

Homeopathy: Medicine for the 21st Century

Defending Choice in Medicine

Defending the NHS

H:MC21 working to defend the use of homeopathy in the NHS. 10% of people in the UK use homeopathy including many NHS employees. In the last five years there has been an intense propaganda campaign against homeopathy, based on serious misrepresentations of the facts.

Studies in the NHS routinely show that 70% of patients benefit from homeopathy, even though it is usually a treatment of last resort. In fact, referral has been known as TEETH (Tried Everything Else, Try Homeopathy). These studies have been backed up by others in Norway and Germany, for example.

At the same time high quality, multi-centre replicated laboratory research has shown that homeopathic ‘potentised’ medicines are not only different from plain dilutions, but are biologically active. Physicists have also started to develop techniques which can distinguish between different potentised substances, dilutions and water.

The best randomised controlled trials confirm that homeopathic treatment is better than placebo, but there is a tendency for many trials to have poor homeopathic methodology, which means that they produce

inaccurate or confusing results.

On the other hand, the NHS spends some £8 billion each year on drugs and a further £2 billion each year on the adverse effects of prescribed drugs. The public and the NHS need to look at alternatives, not cuts which hand the drug companies a monopoly over our health.

The difficulty of policing drug companies was shown recently, when CNN reported that “Just as the giant banks on Wall Street were deemed too big to fail, Pfizer was considered too big to nail” (2 April 2010).

H:MC21 organised a mass lobby of Parliament on 24 February 2010 against the cuts proposed by the Commons Science and Technology Committee. We also handed in a letter to the Prime Minister, supported by a declaration that “Homeopathy Worked for Me”, signed by 28,122 people.

32 organisations supported our protest, including the main bodies registering homeopaths in the UK and the League of Friends of the London Homoeopathic Hospital.

For more information, including full references for the statements in this leaflet, go to our website.

www.hmc21.org for more information or email info@hmc21.org

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