

## **Natural Medicine Policy Statement**

The WNF recognizes that aspects of natural medicine are included in various health care professions around the world. WNF also recognizes that the practice of naturopathy / naturopathic medicine is eclectic and encompasses many facets that are considered natural medicine.

One of the challenges of naturopathy / naturopathic medicine is that the term naturopathy is often used interchangeably with natural medicine. Although there is a degree of overlap, it is important that natural medicine and naturopathy / naturopathic medicine be recognized as distinct. The practice and education of naturopathy / naturopathic medicine always includes three things:

1. History, philosophy and principles of naturopathic practice.
2. Inclusion of basic and clinical sciences.
3. Study and use of naturopathic modalities many which fall in the realm of natural medicine.

One of the goals of the WNF is to provide clarity and distinction between natural medicine and naturopathy / naturopathic medicine. In order to do this, the WNF will:

- Ensure that all member organizations have at least 65% of their members as naturopaths / naturopathic doctors
- All member organizations commit to focusing primarily on the advancement of naturopathy / naturopathic medicine as part of their mandate.
- Engage in projects that focus on the clarification and the advancement of naturopathy / naturopathic medicine.
- Hold the WNF General Assemblies in naturopathic-based conferences.

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