



Questionable Organizations: An Overview

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Promoters of questionable health practices often form organizations to multiply their effectiveness. How can one tell which groups are reliable and which are not? There is no sure way, but nine precautionary questions may help:

1. Are its ideas inside the scientific mainstream? Some groups admit that they were formed because their founders felt alienated from the scientific community. One group that made no secret of this was actually called the [American Quack Association](#), whose main purposes were to provide emotional support to its members, poke fun at their critics, and stimulate positive public feelings toward unconventional practitioners. The group was founded in 1985 by Jonathan Wright, M.D., who became its president, and Roy Kupsinel, M.D., a "holistic" practitioner from Florida, who became its vice-president. It attracted about 300 members but no longer appears active.

2. Who are its leaders and advisors? The International Society for Fluoride Research may sound respectable, but it is actually an antifuoridation group. The International Academy of Preventive Medicine (now called the International Academy of Nutrition and Preventive Medicine) numbered among its leaders Carlton Fredericks, [Linus Pauling](#), [Lendon Smith](#), and other promoters of questionable nutrition practices. The Health Resources Council was founded by [Gary Null](#) to promote "alternative" health methods.

3. What are its membership requirements? Is scientific expertise required—or just a willingness to pay dues? An organization open to almost anyone may be perfectly respectable (like the American Association for the Advancement of Science), but don't let the fact that an individual belongs to it impress you. The International Academy of Nutritional Consultants, the [American Association of Nutritional Consultants](#), the [National Academy of Research Biochemists](#), and the [International Association of Therapeutic Specialists](#) issue attractive certificates, but their only requirement for "professional membership" has been payment of a modest fee. Some "institutes," "research" centers, and voluntary organizations are simply names adopted by an individual or a few people who wish to make their commercial activities sound more respectable. The National Academy of Sports Medicine, for example, began as a private corporation used for marketing dubious products; and the "Noble Research Society" merely marketed a quack device.

4. Does it promote a specific treatment or treatments? Most such groups should be highly suspect. A century ago, valid new ideas were hard to evaluate and often were rejected by the medical community. But today, effective new treatments are quickly welcomed by scientific practitioners and do not need special groups to promote them. The American College for Advancement in Medicine, the main purpose of which has been to promote [chelation therapy](#), falls into this category. Others include:

- The American Academy of Environmental Medicine, which promotes "clinical ecology" and the

- bogus concept of [multiple chemical sensitivity](#).
- The American Association of Orthopedic Medicine, which promotes prolotherapy.
 - The American Schizophrenia Association, which promotes megavitamins, and the group's parent organization, the Huxley Institute for Biosocial Research.
 - The International Health Foundation, which promotes the fad diagnosis of [candidiasis hypersensitivity](#).
 - The Physicians' Association for Eradicating Chronic Disease (which promotes [Maharishi Ayur-Veda](#))
 - The National Wellness Coalition, whose stated mission is "to promote wellness principles, policies and practices as the key to affordable, effective health care and a healthy prosperous nation." Despite the rhetoric, however, the coalition pays very little attention to proven health methods and promotes a broad spectrum of unscientific approaches.
 - The World Research Association and various other groups that promote questionable cancer therapies.

A few groups promote a mixture of science-based and dubious practices. The American Academy of Otolaryngic Allergy, for example, promotes the concepts of [clinical ecology](#), and the American Academy of Osteopathy espouses [cranial therapy](#). Some groups have even set up their own certifying boards.

5. Does it oppose proven public health measures? [Opposition to fluoridation](#) and immunization are tipoffs to extremely poor judgment. The names of such organizations sometimes fail to reveal their true purpose. "Pure water" and "Safe Water" groups nearly always have dishonest opposition to fluoridation as their central focus. The Preventive Dental Health Association is opposed to the use of [amalgam fillings](#) as well as to fluoridation. The World Children's Wellness Foundation is a chiropractic group that opposes the immunization of children.

6. Does it espouse a version of "freedom of choice" that would abolish government regulation of the health marketplace? Such "freedom" is nothing more than a ploy to persuade legislators to permit the marketing of quack methods without legal restraints. Consumers for Dental Care, for example, has sought an end toward what it calls "discrimination" against dentists who advise patients to have their [amalgam](#) fillings removed.

7. How is it financed? The Council for Responsible Nutrition, despite its respectable-sounding name, represents manufacturers and distributors of food supplements and other nutritional products. Don't assume, however, that funding by an industry makes an organization unreliable. Reliability should be determined by judging the validity of a group's ideas rather than its funding. The National Dairy Council and the [Institute of Food Technologists](#) are highly respected by the scientific community for their accurate publications on nutrition.

8. Is it a real organization? Some entrepreneurs simply make up names for the purpose of marketing products, such as weight-control pills, sex enhancers, or various dietary supplements. If an "institute," "clinic," "laboratory," "research center," or professional-sounding "association" uses sensational claims to market products by mail or through the Internet, it is probably a phony. For example, the "[American Urological Clinic](#)," which marketed a phony impotence remedy called Vaegra (not Viagra) in 1998, was merely a rented mailbox in Kansas City, Missouri. Scams also exist in which donations are solicited for a phony organization with a name similar to that of a well-known genuine charity.

