

Dear Insurer:

I am seeking the services of a Homeopath and wish to request that if this health service is not currently included in my allowance for alternative medicine, that it be so. I would ask you to please consider the following facts:

The Homeopathy Act was passed in June of 2007, bringing homeopathy into regulation under Ontario's **Regulated Health Professions Act** (RHPA).

Homeopathy is an effective, gentle and complex system of medicine that is used worldwide. Homeopathy is incorporated into the hospitals and health care systems of many countries. It is the fastest growing system of medicine in the world and recognized by the World Health Organization. It has been proven effective in the treatment of acute and chronic diseases where conventional medicine has failed. It eliminates the need for expensive medications, shortens recovery times and encourages a healthy life style. Supporting homeopathy is cost effective to employers, insurance companies, and the Canadian health care system.

Homeopathy is already covered by most, if not all, insurance companies, but often only when administered by a Naturopath. However, since Homeopathy is now recognized as a distinct, regulated profession in Ontario, it should be standard practice to offer homeopathic insurance coverage for services directly provided by Homeopaths. Some companies, like Manulife, are already doing so.

It is important to differentiate between the services provided by a Naturopath versus a Homeopath. While Naturopaths receive education in homeopathy, it is not as extensive and thorough as that taught at Homeopathic Colleges. This same principle holds true for the other modalities that a Naturopath is trained in. For example, they are also taught some osteopathy and spinal manipulation techniques. However, this does not allow them to practice as osteopaths or chiropractors. To receive these designations, they would be required to further educate themselves in those particular fields of study.

Since Homeopathy is *its own system of medicine*, in order to qualify to receive the "Homeopathic Doctor"* registration from the Ontario Homeopathic Association (OHA), one must graduate from an OHA accredited college that meets its current standards in education. The program must offer in-depth studies in medical and homeopathic sciences, as well as extensive clinical practice. Standards have been set to ensure that those designated as "HD"* will provide safe, effective and professional care to the public.

It is my preference as a consumer to be treated by the specialist in their field so that I can be confident in receiving the highest quality of care.

I am asking that the Homeopath be given the same consideration as other registered professionals who are regulated under the Regulated Health Professions Act.

NAME

DATE

SIGNATURE



About the OHA:

The Ontario Homeopathic Association was founded in 1992 to re-establish Homeopathy as a recognized health care system in Ontario, and to form a united and regulated body of qualified homeopaths who provide safe, effective and professional homeopathic health care to the public. They have set the highest standards for educational requirements for Homeopaths in Ontario. Qualified professionals registered with the OHA's Registry of Homeopaths must have completed training from an OHA accredited Homeopathic College and must meet its standards. This provides a **guarantee of quality care** to users and their insurance providers. The registry is updated annually and available for verification of individual credentials. For more information about the OHA and its standards of practice, or to request a lunch and learn presentation, they may be contacted at:

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* 'Homeopathic Doctor' and 'HD' are registration categories granted by the OHA in recognition of a Homeopath's achievement in educational excellence. This title is not at this time reflected in the Homeopathy Act, 2007.