Delegates meeting. Find attached his PowerPoint presentation (px4).
Building and maintaining an alliance within EUROCAM/ CAMDOC has developed further (read more [here](#)), and on October 10th the alliance participated in the "Cancer Support and Complementary Care Awareness Day" at the EU commission. Since Anthroposophic Medicine is still little-known, the IVAA values all possibilities to present and make AM visible to decision-makers as well as colleagues.

You are welcome to make use of the Power Point Presentation “Anthroposophic Medicine as Integrative Medicine” which you may extend or reduce according to your needs. Find the PPP as attachment (×5).

For further inspiration take a look at the presentation Thomas Breitkreuz gave to DG SANCO/ Dimitris Angelis. Attachment (×6)

Horizon 2020 is the EU’s new programme for research and innovation. It will run from 2014 to 2020 with a budget of just over €70 billion. ECHAMP and other CAM stakeholders were unsuccessful in their campaign to secure specific reference to homeopathy and anthroposophic medicine in the work programme; the full scope of the programme can be seen [here](#).

For the attention of our (European) delegates, a short and updated “Who is Who in the EU” is attached (×7). A more comprehensive handbook, published by EPHA, informs about EU’s competence on public health and can be found [here](#).

A [presentation of AM](#) was published in the journal of [Global Advances in Health and Medicine](#), bringing the qualities of anthroposophic medicine to an academic audience worldwide. With kind permission form the authors we may share this article which you can find [here](#) and as attachment (×8).

**Other interesting studies published in the last month are:**


Read the [abstract](#), and/or find the whole text attached (×9).

Patel S, Panda S: Emerging roles of mistletoes in malignancy management, 3 Biotech March 2013


ALTERNATIVE AND COMPLEMENTARY THERAPIES• VOL. 19 NO. 4 AUGUST 2013
J Lees: Facilitating Self-Healing in Anthroposophic Psychotherapy
Forsch Komplementmed 2013;20:286–289
Read the abstract, or/ and find the full text attached (¤10)

Fischer H F et al.: The Effect of Attending Steiner Schools during Childhood on Health in Adulthood: A Multicentre Cross-Sectional Study
PLOS ONE | www.plosone.org September 2013 | Volume 8 | Issue 9 | e73135

Coming events:

You will find more information here.

The professorate in Anthroposophic Healthcare in Leiden/ NL is a research group in the Netherlands which focuses on anthroposophic healthcare. Regularly they distribute the International Research Newsletter on Anthroposophic Medicine, latest publication here, and we recommend subscription by contacting lenk.e@hsleiden.nl.

News from our members:

Spain:

"On December 3rd, the Spanish Health-Ministry published the "PROJECT for a MINISTERIAL ORDER" allowing the Registration of 19.000 homeopathic products and AMPs which were already on the market with a provisional permission- since 1994. Quality, Safety & Efficacy Standards shall be applied for authorization. But the required evidence of efficacy can only be based on "traditional & well established use". This will allow the import of new homeopathic medicinal products as well as the establishment of new homeopathic manufacturing sites, and opens a new historical page in Spain’s CAM.
The success is due partially to the good work of ECHAMP. But nonetheless due also to the successful campaign developed by Anthrosana-en-España 6 years ago. They achieved implementation of Art.16.2 of the Directive 2001/83/EC.
The contribution of our ACMA & patients’ association with the "Instituto de Salud/ WHO" was a seed too; (see "I. Forum for Integrative Health with Homeopathic Treatments").

Sweden:

The Swedish government has made a clear statement in favor of the Vidar-clinic and the AMPs.
On December 10th Iscador was registered, and after 3 years of “lawlessness” the AMPs reached the legal status of concession. At the same time the Medical Products Agency was asked to find a way to implement Art.16.2 of the Directive 2001/83/EC.
At the IVAA Delegates meeting Laura Borghi presented the idea of “essentials/business card” format describing the position of Anthroposophic Medicine in specific countries.

In the annex you will see both the Italian “essentials” (×11) and a template to create a presentation for your own country (×12)

The inquiry into the future situation of the anthroposophic doctors in the Netherlands was presented by Madeleen Winkler, and this gave the idea to collect information about the situation worldwide. By the time you read these lines, most of you will have collected this information in your own country, and sent it back to voorzitter@nvaa.nl.

Find attached the slides of the Dutch analysis (×13)

And last, but not least: During the delegates meeting Paulo Tavares/ Brazil (×14), Luz Myriam Triviño/ Columbia (×15) and Denis Koshechkin/ Russia (×16) gave presentations of their countries’ situation - watch, remember and enjoy!

Enclosures (×× 14, 15, 16)

From next year on you will find all these presentations and former Periodicals stored in the “members’ only Cloud Safe” on the IVAA homepage. Your delegates’ access email is contact@ivaa.info, and the password is given on request.

On behalf of the IVAA Council, with best wishes for a prosperous new year

Anette K Bender

Thomas Breitkreuz