



The Academy of Veterinary Homeopathy

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Dear Doctor or Student:

Thank you for your inquiry about the Academy. Enclosed is an application packet. You will notice that there is also a copy of our Standards of Practice and an agreement that you have read and understand these standards. Our organization is founded on these principles and the preservation of proper application of homeopathic principles is our cornerstone. One of the goals of this organization is to help our members learn and practice homeopathy according to the principles set down by Dr. Samuel Hahnemann. We have found that the correct application of these principles creates a higher level of success in homeopathic practice.

We do not require our members to practice homeopathy to the exclusion of other modalities but we do require that, in cases where homeopathy is used, it be used according to these principles.

Over the past years there have been numerous national magazine articles on holistic veterinary medicine. Many of these have promoted our organization as a source of homeopathic veterinary referrals. Our referral network (excludes student members) has had thousands of requests and continues to grow. If you wish to be listed, be sure to sign that section of the application.

Please make sure that your information is correct so that we can minimize any errors in this referral list. We plan on listing your name, certification status, percent of practice dedicated to homeopathy, city, state, zip or postal code, and your office telephone number. We will not include your street address, to minimize the use of this list for unauthorized mailings.

This list is available to the public through mail, e-mail, fax, fax on demand, and on our website at www.TheAVH.org.

We also have an e-mail-based area for discussion of homeopathy, the AVH Forum. This is limited to member only. Please be sure your e-mail address is correct and legible. **If you do not wish to be included**, please check the appropriate box on the application.

Please return all the information to our address listed below for processing.

Sincerely yours,

Kathy Combs
Membership Committee Secretary

Academy of Veterinary Homeopathy Membership Application

Name:* _____

Practice Name: _____

Street:* _____

City:* _____ State/Province:* _____

Country:* _____ Zip or Postal Code:* _____

Telephone:* _____ Fax: _____

Veterinary Training: _____

Homeopathic Training: _____

Degree(s): DVM VMD MRCVS Student Other _____

Do you allow your name and address to be made available to other non-profit holistic groups that may wish to include you in their mailings? Yes No

Do you allow your e-mail address to be made available to other non-profit groups that may wish to include you in their mailings? Yes No

E-Mail Information (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

If you wish to use our e-mail forum or receive hotline announcements- please make it legible.

E-mail address: _____@_____

No Do not include me in the e-mail AVH Forum.

Species Preferences:* Small Animal Large Animal Avian Exotic

What percent of your practice consists of veterinary homeopathic cases?*

100% 75-99% 50-75% 25-50% under 25% Student status

I am applying for: Affiliate Status Accredited Status Student Status

By signing below I affirm that I am applying for membership in the Academy and have read and understood the Standards of Practice of the Academy of Veterinary Homeopathy

Signature

Date

(Please note that you must be already certified by the AVH for Accredited Status. Please refer to the status descriptions on the accompanying page.)

Please complete and return the following items:

- this signed form
- a signed copy of the Referral Authorization if you wish to be listed (not for student members).
- a \$125 check payable to the AVH for yearly dues (\$25 for student members) This Includes Our Journal in Electronic format.

P.O. Box 232282 • Leucadia • California • 92023-2282
866-652-1590 • Office@TheAVH.org • <http://www.theAVH.org>

Referral Authorization Form – Practitioners Only

Name:* _____

City:* _____ State/Province:* _____

Country:* _____ Zip or Postal Code:* _____

Telephone:* _____

Species Preference:* Small Animal Large Animal Avian Exotic

What percent of your practice consists of veterinary homeopathic cases?*

100% 75-99% 50-75% 25-50% under 25%

Membership Status: Affiliate Accredited

Referral Authorization

Yes, I do wish to be included (you must sign below to be included).

If so, do you wish to be listed as being available for telephone consultations? Yes No

No, I do NOT wish to be included.

If you wish to be included in the referral list, please indicate so by signing below. Only fields marked with an * will be included in the list. The other information is for internal use only.