9. If it is a school, is it accredited by a recognized agency? Accreditation constitutes public

recognition that an educational program meets the administrative, organizational, and financial criteria of a recognized agency. In the United States, educational standards for schools are set by a network of agencies approved by the U.S. Office of Education (USOE) or the Council on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation (CORPA). USOE or CORPA do not accredit individual schools, but they approve the national and regional agencies that do so. Almost all such agencies are voluntary and nongovernmental. Accreditation enables credits to be transferable from one school to another and is used as a basis for entering various professions. Lack of accreditation of a health-related school should be considered a very bad sign. I have never encountered a nonaccredited school that issued health credentials that did not promote misinformation. Of course, neither accreditation nor affiliation with an otherwise reputable university provides any *guarantee* of reliability. The U.S. Secretary of Education has recognized agencies that accredit schools of chiropractic, astrology, acupuncture/oriental medicine, massage, and naturopathy with little regard to the validity of what they teach. Moreover, many universities promote health-related nonsense in addition to sound science. Temple University's Center for Frontier Sciences and Columbia University's [Richard and Hinda Rosenthal Center for Alternative and Complementary Medicine](#) are examples of bad components of basically good institutions.

10. If it awards certifications, how stringent are its requirements?

I view the following with considerable distrust. Some are no longer active. If you would like to nominate others for this list, please [contact us](#).

Professional Organizations

- Academy of Comprehensive Esthetics (ACE)
- Advanced Medical Education & Services Physician Association (AMESPA)
- American Academy of Anti-Aging Medicine (A4M)
- [American Academy of Biological Dentistry \(AABD\)](#)
- American Academy of Environmental Medicine (AAEM)
- American Academy of Medical Acupuncture
- American Academy of Neural Therapy (AANT)
- American Academy of Nutritional Consultants
- American Academy of Osteopathy (AAO)
- American Academy of Otolaryngic Allergy (AAOA)
- [American Academy of Quantum Medicine \(AAQM\)](#)
- American Alternative Medical Association (AAMA)
- American Animal Adjuting Association (AAAA)
- American Association of Acupuncture and Bio-energetic Medicine (AAABEM)
- American Association of Alternative Health Practitioners (AAAHP)
- American Association of Drugless Practitioners (AADP)
- American Association of Health Freedom (AAHF) (formerly the American Preventive Medicine Association)
- American Association of Naturopathic Physicians
- [American Association of Nutritional Consultants \(AANC\)](#)
- American Association of Orthopedic Medicine (AAOM)
- [American Association of Professional Hypnotherapists](#) (link to another site)
- American Chiropractic Association (ACA)
- American Council on Collaborative Medicine (A.C.C.M.)
- American College for Advancement in Medicine (ACAM)

- American CranioSacral Therapy Association (ACSTA)
- [American Herbalists Guild \(AHG\)](#)
- American Holistic Medical Association (AHMA)
- American Holistic Nurses Association
- American Holistic Veterinary Medical Association
- American Integrative Medical Association (AIMA)
- [American Massage Therapy Association \(AMTA\)](#)
- American Nutraceutical Association (ANA)
- American Nutrition Consultants Association (ANCA)
- [American Nutritional Medical Association \(ANMA\)](#)
- American Organization for Bodywork Therapies of Asia (AOBTA)
- American Preventive Medicine Association (APMA)
- [American Quack Association](#)
- American Society of Alternative Therapists
- [American Veterinary Chiropractic Associatio](#)
- Americans for Medical Advancement
- Association for Integrative Health Care Practitioners (AIHCP)
- Association for Meridian & Energy Therapies
- [Associated Bodywork and Massage Professionals \(ABMP\)](#)
- Association for Comprehensive Energy Psychology (ACEP)
- Association for Integrated Medicine (AIM)
- [Association of American Physicians and Surgeons \(AAPS\)](#) (link to another site)
- [Association of Natural Medicine Pharmacists \(ANMP\)](#)
- Association of Systematic Kinesiology (ASK)
- Australasian College of Nutritional and Environmental Medicine
- Australasian Society of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (ASOMAT)
- Bio-Nett pH Association International
- British Association of Nutritional Therapists (BANT)
- British Society for Allergy, Environmental and Nutritional Medicine (BSAENM)
- British Society for Integrated Medicine (BSIM)
- Canadian-International Heilkunst Association (CIHA)
- Chiropractic Awareness Council (CAC)
- [College of Optometrists in Vision Development](#)
- College of Syntonic Optometry
- Commission on Religious Counseling and Healing
- Council for Healing
- [Council on Natural Nutrition](#)
- Cranial Academy
- Energy Medicine Association
- Environmental Dental Association
- Federation of Straight Chiropractors and Organizations (FSCO)
- Healing Touch International
- Holistic Dental Association
- [Integrative Health Care Centers of America](#)
- International Academy of Anabiology
- International Academy of Alternative & Anti-Aging Medicine
- International Academy of Bioenergetic Practitioners
- [International Academy of Biological Dentistry and Medicine \(AABDM\)](#)

