

**The Official Magazine for**  
**The International Healing Fellowship**



**HEALING**



**HERALD**

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Dear Member,

This booklet replaces the usual Healing Herald for this year.

As we feel that the many changes occurring in the complementary therapy arena, and since many of you are both healer and therapist the changes are important as they likely to affect your practice in some way in the future.

For those who are trainers then these ideas are worthy of note and possible inclusion and/or changes to the content of your teaching.

Furthermore we suggest that you keep this booklet with your Handbook for future reference and should any other significant changes occur in the future, then make a note of them.

Margaret

Just a reminder that without renewing your insurance you will no longer be recognised as a registered healer by this Association.

Also it is worth reminding you that without membership of a recognised healing association then you will be unable to have Balens insurance at the current price.

Please don't forget should you have any difficulties with regard to your membership, insurance and so on then we are here to help so just email or ring.

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## **FINAL REPORT ON CORE CURRICULUM 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2015**

At the first consultation on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2014 the following associations attended:

United Spiritual Fellowship  
SNU Healers  
Guild of Professional Healers  
Association of Surrey Healers  
The association of Therapeutic Healers,  
Jewish Association of Spiritual Healers,  
Bristol District Association of Healers  
David Balen.

The final consultation meeting was held in Bristol at the Create Centre on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2015.

Sue Knight, Diane Connell & Ken Wyatt ran the day and represented the UK Healers & CHO.

However into this report I have now included the observations made at the meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

### **Attendees:**

Association of Therapeutic Healers & Earthworks School of Healing Arts.

The International Healing Fellowship  
The Friendly Group of Healer Associations

Bristol District Association of Healers  
Helen Stott Transformation & Training  
The British Complementary Medicine Association  
Barbara Hunter (New Zealand).

## **Why were we there?**

This was the final consultation.

To modify/clarify the content of the Core Curriculum and because we care about the changes that healing is undergoing nationally.

The passing of many laws governing medical practice that have an effect on the way in which we practice healing in the future.

## **Observations:**

This programme has taken two years to create and the aims have been to include all views and opinions as possible.

It is acknowledged as having an academic nature but allows it being developed to suit all needs.

It has been developed so that it can act as a guideline for those associations who do not have a training programme or for those who already have one so that they can update and/or add more to their current training programmes.

The language used can be difficult to understand because it has to follow the language used by National Occupational Standards and sometimes there were no alternatives that could be used to replace the jargon.

Hospitality and Health & Well Being is a major industry in the UK and the emphasis continues therefore for Self regulation in Complementary

The Core Curriculum is being recognised as the self regulatory training programme for Complementary Therapies including healing. Healing is recognised as a complementary therapy.

Assignments do NOT need to be written. Individuals to be able to record with any media chosen.

Final assessment panel to be 2 independent people excluding the trainer.

A pass in each section of the curriculum is required rather than a weighted score in each section.

A & P knowledge is to be limited and general in nature.

CRB, now DBS, cost can be less prohibitive if one joins an agency.

Unresolved; 'who trains the assessors?' and 'who trains the trainers?'

The Government does not plan to regulate any more therapies other than those they consider to be potentially harmful to the public. Herbal Medicine Practitioners were regulated in 2012.

Complementary Therapies such as healing, massage, etc., are not being regulated by the Government therefore self regulation is important and is voluntary.

Balens wish for better client note taking and clear consent approval including explanation to the client of the potential risk of a healing crisis.

The aim is to bring about more respect and recognition for healing by the Public and the medical profession.

More and younger people want training that is recognised and has accreditation.

With the legal requirement of young people having to continue the education until they are 18, they are attending institutions that have an academic background.

Hospitality and Health & Well Being is a major industry in the UK and the emphasis continues therefore for Self regulation in Complementary Therapies are more likely to occur in educational facilities in the future as more and more younger people are interested in health and well being and are prepared to train and qualify.

The Core Curriculum has been recognised by the GRCCT, (A General Regulatory Council for Complementary Therapies), it is a voluntary register that also liaises with UK Healers and the Core Curriculum. In order for you to register with them, as a professional healing association, you will need to have your training and syllabus approved by the UK Healers.

As a result of the Government White Paper In 2007:

**‘The Regulation of Health Professionals in 21<sup>st</sup> Century’;**

**‘It is a criminal offence for an individual to practice a statutory profession without being listed on the appropriate register’.**

The Complementary & Natural Health Care Council (CNHC), was approved as an accredited register by the Professional Standards Authority for Health & Social Care, (PSA). in 2014. It provides a voluntary register for complementary therapies, including healing, and primarily work in conjunction with NHS acting as a register and monitor for those therapists working professionally in the NHS.

