



House of Delegates Position Paper

In-Office Pharmacies

Overview of Naturopathic Medicine and In-Office Pharmacies

Naturopathic physicians often recommend nutritional supplements, herbal medicines and homeopathic remedies in the care of their patients. Naturopathic physicians are committed to their patients, utilizing the highest quality products available in order to obtain the best therapeutic results possible. These supplements are often not readily, easily or reasonably available or accessible to their patients. Naturopathic physicians commonly establish in-office pharmacies or dispensaries in conjunction with their naturopathic medical practices to make accessible to their patients these high quality products as part of their program of care.

Position of the American Association of Naturopathic Physicians:

There is no inherent conflict of interest in providing this service as long as:

- The naturopathic physician's primary goal is to make accessible to their patients high quality products directly related to the treatment of their condition, improvement of health and prevention of disease.
- The naturopathic physician does not recommend supplements or other products considered unnecessary for the treatment of their patients' disease or condition, improvement of health, or prevention of disease.
- A reasonable product retail markup is used.
- Reasonable alternatives and specific directions are given to the patient who seeks to obtain these supplements from other sources so they have adequate knowledge to obtain the most comparable product.
- There is no utilization of marketing and sales methods by the naturopathic physician designed to primarily secure profit and secondarily provide for the medical interests of patients.
- The naturopathic physician demands quality assurances from all supplement and product suppliers and provides quality assurance information to patients upon request.

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