- International Academy of Bionetic Practitioners
- International Academy of Holistic Health & Medicine
- International Academy of Lymphology
- International Academy of Metabology
- International Academy of Nutrition and Preventive Medicine (merged in 1997 into IAACN)
- International Academy of Oral Medicine & Toxicology (IAOMT)
- International Academy of Quantum Medicine (IAQM)
- International Alliance of Healthcare Educators (IAHE)
- International Association for Oxygen Therapy
- International and American Associations of Clinical Nutritionists (IAACN)
- International Association for Regression Research & Therapies (IARRT)
- International Association of Healthcare Practitioners (IAHP)
- International Association of Holistic Health Practitioners
- [International Association of Therapeutic Specialists \(I.A.T.S.\)](#)
- International Chiropractors Association (ICA)
- International College of Advanced Longevity Medicine (ICALM)
- [International College of Applied Kinesiology \(ICAK\)](#)
- International College of Integrated Medicine (ICIM), formerly Great Lakes College of Clinical Medicine. International Hormone Society
- International Lyme and Associated Diseases Society (ILADS)
- [International Medical & Dental Hypnotherapy Association](#) (link to another site)
- International Medical Council on Vaccination
- [International Network of Cholesterol Skeptics \(THINCS\)](#)
- International Organization of Nutrition Consultants
- International Society for Fluoride Research
- International Society for Orthomolecular Medicine
- International Society for the Study of Subtle Energies and Energy Medicine (ISSSEEM)
- International Sports Sciences Association (ISSA)
- Medical Academy of Pediatric Special Needs (MAPS)
- [National Academy of Research Biochemists](#)
- National Association of Certified Health Professionals
- [National Association of Certified Natural Health Professionals](#)
- National Association of Nutrition Professionals (NANP)
- [National Guild of Hypnotists](#) (link to another site)
- Natural Health Practitioners Association
- Nutrition Circle
- Nutrition in Complementary Care (A dietetic practice group of the American Dietetic Association)
- [Nutritional Consultants Organization of Canada](#)
- Nutritional Magnesium Association
- Nutritional Therapy Association, Inc.[®]
- Nutritional Therapy Council (NTC)
- [OBI Foundation for Bioesthetic Dentistry](#)
- Oncology Association of Naturopathic Physicians
- [Optometric Extension Program \(O.E.P.\)](#)
- Physicians Association for Anthroposophic Medicine
- Physicians Association for Eradicating Chronic Disease

- The Radonic Association
- Rheumatoid Disease Foundation (RDF)
- Society for Homotoxicology & Anti-Homotoxic Therapy - GB
- Society for Orthomolecular Health Medicine (OHM Society, formerly Orthomolecular Medical Society)
- Society for Practitioners of Biological Medicine
- Society of Integrative Medicine
- Society for Integrative Oncology
- Society of Certified Nutritionists (SCN)
- World Chiropractic Alliance (WCA)

Student Organizations

- American Medical Student Association (AMSA)
- Naturopathic Medical Student Organization (NMSA)

Dubious Certifying Boards

- Alternative Medicine Research Organization (AMRO)
- [American Academy of Cardiology](#)
- [American Academy of Oncology](#)
- [American Board of Diabetes](#)
- [American Board of Chelation Therapy](#)
- [American Board of Clinical Metal Toxicology](#)
- [American Board of Geriatric Medicine](#)
- [American Board of Geriatrics](#)
- American Board of Holistic Medicine (ABIHM)
- [American Board of Hypnotherapy](#) (link to another site)
- American Board of Environmental Medicine
- American Board of Oxidative Medicine
- [American College of Christian Physicians](#)
- American Medical Autism Board
- American Naturopathic Medical Certification & Accreditation Board
- [Clinical Nutrition Certification Board \(CNCB\)](#)
- Council for Homeopathic Certification
- Examining Board of Natural Medicine Practitioners (EBNMP)
- International Board of Clinical Metal Toxicology
- International Board of Environmental Medicine
- [United States Medical Specialists Federation](#)

Voluntary Organizations

- A Perfect Healing
- Alive & Well AIDS Alternatives
- Alliance for Bio-Integrity
- Alliance for Natural Health
- [Alzheimer's Disease Fund \(Project Cure Foundation\)](#)