**Statutory Regulation:** are therapies that the government have decided that they have the potential to do harm therefore they have to be regulated.

**Voluntary Regulation** is what it says, but it was suggested that one association acts as a 'lead body' and develops such procedures as necessary to be accepted as a self regulating body 'recognised' by the government.

All regulatory bodies need to demonstrate that they are able to safeguard the general public by maintaining appropriate standards of training, treatment and professional behaviour.

### **Laws that May Effect Healing Practice & Training**

Both the Equalities Act 2006 and 2010 include equality for all irrespective of age, gender, disability, race, religion/belief and sexual orientation. There is a clause in the 2006 act that allows for;

**'positive discrimination;**' that is when a job/occupation/training is deemed not to be in the best interest of that person then it should not be offered.

However in the Act 2010 it makes provision for;

**'a proportionate means of achieving a legitimate aim' and contains 'provision to enable the service provider to take positive action to overcome or minimise a disadvantage arising from people possessing particular protected characteristic.'**

## **Confidentiality**

Access to Medical Reports Act 1988 & Access to Health Records 1990, Amended Data Protection Act 1988 and Data Protection Act Subject access Modification Order 1987, Police & Criminal Evidence Act 1984, all govern confidentiality and are all relevant to healing.

The Law requires a healer to attend court, disclose records/ case notes and answer questions concerning the healing sessions, etc. Therefore a healer cannot offer absolute confidentiality to their patients.

The court will require the original notes and any other relevant documents and if a healer fails to comply then he/she may be held in 'contempt' and be subject to a fine or imprisonment.

### **Implied Consent & Informed Consent.**

Treatment without consent may constitute an assault and may be liable to civil or criminal action.

### **According to the GMC:**

**Implied consent** is granting permission without formal agreement, e.g. having your BP taken.

**Informed consent** is 'the person must be given all the help in terms of what the treatment involves, risks, advantages and so on and then consent can be either verbal or written.

## **The Nursing & Midwifery Order 2001/15**

Clause 45(1) states 'that a person other than the registered midwife or a medical practitioner shall not attend a woman in childbirth'. The legal definition of 'childbirth' or 'attend' is unclear.

Childbirth is legally defined as the period from going into labour until birth. Therefore before or after childbirth a healer can give healing.

Interpretation of this law is ultimately for the courts but based on expert legal advice we can say that;

**Treatment of pregnant patients is lawful at times other than childbirth.**

**At childbirth the presence of a healer is lawful under supervision of midwife or doctor.**

**Treatment offered during childbirth, even under supervision of midwife or doctor may or may not be useful.**

If healing is given at any stage of pregnancy it is good practice to first contact the Midwife concerned as it is part of the role to ensure the patient has given informed consent. If there is any doubt then use a disclaimer.

**NB:**

**This information supersedes the Code of Conduct Addendum in your Handbook**

## Public Health Reforms

### Mental Health Acts 2000 & 2005

Legislate for those who lack 'capacity' to remain at the centre of the decision making process and provide a framework to empower and protect vulnerable people who are unable to make their own decisions. This applies to those of 16 years and over with learning difficulties, etc.

There are more people who come under these acts who are no longer living in institutions but in the community and no doubt there will be a time, if hasn't occurred already when some may be interested in healing and wish to train as healers.

In 2010 the White Paper; '**Healthy People Our Strategy for Public Health in England**' was the Government's vision for dealing with ongoing health challenges such as smoking, obesity, etc. and the creation of an integrated national public health service that also gives back the power to local authorities once more. This became the Social Care Bill 2011 and was passed in March 2012.

Since then many national health services are now being 'farmed' out to other agencies, e.g. physiotherapy. If successful, the pioneering programme 'Spirituality in Mental Health' that is running for 3 years that has government approval will be adopted into the whole of the NHS.

It appears that all of the reforms in the Public Health Sector will have an effect on Complementary Therapies to a lesser or greater degree, both now and in the future.

Even though many healing associations will choose not to register as professional bodies as a 'duty of care' it still requires them to be aware of the changes that are occurring and to pass them on to their current members.

As responsible and caring people we need to be willing to change our ways of thinking and teaching so that we ensure that our probationers and clients alike receive the very best care and professional service that we can provide.

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