

Alumni Association of Natural Medicine Practitioners Inc. Code of Conduct for Practitioners.

1 Practitioners must practise in a safe and ethical manner.

2 Practitioners who have been diagnosed with an infectious medical condition must ensure that they practise in a manner that does not put clients at risk

3 Practitioners must not hold themselves out as qualified, able or willing to cure cancer and other terminal illnesses.

4 Practitioners who engage in skin penetration activities, as defined in section 51(3) of the Public Health Act 1991, must comply with all relevant requirements of the Public Health (Skin Penetration) Regulation 2000.

5 Practitioners must not attempt to dissuade clients from seeking or continuing with treatment by a registered medical practitioner

6 Practitioners must not practise under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.

7 A practitioner must not practise whilst suffering from a physical or mental impairment, disability, condition or disorder that detrimentally affects, or is likely to detrimentally affect, his or her ability to practice and which places clients at risk of harm.

8 Practitioners must not financially exploit their clients.

9 Practitioners must not diagnose or treat an illness or condition without an adequate clinical basis.

10 Practitioners must not engage in any form of misinformation or misrepresentation in regard to the products or services they provide or as to their qualifications, training and professional affiliations.

11 Practitioners must not engage in any form of sexual or improper personal relationship with a client.

12 Practitioners must comply with privacy law in relation to their clients' personal information.

13 Practitioners must maintain accurate, legible and contemporaneous clinical records of each client consultation.

14 Practitioners must ensure appropriate indemnity insurance arrangements are in place in relation to their practices.

Natural Therapists need a blue card

If you treat children or are associated with children in your practice, you will need to apply for a blue card.

The Commission for children and young people and child guardian advise that any person carrying on a business as a health service must be the holder of a “Blue Card” as defined under the Act.

“Health service”

A health service means any of the following –

- a. a service for maintaining, improving, restoring or caring for a person’s health or wellbeing that is any of the following–
 - a. a service provided at a hospital, community health facility or other health facility;
 - b. a medical service;
 - c. a service provided by a midwife or nurse within the meaning of the *Nursing Act 1992*;
 - d. a service provided by a paramedic or ambulance officer;
 - e. a service providing personal care to a person who is ill, injured or otherwise infirm;

Examples of providing personal care –

- a. *help with personal hygiene*
- b. *help with dressing*

- f. a service providing respite care;
- g. a service provided by a practitioner of hypnosis, naturopathy, acupuncture or another form of natural or alternative health care;
- h. a massage service, including a massage service for relaxation;
- i. a service that is of the nature of, and provided as part of, a service provided by a registered health practitioner or a service mentioned in subparagraphs (i) to (viii);

Examples for subparagraph (ix) –

- *a service provided by a student on a practicum placement as part of the student’s training to become a registered health practitioner*
 - *a service provided by an aide to a natural or alternative health care practitioner*
 - *a service provided by a ward assistant whose duties include lifting and turning bedridden patients or moving patients from place to place in a hospital*
- j. a service prescribed under a regulation to be a health service.

Registered health practitioners do not have to have a blue card. This includes Chiropractors and osteopaths, provided they do not use therapies not defined by their Act. This means if they use acupuncture, herbs or give nutritional advice then they need a blue card if they treat children.

Contact the commission on their website: www.bluecard.qld.gov.au

Or email: bluecard@ccypcg.qld.gov.au

Phone: 07 32475145 free call 1800 113611