- Amber's Alliance Foundation
- American Consumer Fitness Association
- American Council on Collaborative Medicine (ACCM)
- American Medical Dentistry Association
- American Natural Hygiene Association (ANHA)
- American Polarity Association
- American Schizophrenia Association
- Americans Against Mercury
- American Iatrogenic Association
- Antidairy Coalition
- Arlin J. Brown Information Center
- Arthritis Trust of America
- AutismOne
- Association for Comprehensive NeuroTherapy (ACN)
- Autism Treatment Trust
- BioDemocracy Alliance
- BioPsciences Institute
- The Bravewell Collaborative
- Breast Iodine Thyroid Effectiveness Society (BITES)
- Campaign for Truth in Medicine
- Canadian Hypnosis Association
- Cancer Control Society
- Cancer Information Center
- Cancer Curing Society
- Cancer Prevention Coalition
- Candida and Dysbiosis Information Foundation (CDIF)
- Center for Medical Consumers
- Center for Advancement in Cancer Education
- Center for Alternative Cancer Research (Project Cure Foundation)
- Center for Empirical Medicine
- Center for Nutritional Research
- CFIDS Association of America
- Chemical Injury Information Network
- Citizens for Health
- Citizens for Mercury Relief
- Citizens Organization for Patient Safety (COPS)
- Coalition on Abortion/Breast Cancer
- Cognitive Enhancement Research Institute (CERI)
- [College of Medicine](#) (United Kingdom)
- [Committee for Freedom of Choice in Medicine \(CFCM\)](#)
- Coalition of Americans against Mercury
- [CoMeD \(Coalition for Mercury-free Drugs\)](#)
- Conservatives for Patients' Rights
- Consumer Health Organization of Canada
- [Consumers for Dental Choice](#)
- Defeat Autism Now! (DAN!)
- [Dinshah Health Society](#)
- EarthSave International/EarthSave Foundation

- Environmental Working Group
- Esperanza Research Foundation
- [Feingold Association of the United States \(FAUS\)](#)
- Fetzer Institute
- Florida Institute of Neuro-Dynamics (FIND)
- Fluoride Action Network
- Flower Essence Society
- Food and Water
- Foundation for Alternative Cancer Therapy, Ltd.
- Foundation for Autism Information and Research (FAIR)
- Foundation for Blood Irradiation
- Foundation for Chiropractic Education and Research (FCER)
- Foundation for Advanced Craniofacial Esthetic Studies (F.A.C.E.S.)
- [Foundation for the Advancement of Innovation in Medicine \(FAIM\)](#)
- Foundation for Integrated Medicine
- Foundation for Toxic Free Dentistry
- Generation Rescue
- [Gentle Wind Project](#) (link to another site)
- Gordon Research Institute
- Health Action Network Society (in Canada)
- Health Education Alliance for Life and Longevity (H.E.A.L.L.)
- Health Liberty
- Health Sciences Institute (HSI)
- Herb Research Foundation
- Holistic Moms Network
- Human Ecology Action League
- Huxley Institute for Biosocial Research
- Hypoglycemia Association
- Immunisation Awareness Society (IAS)
- [Institute for Chronic Illnesses](#)
- Institute for Functional Medicine (IFM)
- Institute of Technical Energy Medicine (ITEM)
- Institute for Vibrant Living
- Institute of Noetic Sciences (IONS)
- Integrative Medicine Alliance (IMA)
- International Academy of Biological Medicine.
- International Advocates for Health Freedom (IAHF)
- International Association of Cancer Victors and Friends (IACVF)
- International Center for the Study of Psychiatry and Psychology (ICSPP)
- International Coalition for Drug Awareness (ICFDA)
- International Council for Health Freedom (ICHF)
- International Cranial-TMJ Academy
- International Health Foundation
- International Institute of Advanced Longevity Medicine (InCALM)
- International Medical Veritas Association (IMVA)
- International Oxidative Medicine Association
- International Society for the Study of Subtle Energies and Energy Medicine (ISSSEEM)
- Justice Awareness and Basic Support (JABS)

- Kids Against Pollution
- Leading Edge International Research Group
- Life Extension Foundation (in Florida)
- Lyme Disease Association (Jackson, N.J.)
- Medical Veritas Association
- MindFreedom International
- Moms Against Mercury
- Mothers for Natural Law
- National Association for Alternative Medicine (NAAM)
- National Association for Honesty in Medicine (NAFHIM)
- National Council for Improved Health (NCIH)
- [National Diabetes Fund \(a component of Project Cure Foundation\)](#)
- National Fibromyalgia Association (NFA)
- [National Health Association \(formerly called the American Natural Hygiene Society\)](#)
- [National Health Federation \(NHF\)](#)
- National Health Freedom Coalition
- National Institute for Healthcare Research (NIHR)
- National Institute for Science, Law, and Public Policy (NSLAPP)
- National Pure Water Association (NPWA)
- [National Vaccine Information Center](#)
- National Wellness Coalition
- New Hope Foundation
- New York Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides (NYCAP)
- Nutrition for Optimal Health Association
- Nutrition Institute of America (New York City)
- Organic Consumers Organization
- Othomolecular Oncology
- Patients for Alternative Medicine (PFAM)
- [People Against Cancer](#)
- People for Reason in Science and Medicine
- [People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals \(PETA\)](#) (link to another site)
- People's Dental Association
- [People's Medical Society](#)
- [Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine \(PCRM\)](#)
- Preventive and Environmental Health Alliance
- Preventive Dental Health Association (PDHA)
- [Price-Pottenger Nutrition Foundation](#)
- [Prostate Cancer Fund \(component of Project Cure Foundation\)](#)
- Roger Wyburn-Mason & Jack Blount Foundation for the Eradication of Rheumatoid Disease
- Royal Cells Institute
- SafeMinds
- Society for DNA Free Food
- StopSIDS.org
- [Strategic Autism Initiative](#)
- Swedish Association for the Electrosensitive
- Talk about Curing Autism (TACA)
- Tetrahedron Inc.
- Thyroid Patient Advocacy-UK

