

[**PITAHC CIRCULAR NO. 02, S. 2012, March 21, 2012**]

GUIDELINES IMPLEMENTING R.A. 8423 IRR ON THE NATIONAL CERTIFICATION OF HOMEOPATHS/HOMOTOXICOLOGISTS AND ACCREDITATION OF HOMEOPATHY/HOMOTOXICOLOGY TRAINING PROGRAMS, CENTERS AND CLINICS

**Rule I
Policy and Application**

Section 1. Title. These guidelines shall be known as the PITAHC Guidelines on the National Certification of Homeopaths/Homotoxicologist and Accreditation of Homeopathy/ Homotoxicology Training Programs, Training Centers and Clinics.

Section 2. Purpose. These Guidelines are promulgated to prescribe the procedures and guidelines for the implementation of PITAHC IRR on the National Certification of Homeopaths/Homotoxicologist and Accreditation of Homeopathy/Homotoxicology Training Programs, Training Centers and Clinics pursuant to Rule VI, Promotion, Advocacy and Training of IRR of RA 8423. These Rules also serve the accreditation of homeopathy/ homotoxicology programs, training centers and clinics to pursue continuous service improvement, and strengthen the accountability of all stakeholders in the traditional and alternative health care practices.

Section 3. Declaration of Policy. It is the policy of the State to improve the quality and delivery of health care services to the Filipino people through the development of traditional and alternative health care and its integration into the national health care delivery system.

Section 4. Scope of Application. These guidelines shall apply to the following:

- 4.1 Accreditation of Training Programs
- 4.2 Training Centers for Homeopathy/Homotoxicology
- 4.3 Accreditation of Homeopathy/Homotoxicology Clinics
- 4.4 National Certification of Homeopaths/Homotoxocologist

Section 5. Definition of Terms. For the purpose of these guidelines, the following terms and words and phrases shall mean or be understood as follows:

- a. *Republic Act 8423* – An Act creating the “Philippine Institute of Traditional and Alternative Health Care (PITAHC)” to accelerate the development of traditional and alternative health care in the Philippines or otherwise known as “Traditional and Alternative

Medicine Act (TAMA) of 1997.”

- b. *Traditional and Alternative Health Care* – the sum total of knowledge, skills and practices, other than those embodied in biomedicine, used in the prevention, diagnosis and elimination of physical or mental disorders.
- c. *Traditional Medicine (RA 8423)* – the sum total of knowledge, skills and practice on health care, not necessarily explicable in the context of modern, scientific philosophical framework, but recognized by the people to help maintain and improve their health towards the wholeness of their being, the community and society, and their interrelations based on culture, history, heritage, and consciousness.
- d. *Biomedicine* – that discipline of medical care advocating therapy with remedies that produce effects differing from those of the diseases treated; also called ‘allopathy,’ ‘western medicine,’ ‘regular medicine,’ ‘conventional medicine,’ ‘mainstream medicine,’ ‘orthodox medicine,’ or ‘cosmopolitan medicine.’ **(This definition is based from the TAMA Law and that there are other definitions in other documents such as the Merriam Webster’s Medical Dictionary where it is meant to refer to a branch of medical science concerned especially with the capacity of human beings to survive and function in abnormally stressful environments and with the protective modification of such environments; It is also defined as medicine based on the application of principles of the natural sciences, especially biology and biochemistry).*
- e. *Alternative Health Care Modalities* – refer to other forms of non-allopathic, occasionally non-indigenous or imported healing methods, though not necessarily practiced for centuries nor handed down from one generation to another; includes homeopathy, homotoxicology, reflexology, acupuncture, massage, acupressure, chiropractic, nutritional therapy, yoga, tai chi, qi gong, prayer, reiki, pranic healing, mindfulness meditation, biofeedback, hypnosis, dance and other movement therapies, art and music therapy and other similar methods.
- f. *Biological Medicine* – is an art of healing which is, in its diagnostic and therapeutic efforts, oriented to living processes. It employs therapeutic measures in order to work in harmony with the natural capabilities of the organism for its own regulation, regeneration, adaptation, and self-healing. The chief guiding principle in biological medicine is preservation and support of the integrity of the human being. Biological medicine encompasses diagnostic and therapeutic measures which utilize all the materials, energetic, and informative possibilities of regulation and reactions of the human organism, in the attempt to mobilize its powers of regeneration and self-healing. (Franz Schimid, “Biological Medicine”)

