



Naturopathic Medicine Committee Strategic Plan

FY 2010 - 2012

Adopted
11/05/2010

Members of the Committee

- **DR. DAVID FIELD – (Committee Chair) N.D., L.Ac.**
- **DR. TARA LEVY – (Vice Chair) N.D.**
- **SUSAN M. BROOKS – (Secretary)**
- **DR. MICHAEL HIRT – M.D.**
- **K.T. LEUNG – CPA**
- **DR. BEVERLY YATES – N.D.**
- **DR. CALEB ZIA – Ed. D**



- **EDMUND G. BROWN JR. – Governor**
- **BRIAN STIGER - Director, Department of Consumer Affairs**
- **FRANCINE DAVIES – Acting Executive Officer, Naturopathic Medicine Committee**



Naturopathic Medicine Committee Overview

Naturopathic medicine is one of the oldest continuously licensed health care professions in the country. Its roots lie in German traditions of "Water Cure" or hydrotherapy from the mid-19th century.

Naturopathic medicine expanded upon the water cure and herbal therapies and was developed into a comprehensive philosophy and system of health which came to the United States around the turn of the 20th century.

California became the 13th state to recognize naturopathic medicine and provide licensure to naturopathic doctors.

The Act, which created the Bureau, was effective January 1, 2004. The first ND license was issued on January 14, 2005.

The Naturopathic Medicine Committee was formed effective October 23, 2009 under the Osteopathic Medical Board of California. There are currently over 375 naturopathic doctors licensed by California.

The Committee is completely funded by application and licensing fees and its staff is responsible for answering public inquiries, analyzing licensure documents, issuing licenses, responding to correspondence, coordinating legislative, regulatory, and budgetary activities, preparing reports, and administering disciplinary and enforcement activities.

Our Mission:

- To serve the public and licensed naturopathic doctors through the promotion and enforcement of laws and regulations which protect the health and safety of Californians, thus ensuring access to high quality naturopathic medical care.

Our Vision:

- To create an inviting, thriving environment for naturopathic doctors and the public by educating and informing consumers, and supporting the safe and effective practice of naturopathic medicine.



Our Values:

We are:

Efficient

Accessible

Effective

Informative

We operate with:

Professionalism

Integrity

Goal 1: Licensing

Ensure that all applicants and licensees are qualified to provide Naturopathic services.

1.1 - Ensure applicant integrity by validating all information supplied by applicant, through appropriate sources.

1.2 - Encourage increased numbers of applicants for licensing.

1.3 - Implement processes and procedures to audit Continuing Education.

1.4 - Maintain national level standards for licensure.

1.5 - Ensure all licensed naturopathic doctors meet requirements for licensure.

1.6 - Create and clarify scope of practice.

1.7 - Ensure all licensing processes are current and efficient.

Goal 2: Enforcement

Reduce, eliminate, or prevent unlicensed activity and unprofessional conduct that pose a threat to public health, safety, and welfare.

2.1 - Adopt policies and procedures that encourage voluntary compliance.

2.2 - Continue informing the public on status of enforcement activities.

2.3 - Develop policies and procedures that create a fair and efficient process for enforcement.

2.4 - Develop policies and procedures to work with other governmental and law enforcement agencies.

2.5 - Develop procedures, regulations and laws to bring Naturopathic Medicine Committee into compliance with current DCA standards.

2.6 - Train staff to manage enforcement processes.

2.7 - Create a fair adjudication process for regulatory compliance.

Goal 3: Legislation

Ensure that statutes, regulations, policies, and procedures strengthen and support the Naturopathic Medicine Committee's operations.

3.1 - Clarify existing law.

3.2 - Advocate for high professional development.

3.3 - Increase and improve relationships with legislators.

3.4 - Collaborate with state and national professional associations monitoring legislation that affects the Naturopathic Medicine Committee, naturopathic medicine and licensees.

3.5 - Monitor laws of naturopathic medicine in other states.

3.6 - Develop parity with other state naturopathic medical laws.

Goal 4: Administration

Enhance organizational effectiveness, and improve the quality of customer service in all programs.

4.1 - Ensure the Naturopathic Medicine Committee has the staffing and resources necessary to carry out its mission.

4.2 - Establish autonomy as an independent board.

4.3 - Fill all positions on the Naturopathic Medicine Committee.

4.4 - Monitor the implementation of this strategic plan.

4.5 - Initiate the business planning process.

Goal 5: Outreach & Education

Educate consumers to make informed choices about Naturopathic services and ensure that licensed Naturopathic Doctors are properly educated.

5.1 - Inform licensees and the public about the role of the Naturopathic Medicine Committee.

5.1- Educate consumers on the benefits of working with licensed Naturopathic doctors.

5.2 - Encourage eligible graduates to become licensed Naturopathic Doctors.

5.3 - Update online presence, correspondence, written media presence (i.e. newsletter, etc.)

5.4 - Establish guidelines for regular communications (i.e. frequency, delivery and content.)

5.5 - Network and participate with related associations.

5.6 - Outreach to other stakeholders (i.e. CMA, Chiropractors, Acupuncturists, other health care boards and associations, etc.)

5.7 - Partner with the Department of Consumer Affairs' Outreach Unit.