- Toxic Element Research Foundation
- Traumatic Brain Syndrome Research Foundation
- Unlocking Autism
- Vaccine Autoimmunity Project for Research and Education (VAP)
- Vaccine Liberation
- Vaccine Risk Awareness Network
- Vital Interventions Accessible
- [Weston A. Price Foundation](#)
- World Health Foundation (New York City)
- World Natural Health Organization
- World Research Foundation
- Zero Balancing Association

Government Agencies

- Healthfinder Web site
- National Health Information Clearinghouse
- National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
- NIH Center for Alternative and Complementary Medicine

Schools, Accredited But Not Recommended

- American Academy of Nutrition (now called Huntington College of Health Sciences)
- [American Health Science University](#)
- American Pacific University (accredited in 2009)
- Australasian College of Health Sciences
- Bastyr University
- Huntington College of Health Sciences (HCHS)
- Life University
- National Institute of Nutrition Education (NINE)
- [The Union Institute](#)

Schools Not Accredited by Recognized Accrediting Agency

- Academy of Healing Arts
- Academy of Natural Therapies
- Academy of Natural Therapies & Spiritual Studies
- Akamai University
- [American College of Addictionology and Compulsive Disorders](#) (posted 12/23/99)
- American College of Clinical Thermology (ACCT)
- [American College of Life Science](#)
- [American College of Nutripathy](#)
- [American Holistic College of Nutrition](#)
- American Institute of Holistic Theology
- American Reiki Institute
- American University of Complementary Medicine (AUCM)
- American University of Hawaii (AUH)

- Amstead International University
- [Australian Academy of Natural Health](#) (link to another site)
- Avicenna Institute of Traditional Healing
- Barbara Brennan School of Healing
- Bauman College
- [Bernadean University](#)
- California Institute for Human Science
- [Capital University of Integrated Medicine](#)
- Central States College of Health Sciences (CHCHS)
- Chatworth College of Natural Health and Nutritional Science
- [Clayton College of Natural Health \(CCNH\)](#)
- College of Metaboilic Medicine
- College of Natural Health
- [Columbia Pacific University](#)
- [Columbia State University](#) (link to another site)
- Columbus University
- Delphi University & Spiritual Center
- [Donsbach University](#)
- First National University of Naturopathy
- Global College of Natural Medicine
- Global Institute for Alternative Medicine (GIFAM)
- Hawthorne University
- [Herbal Healer Academy](#)
- Holos University Graduate Seminary (HUGS)
- Illinois College of Physicians and Surgeons
- Institute for Advanced Study of Human Sexuality
- Institute for Educational Therapy (IET)
- [Institute for Integrative Nutrition \(IIN\)](#)
- [Institute of Metaphysical Studies \(IMS\)](#)
- Institute of Natural Health Sciences
- Institute of Natural Therapeutics
- International University of Nutrition Education (IUNE)
- International University of Professional Studies (IUPS)
- Kennedy-Western University
- Kingdom College of Natural Health (KCNH)
- Lacrosse University (Bay St. Louis, Mississippi)
- Madison University (Gulfport, Mississippi)
- [Mills-Grae University](#)
- National College of Complimentary Medicine and Sciences (NCCMS)
- [New Hope Bioresonance University of Holistic Medicine](#)
- New Jersey College of Osteopathy
- Newport University (Newport Beach, California)
- Nutrition Institute of America
- Nutritionists Institute of America
- Pacific Western University
- PanAmerican School & Institute of BioEnergetic Medicine
- People's University of the Americas (Puerto Rico)
- Possibilities Vocational School

- Princely International University
- Professional School for Psychological Studies
- Romano Byzantine College
- [Southern College of Naturopathic Medicine](#)
- Southwest International University (SIU)
- St. Luke School of Medicine, SGI
- Steps to Health
- Trinity College of Natural Health
- [United American Medical College](#)
- Universal University of Holistic Spirituality
- University of Berkley
- University of Health Science
- University of Integrative Health Sciences (AIHS)
- University of Science and Philosophy
- University of the Healing Arts
- Westbrook University (Aztec, Arizona)
- Yamuni Institute of Healing Arts

