

# Setting Standards:

## The regulation of complementary healthcare in the UK

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# Voluntary regulation – how does it work?



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# Accredited Registers

- Set up by the Professional Standards Authority for Health and Social Care (PSA) in 2013.
- Runs in parallel to statutory regulators.
- Registration is voluntary.
- Covers health occupations not regulated by law, including complementary therapies.
- Accredited Registers (ARs) can display the PSA Quality Mark.



# About us

**CNHC**

Complementary & Natural  
Healthcare Council

professional  
standards  
authority

accredited register

**CNHC** is accredited by the  
Professional Standards Authority  
for Health and Social Care (PSA)  
as **the holder of an Accredited  
Register (AR)**.

This means we have met the robust standards set  
by this government-appointed accrediting body.



# CNHC's key function is to **act in the public interest.**

It is the ***only*** organisation that was set up with government support and initial funding to provide a UK public register of complementary health practitioners.



# What we do

- Set the standards practitioners need to meet to get onto and stay on our register.
- Provide an independent UK-wide register of complementary healthcare practitioners.
- Investigate complaints / concerns.
- Protection of the public is our **sole purpose**.

# Who do we Regulate?

Practitioners across 18 complementary therapies:

Alexander Technique Teaching | Aromatherapy | Bowen Therapy  
Colon Hydrotherapy | Craniosacral Therapy | Healing | Hypnotherapy  
Kinesiology | Massage Therapy | Microsystems Acupuncture  
Naturopathy | Nutritional Therapy | Reflexology | Reiki | Shiatsu  
Sports Massage | Sports Therapy | Yoga Therapy



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A photograph showing a person in a white lab coat with their hands resting on the back of a patient lying on a white surface. The scene is brightly lit and conveys a sense of care and support.

# Why register with CNHC?



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# Key benefits for CNHC Registrants

- Growing recognition of your role with the public.
- Listing on CNHC's online searchable Accredited Register.
- Use of the CNHC Quality Mark.
- GP's can refer to practitioners on Accredited Registers (General Medical Council guidance).
- Guidance for Registrants.
- An increasing number of complementary therapist roles in the NHS require CNHC registration.

# The CNHC Quality Mark



**The public's guarantee  
of standards**

**All CNHC registered practitioners appear on the **Accredited Register** and can use the CNHC Quality Mark**

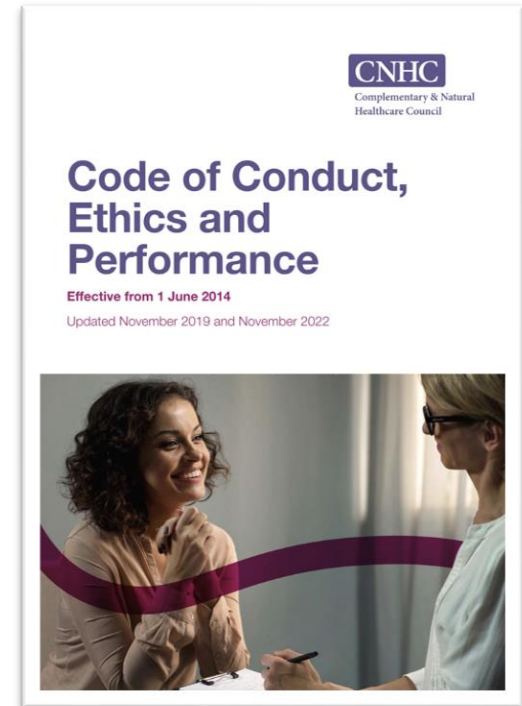


# Find a practitioner

- You can search for a particular complementary health practitioner, using their name, town/city or postcode
- You can narrow your search by selecting a profession
- You can find a local complementary health practitioner in a particular town/city or postcode area and select how many miles from there that you want to search.

# Code of Conduct, Ethics and Performance

- Sets out the quality of care the public are entitled to receive.
- Sets out the standards Registrants will be measured against if a complaint is received about them.
- All CNHC Registrants have a duty to protect the health and wellbeing of their clients.





# The benefits for public health and wellbeing



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- Help to support the public's health and wellbeing – particularly at a time when the NHS is under immense pressure.
- Benefits can include helping with weight loss, eating healthily, smoking cessation, pain relief, aiding relaxation and helping to alleviate stress and anxiety.



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The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) has published guidelines that include recommendations about the use of complementary therapies for:

- Low back pain and sciatica
- Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS)
- Parkinson's disease
- Help with symptom control and to enhance general wellbeing of cancer patients – particularly touch therapies (e.g. aromatherapy, reflexology and massage) and psychological interventions (e.g. relaxation, meditation and visualisation).



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# GP referral



The General Medical Council's guidance allows doctors to refer patients to practitioners on an Accredited Register.

# CNHC's vision of integrative healthcare

- CNHC support integrative healthcare – an approach seamlessly bringing together mainstream and complementary healthcare.
- Our goal is for complementary therapies to be available to all who want to access it.

# Contact CNHC

Sign up to our free monthly e-newsletter: Simply complete the sign-up form at the bottom of our website.

Visit our website: [www.cnhc.org.uk](http://www.cnhc.org.uk)

Contact us directly:  
Phone: 020 3327 2720  
Email: [info@cnhc.org.uk](mailto:info@cnhc.org.uk)

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# THANK YOU

## Questions?