

Act No. 64 of 27 June 2003 relating to the alternative treatment of disease, illness, etc.

Section 1 *Objective of this Act*

The objective of this Act is to contribute to safety for patients who seek or receive alternative treatment and to regulate the right to practise such treatment.

Section 2 *Scope of this Act, terms, etc.*

This Act applies to persons offering or practising alternative treatment in Norway.

Insofar as they are appropriate, the regulations regarding territorial scope issued in pursuance of Section 2, second and third paragraph, of the Health Personnel Act shall also apply to this Act.

Alternative treatment is understood to mean health-related treatment which is practised outside the established health services and which is not practised by authorised health personnel. However, treatment practised within the scope of the established health services or by authorised health personnel is also covered by the term alternative treatment when the methods used are essentially methods that are used outside the established health services.

For the purposes of this Act health personnel is understood to mean persons who are so defined in Section 3 of the Health Personnel Act.

When alternative treatment is practised within the scope of the health services or by authorised health personnel, the Health Personnel Act shall also apply. Authorised health personnel shall give information and access to medical records as follows from Sections 10 and 41 of the Health Personnel Act, also in cases where the patient has no rights under the Patients' Rights Act.

Section 3 *Registration scheme*

The Ministry shall issue regulations regarding a voluntary registration scheme for health personnel and others who practise alternative treatment. These may include provisions on

1. a charge on registration and
2. an annual fee to retain registration.

Section 4 *Duty of confidentiality*

Insofar as they are appropriate, the provisions on duty of confidentiality in Sections 21 to 25 in the Health Personnel Act shall have corresponding application to non-health personnel who practise alternative treatment.

Section 5 *Medical intervention or treatment which may entail a serious health hazard*

Medical intervention or treatment which may entail a serious health hazard for patients shall only be practised by health personnel.

The Ministry may issue regulations stipulating in more detail the content of the first paragraph.

Section 6 *Treatment of communicable diseases which are hazardous to public health*

Treatment of diseases which are regarded in Section 1-3 of the Communicable Diseases Act as hazardous to public health shall only be practised by health personnel.