I authorized my name, city, state, zip or postal code, country, membership status, species preferences, percent homeopathic practice, consult information and telephone number to be included in a list of homeopathic veterinarians to be distributed by the Academy of Veterinary Homeopathy to the public via mail, phone, fax, e-mail and the internet. I understand that they will do their best to avoid any errors or omissions and to update the list on a regular basis, but I realize that they hold no liability for any typographical or electronic errors that might occur. I understand that the list is for informational purposes only and does not constitute a recommendation of my practice and my abilities by the Academy and I hold them harmless for any action arising from the cases that may come to me through this list.

Signature _____

Print Name _____ Date _____

Revised 02-14-10

Affiliate versus Accredited versus Student membership

AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP:

Prerequisites for Affiliate Membership:

- Graduate of accredited veterinary school
- Licensed veterinarian
- Interest in homeopathic medicine as described in the Organon of Medicine and taught by Dr. Sameul in his Writings
- Agreement to support the Standards and purpose of the Academy of Veterinary Homeopathy
- Payment of dues

Affiliate Member Benefits:

- Electronic Journal
- Participation in the AVH E-mail Forum
- Optional listing in the AVH Referral Network
- Attendance at annual meeting at member rates
- Notice of all upcoming activities
- Eligible to chair most committees

ACCREDITED MEMBERSHIP:

Prerequisites for Accredited membership:

- Meets all requirements for Affiliate Membership
- Certified by the Academy of Veterinary Homeopathy in basic Veterinary Homeopathy as determined through Examination and case submissions

Accredited Member Benefits:

- All Affiliate Member benefits
- Accredited status noted on the referral lists
- Eligible to vote on issues put before the membership by the Board
- Can serve on all committees
- Eligible to chair committees

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP:

Prerequisites for Student Membership:

- Currently enrolled in an accredited veterinary school
- Interest in homeopathic medicine as described in the Organon of Medicine and taught by Dr. Samuel Hahnemann in his writings.
- Agreement to support the standards purpose of the Academy of Veterinary Homeopathy
- Payment of dues

Student Member Benefits:

- Electronic Journal
- Participation in the AVH E-mail Forum
- Attendance at annual meeting at reduced rates
- Notice of all upcoming activities
- Can serve on some committees

Revised 02/15/10

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Academy of Veterinary Homeopathy

Standards of Practice Agreement

One of the purposes of the AVH is to establish and maintain a standard of practice such that veterinary homeopaths across the country will be thinking and practicing according to the same time-honored principles. Please read the attached Standards of Practice. The success of veterinary homeopathy will be enhanced if all members of the AVH agree to apply these principles to their homeopathic cases.

A summary of the Standards is as follows:

1. The goal of therapy is to cure the patient
2. This goal is achieved by using the remedy that is most similar to the state of the patient as indicated by careful observation, physical examination and evaluation of the history of the patient.
3. Only one remedy is given at a time; no combination remedies or alternation of remedies are used.
4. Homeopathic treatment is not to be combined with acupuncture, allopathy, herbal medicine, etc. because the success of our treatment is seriously compromised by this practice.
5. Localized lesions are an expression of internal disease and are not to be removed or suppressed via opical medication or surgery.

We hope to prevent the difficulties that arise when different homeopathic practitioners modify their practice and thus violate the above principles. Not only are these other methods of practice less successful, but they contribute to confusion among clients and consulting veterinarians, and cause division among homeopathic practitioners.

Furthermore, the AVH will not be able to respond, or respond favorably, to inquiries from regulatory bodies in any case where the Standards of Practice have not been followed, or the practitioner is not a member in good standing. The ability to address these issues is limited by our available resources and is at the total discretion of the AVH.

Definition of a homeopathic case: A case will be considered a homeopathic case whenever a veterinary homeopath is asked to treat an animal homeopathically or when a veterinary homeopath indicates to the client that he/she is treating the animal homeopathically.

Standards of Practice and Purpose of the Academy of Veterinary Homeopathy

The Academy of Veterinary Homeopathy is established for two purposes:

- 1) To establish standards for the practice of veterinary homeopathy.¹
- 2) To advance veterinary homeopathy through education and research.

Definitions:

Veterinary homeopathy is homeopathy as applied to the treatment of animals.

Homeopathy is the system of medicine developed by Samuel Hahnemann and described in the 5th and 6th editions of the *Organon of Medicine* and volumes I and II of *Chronic Diseases; Their Peculiar Nature And Their Homeopathic Cure*.