Non-Recognized Accrediting/Credentialing Agencies

- Accreditation Commission for Homeopathic Education in North America
- Accrediting Commission for Specialized Colleges
- Accrediting Commission International
- Accrediting Commission International for Schools, Colleges and Theological Seminaries
- Alternative Institution Accrediting Association
- American Association of Accredited Colleges and Universities
- American Association of Drugless Practitioners Commission on Accreditation
- American Association of Non-Traditional Private Postsecondary Education
- American Council of Private Colleges and Universities
- American Education Association for the Accreditation of Schools, Colleges & Universities
- American Naturopathic Medical Certification and Accreditation Board (ANMCAB)
- American Psychotherapy (sic) Association
- Arizona Commission of Non-Traditional Private Post Secondary Education
- Association for Distance Learning (ADLP)
- Association for Online Academic Excellence
- Association of Career Training Schools
- Association for Comprehensive Energy Psychology (ACEP)
- Commission for the Accreditation of European Non-Traditional Universities
- Commission on Medical Dentistry Accreditation (COMDA)
- Council for International Education Accreditation (CIEA)
- Council for the Accreditation of Correspondence Schools
- Council on Medical Dentistry Education (COMDE)
- Council on Postsecondary Alternative Accreditation
- Council on Postsecondary Christian Education
- Distance Graduation Accrediting Association
- Education Commission for Integrative Health (ECIH)
- Examining Board of Natural Medicine Practitioners

- Holistic Nutrition Credentialing Board
- Hygienic Doctors Association (H.D.A.)
- International Academy of Behavioral Medicine, Counseling and Psychotherapy
- International Accreditation Association
- International Accrediting Association
- International Accrediting Commission for Schools, Colleges and Theological Seminaries
- International Association of Non-Traditional Schools
- International Commission for the Accreditation of Colleges and Universities
- International Council for Open and Distance Education
- Mid States Accrediting Agency
- Middle States Accrediting Board
- National Academy of Higher Education (NAHE)
- National Accreditation Association
- National Association for Private Nontraditional Schools and Colleges
- National Association for Private Post-Secondary Education
- National Association of Alternative Schools and Colleges
- National Association of Open Campus Colleges
- National Council of Schools and Colleges
- Non-Traditional Course Accreditation Body
- Northwest Regional Accrediting Agency
- Pacific Association of Schools and Colleges
- Southern Association of Accredited Colleges and Universities
- West European Accrediting Agency
- Western Accrediting Agency
- Western Association of Private Alternative Schools
- Western Association of Schools and Colleges (note: This name is also used by a recognized accrediting agency.)
- Western Council on Non-Traditional Private Post Secondary Education
- World Association of Universities and Colleges
- Worldwide Accrediting Commission

Schools, Outside the United States

- Alive Academy of Nutrition (canada)
- [Anglo-American Institute of Drugless Therapy](#) (British diploma mill)
- Ashcroft University
- Bircham International University
- British College of Osteopathic Medicine
- [British West Indies Medical College](#) (nonexistent diploma mill)
- Calamus International University
- Canadian Biologics School of Medical Sciences
- Canadian School of Natural Nutrition
- [Edison Institute of Nutrition](#) (Canada)
- Examining Board of Natural Medicine Practitioners—North America (EBNMP North America)
- European Open University (EOU)
- Galien University Tutorial College (formerly Galien College of Natural Healing)
- Greenwich University (Norfolk Island, Australia)

- Hahnemann College for Heilkunst (Canada)
- Healthpro College of Natural Medicine'
- Institute of Integrated Medicine (London, Ontario)
- International College of Spinology (Australia)
- International Medical University Natural Education (IMUNE)
- Natural Health Institutes (Canada)
- New Earth College
- Open University for Alternative Medicines (India)
- Orca Institute (Canada)
- Plaskett Nutritional Medicine College (United Kingdom)
- [St. Theresa's Medical University \(St. Kitts\)](#)
- [University of Health Sciences - Antigua \(UHSA\)](#)

Questionable "Research" Entities

- [Advanced Magnetic Research Institute \(AMRI\)](#)
- Association for Skeptical Investigation
- Autism Research Institute
- Autism Research Unit (University of Sunderland)
- Bio Research Institute
- Biophysics Research Institute
- Bowen Research & Training Institute
- Broda O. Barnes, M.D. Research Foundation
- [Canadian Cancer Research Group \(CCRG\)](#)
- Centers For Advanced Medicine & Clinical Research
- Cochran Foundation for Medical Research
- Cognitive Enhancement Research Institute
- Consumers' Research Council of America
- [Dr. Clark Research Association](#)
- [Fisher Institute for Medical Research](#)
- Gordon Research Institute (Garry F. Gordon, DO)
- Gutenlase Energy Research Clinic
- Health and Medical Research Foundation (San Antonio)
- Health Research Institute (Naperville, Illinois)
- Health and Science Research Institute
- Hope Medical Research Centre (Australia)
- International Center for Nutritional Research (ICNR)
- International Foundation for Nutrition and Health (IFNH)
- International Scoliosis Resarch Center (ISRC)
- International Society for Fluoride Research
- [Juice Plus Children's Research Foundation](#)
- Maxillofacial Center for Education and Research (formerly called Maxillofacial Center for Diagnostics and Research)
- Monus Research Foundation
- [Nambudripad Allergy Research Foundation](#)
- National Cancer Research Foundation (NCRF), (New York City)
- [Obesity Research Institute](#)