- g. *Assessment* – the systematic collection and interpretation of information based on principles of homeopathy/homotoxicology.
- h. *Homeopathy* – is a philosophy of health and a formal system of diagnosis and of drug therapeutics that aims to stimulate the body's own natural healing capacity, developed by Samuel Christian Friedrich Hahnemann in 1797. Homeopathy comes from the Greek **homios** ("similar") and **pathos** ("suffering" or "sickness"). The fundamental law upon which homeopathy is based is the law of similars, or "Like is cured by like" – in Latin, **similia similibus curentur**. The law of similar states that a remedy can cure a disease when a substance produces in a healthy person, symptoms similar to those of the disease. The law of similars enables the physician to select the one medicine (the simillimum) that the remedy induces.
- i. *Homotoxicology* – a scientific therapeutic system in which complex homeopathic medications are used to treat conventionally diagnosed conditions. It is a bridge between classical and conventional pharmacology. It is a method of detoxification on the physical level in an organism, which is loaded with toxins. Dr. Hans Heinrich Reckeweg, German, developed the theory of homotoxicology in the 1950's. Homotoxins may be: 1. Internal (free radicals, lactic acid, etc.) 2. external (viruses, bacteriam environmental pollutants, etc.). Reckeweg formulated a six-phase table of disease consisting of 3 humoral phases: excretory, inflammatory, and deposition phases; while the cellular phases include the impregnation, degeneration, and dedifferentiation phases. Homotoxicologists are guided by the 6-phase table of disease, a framework used in the treatment of illnesses. They use mainly oral and injectable homeopathic remedies, and electro-acupuncture.
- j. *National Certification* – process of issuing certificates requiring education and testing that assures the competency of practitioners and trainers, administered by PITAHC and other PITAHC-accredited institutions.
- k. *National Registration* – process of issuing certificates of registration requiring education and testing that assures the competency of practitioners and trainers, administered by PITAHC and other PITAHC-accredited institutions.
- l. *National Accreditation* – process of issuing certificates to training programs, centers and clinics.
- m. *DELIMITATION:*

For the non-medical homeopath, the following competencies are not included in the PITAHC Competency Standards for Homeopathy and will require other additional qualifications/certification for practice:

1. Biomedicine diagnosis
2. Correlating laboratory findings
3. Prescribing drugs
4. Analyzing laboratory test on Homeopathy-related treatment
5. Performing new/advanced homeopathy treatment methods (e.g. intravenous, intramuscular, subcutaneous)
6. Conducting clinical and/or experimental Homeopathy-related research activities

For the medical homeopath/homotoxicologist, the following competencies are not included in the PITAHC Competency Standards for Homeopathy/Homotoxicology and will require other additional qualifications/certification for practice:

1. Performing new/advanced homeopathic/homotoxicologic treatment methods (e.g. cosmetic)
 2. Conducting clinical and/or experimental homeopathy/homotoxicology related research activities
- n. *Code of Ethics* – a summary of the standards by which homeopaths/homotoxicologists agree to conduct their practice and is a declaration of the general principles of acceptable, ethical, professional behavior.
- o. *Training Program* – systematic, formal training on the knowledge and practice of homeopathy/homotoxicology.
- p. *Community-Based Health Programs (CBHP)* – health programs which include homeopathy/homotoxicology as one of its programs and services, serving primarily the poor, the vulnerable sectors and marginalized communities.
- q. *Homeopathy/Homotoxicology Training Center* – a training facility intended for the formal education of students in homeopathy/homotoxicology and practice.
- r. *Community-Based Homeopathy/Homotoxicology Training Center* – a homeopathy/ homotoxicology training center for PITAHC accredited community-based health programs.
- s. *Homeopathy/Homotoxicology Clinic* – a health center facility intended for the diagnosis and treatment of patients through Homeopathy/Homotoxicology.

- t. *Community Based Homeopathy/Homotoxicology Clinic* – a homeopathy/homotoxicology clinic for PITAHC accredited community based health programs.
- u. *Portfolio Assessment* – evaluation of documents submitted as evidences of experiences such as homeopathy/homotoxicology training, work contract, certification from employers or agencies and other similar documents for review by PITAHC.
- v. *Medical Homeopath/Homotoxicologist* – a practitioner of homeopathy/homotoxicology who has also been licensed by the Philippines' Professional Regulatory Commission (PRC) to practice medicine in the Philippines as physician.
- w. *Homeopath* – a practitioner of homeopathy, not licensed by the Philippines' Professional Regulatory Commission (PRC) to practice medicine in the Philippines as a physician, but who has completed the prescribed homeopathy course in a learning institution accredited by the PITAHC National Certification Committee for Homeopathy.

Rule II

Accreditation of Training Programs

Section 1. All training centers offering courses for homeopathy/homotoxicology are required to register their course modules based on PITAHC Competency Standard in line with the policy of ensuring the quality of programs and courses in all institutions offering or intending to offer traditional and alternative health care courses. Program accreditation applies to mandatory compliance with minimum standards of all traditional and alternative health care courses including programs/courses being offered by public and private training institutions.

Section 2. The application for accreditation of Homeopathy/Homotoxicology programs may be filed at the PITAHC where the Homeopathy/Homotoxicology Training programs shall be evaluated and the National Certification Assessment shall be conducted.

Section 3. The PITAHC shall do monitoring of the continuous compliance by the Training Centers with the minimum requirements of PITAHC established standard.

Rule III

Training Centers of Homeopathy/Homotoxicology

Section 1. Requirements for the Training Centers. The following requirements for the accreditation of Training Centers shall be submitted to PITAHC.

A. *Homeopathy/Homotoxicology Training Center*