Standards of Practice:

The most important directive from these sources is that the purpose and goal of homeopathic treatment is the cure of the patient.² Cure is not left vague, but is carefully defined by Hahnemann to be the rapid and gentle restoration of health with disappearance of the whole pattern of the signs of illness.³ Not only is health restored, but it is also permanent, not requiring continued treatment with medication.⁴

It is the use of medicines that are homeopathic to the patient's condition that are to be used. It is further stated (and follows logically) that medicines that are not curative are not to be used.

Though all of the instructions in the *Organon of Medicine* are a guide to practice, the following guidelines are stated for their value as detailing the method of curative homeopathic treatment:

1. Only the remedy that is homeopathic to the patient is to be used.
2. Drugs and methods of treatment which are not homeopathic to the case are to be avoided because of the possibility of interference with the progress of cure.^{5 & 6}
3. Use of acupuncture and moxa is not compatible with homeopathic treatment because of its effect on the vital force of the patient.⁷

¹ See Appendix A for further discussion of the purpose of having standards.

² *Organon of Medicine*, 6th edition, paragraph 1, "The physician's highest and only calling is to make the sick healthy, to cure..."

³ *Organon of Medicine*, 6th edition, paragraphs 2 & 17.

⁴ *Organon of Medicine*, 6th edition, paragraph 51, "The cure by this method takes place by only a gentle, imperceptible and yet often rapid transition from the tormenting natural disease to the desired state of permanent health." Paragraph 280, [After a period of homeopathic treatment the sensation in mild degree of old symptoms of the illness] "...indicates that the vital principle no longer needs to be affected by the similar medicinal disease in order to lose the sensation of the natural disease...." and the medicine is discontinued.

⁵ *Organon of Medicine*, 6th edition, paragraphs 23, 25-45, 69, and 291. Here discussion of the curative effect of similar medicines and the harmful effects of non-similar medicines is made clear. Drugs, herbs and other forms of treatment prevent cure and cause ultimate harm to the patient. Hahnemann states that only the medicine homeopathic to the patient's condition is to be used in treatment.

⁶ See Appendix B for exceptions to the rule.

⁷ Hahnemann S. To my true pupils. *AllgemHomZtg* 1833;II(1):1-3.

4. Treatment of symptoms by electrical or electromagnetic application is to be avoided because of its tendency to suppress symptoms in the patient.⁸ Use of electricity and effects of magnets are suitable in treatment when administered according to homeopathic indications only.⁹
5. Only one homeopathic medicine is to be given at one time.¹⁰
6. Medicines are most suitably given by mouth.¹¹
7. The patient should receive nutritious food which does not, in itself, have medicinal effects.¹²
8. Symptoms on the skin or surface of the body that have expressed as a localized lesion are not to be treated in a vigorous way with the intent to cause their disappearance or by surgery to remove them. These are to be treated primarily by internal homeopathic treatment.¹³
9. Remedies (in the centesimal potency scale) are to be administered as single doses and allowed to act without interference. Repeated doses of the same medicine can cause excessive, even violent, reaction in the patient.¹⁴ An exception is made for acute conditions where treatment must sometimes be continued until there is a response from the patient or as outlined in paragraph 11 below.
10. Remedies are not to be repeated while improvement in the patient continues as this will cause upset in the progress towards cure.¹⁵
11. Remedies (in the LM or Q potency scale) can be repeated frequently if both succussed and diluted with each dose.¹⁶ Remedies below 30C may be repeated either because the patient is unresponsive or in a deliberate attempt to give a potency that is low so as to minimize aggravation. When these methods are used, it is imperative that the patient be monitored at frequent intervals.
12. No medicines in the treatment are to be used if their pure action (primary effect) in the healthy body has not been determined by careful study.¹⁷
13. Evaluation of the patient is based only on careful elucidation of the details of symptoms on mental, emotional and physical levels. This consists of questioning, observation, and physical examination (including laboratory tests).^{18 & 19}

⁸ *Organon of Medicine*, 5th edition, preface.

⁹ *Organon of Medicine*, 6th edition, paragraph 286.