- Occidental Institutes Research Foundation
- [Orgone Biophysical Research Laboratory](#)
- Program for Extraordinary Experience Research (PEER)
- Prostate90 Education and Research Foundation
- Research Council for Complementary Medicine (RCCM)
- Research Institute for Vital Energetics
- [Robert Bradford Research Institute](#)
- Steenblock Research Institute
- The Autism Autommunity Project (TAAP)
- Wellness Bio-Research Institute (WBRI)
- Wellness Research Foundation (Wellington, Florida)
- Woodlands Healing Research Center
- [Young Life Research Clinic](#)

Other Academies, Associations, Centers, Councils, Foundations, Institutes, and Information Services

- Abha Light Foundation
- Academy of Bio-Energetic & Integrative Medicine
- Advanced Integrative Medical Institute
- AIDS Free Foundation
- Alphalearning Institute
- Alternative Medicine Foundation
- American Academy of Biologically Identical Hormone Therapy
- American Academy of Integrative Medicine
- American Academy of Neural Therapy
- [American Biographical Institute](#)
- American Health Institute (Los Angeles)
- American Institute of Reboundology
- Ändlös Institute of Preventative Medicine
- [Artery Health Institute](#)
- Bastis Foundation
- Better Life Institute
- Biomedical Health Foundation
- [BioSET Institute](#)
- [Biosphere International Foundation](#)
- BioVeda Wellness Institute
- Brain Repair Institute of Canada
- Breast Cancer Prevention Institute
- California Institute for Human Science
- Cancer Cure Foundation
- Cancerbusters Foundation
- [CANHELP](#)
- [Center for Austic Spectrum Disorders \(CASD\)](#) — Austin, Texas
- Center for Biological Dentistry
- Center for Empirical Medicine
- Center for Food Safety

- Center for Frontier Sciences (Temple University)
- Center for Mankind Foundation
- Center for Mind-Body Medicine
- Center for Natural Health Research
- Center For New Medicine
- Center for Occupational and Environmental Medicine
- [Center for Personal Rights](#)
- Center for Special Immunology
- Center for the Study of Autism
- Centerpointe Research Institute
- Centre for Implosion Research
- Centre for Immuno-Energy Therapy
- [Centre for Integrative Dental Medicine](#)
- CHEK Institute
- Colgan Institute
- Commonweal
- Conservative Medicine Institute
- Consortium of Academic Health Centers for Integrative Medicine
- Continuum Center for Health & Healing
- Constipation Resource Center
- [Copes Foundation](#)
- Council on Religious Counseling & Healing
- Creating Health Institute
- Crystal Clear Mountain Research Center
- [Diabetes Resource Center \(Winter Haven, Florida\)](#)
- [Discovery Institute](#)
- Dr. John Lee Institute
- Eck Institute of Applied Nutrition and Bioenergetics
- Endocrinology Institute of Santa Barbara
- Ephedra Education Council
- Foundation for Blood Irradiation
- Foundation for East West Medicine (FEWM)
- Foundation for Health Choice
- Foundation for Integrated Health (UK: Prince Charles)
- Foundation for Psychic-Energetic Research
- Freedom of Health Foundation
- Frequency Foundation
- Frontier Sciences Foundation
- Functional Foods for Health Program (University of Illinois)
- Genesis Medical Research Institute
- Genetics & Disabilities Diagnostic Care Center
- Global Healing Center
- Global Medicine Education Foundation
- Good News Doctor Foundation
- Hans Nieper Foundation (HNF)
- Health & Science Research Institute
- Health Research Institute (Naperville, Illinois)
- Healthy Aging Medicine Institute