¹⁰ *Organon of Medicine*, 6th edition, paragraphs 272-274. "In no case under treatment is it necessary and therefore not permissible to administer to a patient more than one, single simple medicinal substance at one time."

¹¹ *Organon of Medicine*, 6th edition, paragraph 272.

¹² *Organon of Medicine*, 6th edition, paragraph 261.

¹³ *Organon of Medicine*, 6th edition, paragraphs 185-205. Hahnemann explains that local lesions are expressions of internal disease and that eradication of this expression before the internal disease is treated curatively harms the patient and makes curative treatment impossible.

¹⁴ *Organon of Medicine*, 5th edition, paragraph 246.

¹⁵ *Organon of Medicine*, 6th edition, paragraph 246.

¹⁶ *Organon of Medicine*, 6th edition, paragraphs 246-248.

¹⁷ *Organon of Medicine*, 6th edition, paragraphs 119-120 and footnotes.

¹⁸ *Organon of Medicine*, 6th edition, paragraph 1 footnote, and paragraph 18.

¹⁹ *Organon of Medicine*, 6th edition, paragraphs 5-6. Hahnemann emphasizes the importance of basing the treatment on the actual details of the patient's condition rather than on theory, speculation, or use of some presumed psychic ability.

14. The complete details of the patient's condition are to be carefully noted in written records as the memory is not reliable enough to evaluate the patient in subsequent visits.²⁰
15. Choice of the homeopathic remedy is based on knowledge of medicines in comparison with the symptoms of the patient, e.g., through use of a materia medica.²¹

These details of practice, in agreement with Hahnemann's teaching, give us the guidance as to the purpose of treatment and the way to proceed in practice.

Appendix A

Why should there be established standards of practice?

In spite of the careful elucidation by Dr. Samuel Hahnemann of the essentials of homeopathic practice based on his 50 years of clinical experience, many people have chosen to develop different forms of practice. Most often, the deviations consist of dropping one or more of the methods of practice elicited above.

For example:

1. Giving more than one remedy at a time.
2. Not keeping detailed records of symptoms.
3. Mixing therapies so that the homeopathic remedy is counter-acted by the use of non-similar methods of treatment or so that the patient's response to homeopathic treatment is confused and proper evaluation is not possible.
4. Eradicating or suppressing a localized lesion.
5. Injecting remedies into the body rather than administering by mouth.

These few examples convey the ways in which practices can differ. The difficulty is that those homeopathic physicians who have successfully followed Hahnemann confirm that only careful adherence to the details of his method will result in consistent cure of patients. It therefore becomes a problem when practitioners, on their own, decide that certain parts of practice are not necessary (as outlined above). This leads to confusion among clients (who expect a consistency of treatment) and division among practitioners who cannot agree about an approach to treatment.

A further difficulty is that the Academy of Veterinary Homeopathy will be a representative organization in the sense that if a homeopathic practitioner is challenged, this organization will be asked to evaluate the situation. If a practitioner has not adhered to Hahnemann's method, then it will be very difficult, if not impossible, to make a favorable evaluation.

For these reasons, it is necessary to establish standards of practice, e.g., state what the essentials of practice are. In establishing the Academy of Veterinary Homeopathy it was decided that the best standard is that given by Hahnemann's writings, as described above.

²⁰ *Organon of Medicine*, 6th edition, paragraph 104 and footnote.

²¹ *Organon of Medicine*, 6th edition, paragraph 153.

Appendix B

There are situations for which exception must be made for the rule of not using homeopathic therapy with allopathic drugs.

Some of these situations arise when:

1. A patient is taken on for treatment who is already on allopathic medication that cannot be immediately stopped.
2. A case becomes critical yet not responsive to homeopathic treatment.
3. There is an acute illness or injury that is an immediate threat to life and the practitioner either does not know how to resolve the situation or does not have the physical facility required.
4. There is failure of a body function, for example bladder paralysis that cannot be repaired and may necessitate the use of antibiotics to control recurrent infection.

The guiding principle is that the purpose of homeopathic treatment is cure. If one of these exceptional situations exists, it is temporary and not part of a continued homeopathic treatment program.