- Health-e-America Foundation
- Healthy Detox Institute
- The Healthy Foundation (Vitamin Relief USA)
- Hippocrates Health Institute
- Holistic Resource Center
- Hopper Institute
- Hufnagel Institute for the Advancement of Women's Health
- Hypoglycemia Foundation
- Hypoglycemia Support Foundation
- Immune Institute
- International Institute of Holistic Healing
- Institute for Health Realities
- Institute for Human Individuality (IfHI)
- Institute for Integrative Health
- [Institute for Integrative Nutrition \(IIN\)](#)
- Institute of BioEnergetic Medicine (IBEM)
- Institute of Natural Health Technologies
- Integrated Healing Arts Institute
- Integrative Health Institute
- International Foundation of Health and Nutrition
- International Sclerology Institute
- [Institute For Advanced BioStructural Correction](#)
- Institute for Blended Medicine (Rodale Press)
- [Institute for Chronic Diseases](#)
- Institute for Esogetic Colorpuncture
- [Institute for Functional Medicine](#)
- Institute for Health Realities
- Institute for Human Energy and Biodynamic Analysis
- Institute for Integrative Medicine
- Institute for Nutritional Dentistry (formerly Institute for Natural Dentistry)
- Institute for Optimum Nutrition (ION)
- Institute for Regulative Medicine
- Institute for the Advancement of Medical Thermology(iAMT)
- Institute for the Study of Human Knowledge (ISHK)
- Institute of Advanced Medicine (Lauderhill, Florida)
- Institute of Applied Biology (New York City)
- Institute of Applied Psychophysics
- [Institute of Bio-Terrain Sciences](#)
- [Institute of HeartMath](#)
- [Institute of Integrative Health](#) (link to FDA warning letter)
- Institute of Natural Health Technologies
- Institute of Nutritional Science
- Institute of Optimum Nutrition
- Institute of Practical Biochemistry
- Institute of Quantum and Molecular Medicine
- Institute of Science in Society (ISIS)
- Institute of Technical Energy Medicine, Inc. (ITEM)
- International Academy of Anabiology

- [Intenational Academy of Somatidian Orthobiology](#)
- [International Center for the Study of Psychiatry and Psychology \(ICSPP\)](#)
- International Child Development Resource Center (ICDRC)
- International Council for Health Freedom (ICHF)
- International Foundation of Bio-Magnetics
- [International Medical Council on Vaccination](#)
- Issels Foundation
- Issels Medical Center
- Jefferson - Myrna Brind Center of integrative Medicine
- Kadmon Academy of Human Potential
- Kathy Keeton Foundation
- King Institute (Carrollton, Texas)
- [Lasik Vision Institute](#)
- [Livingston Foundation Medical Center](#)
- Longevity Institute
- Longevity Institute International
- [Maxillofacial Center for Education and Research](#)
- MCS Referral & Resources
- Medical Awareness Institute
- Melisa Medica Foundation
- Metabolic Typing Education Center (MTEC)
- Mind/Body Medical Institute
- National Association for Objectivity in Science (NAOS)
- National Institute for Behavioral Education (Australia)
- National Institute for Medical Options
- Natural Solutions Foundation
- Neem Foundation
- Neuro Immuno Therapeutics Research Foundation
- New England Heart & Longevity Center
- North American Academy of Magnetic Therapy
- [North Carolina Institute of Technology](#)
- Northeastern Institute for Advanced Natural Healing
- Nutraceutical Sciences Institute (NSI)
- Nutritional Cancer Therapy Trust
- Nutritional Research and Educational Foundation (NREF), Inc. (New York City)
- [Obesity Research Institute](#)
- [OBI Foundation for Bioesthetic Dentistry](#)
- [Option Institute](#)
- Omega Institute (Rhinebeck, New York)
- Orange County Immune Intitute
- [Osteopathic Center for Children \(OCC\)](#)
- Pain Research Institute (Provo, Utah)
- Palm Springs Life Extension Institute (PSLEI)
- Perfect Health Institute
- Pfeiffer Treatment Center
- Physicians Center for Family Resources
- Planetree Health Resource Center
- PolarWearZ Wellness Institute

- Policy Institute for Integrative Medicine
- Polycarp Research Institute
- Post Institute for Family Centered Therapy
- Prince of Wales Foundation for Integrated Health
- Progress in Medicine Foundation
- Radix Institute
- Remission Foundation
- [Richard and Hinda Rosenthal Center for Alternative and Complementary Medicine \(Columbia University\)](#)
- Robert Fishman Institute
- SANA Institute
- Sanoviv Health and Healing Center
- Schachter Center for Complementary Medicine
- Scoliosis Care Foundation
- Sound Entrainment Therapies Institute (SETI)
- Sound Health Research Institute (SHRI)
- Suffield College & University
- Supreme Science Qigong Center
- Syracuse Cancer Research Institute
- Tachyon Institute
- Talisman Wellness Institute
- Temple Health Maintenance Institute
- Texas Institute of Functional Medicines (TIFM)
- Toxic Exposure Study Trust (TEST) Foundation
- Thinktwice Global Vaccine Institute
- Triunified Health Enhancement Foundation
- University Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine at Stoney Brook
- [Upledger Institute](#)
- Vitamin C Foundation
- Vitamin D Council
- Wellhouse Center
- [Wilson's Syndrome Foundation](#)
- Women's Health Institute of Texas
- World Children's Wellness Foundation
- World Institute for Self-Healing

Trade Associations

- Council for Responsible Nutrition (CRN)
- National Nutritional Foods Association (NNFA)

This article was revised on January 22, 2012.

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- [Outdoor lighting by Arcadian](#): Best prices and services on outdoor lighting fixtures.
- [OnlyMyEmail](#): Award-winning anti-spam services.
- [Herbal Medicine, 3rd edition](#). Excellent reference book, discount-priced.
- [10 Types](#): Website design, development, and hosting with superb technical support.