

JUNE NEWSLETTER

Issue 6, 2024

European Committee for Homeopathy



Dear Members,

In this month's newsletter, we bring you:

- Agrohomeopathy Working Group: report from Bergamo
- Prof Dr Michael Frass: response to criticism of 2020 study
- Jean-Lionel Bagot, *Cancer et homéopathie*
- Rienk Stuut: *A Bridge from Homeopathic to Mainstream Medicine*
- TCIH response to WHO consultation
- Homeopathy at Witten/Herdecke University
- Your professional research profile
- Omeopatia 33
- Join the Team: applications welcome for membership of ECH Council
- HRI Save the Date
- Important dates for your diaries

Best wishes,
ECH PR & Communications Group



AGROHOMEOPATHY WORKING GROUP



Updates from the In-Person meeting in Bergamo, Italy, 25-27 April 2024

The ECH Agrohomoepathy Working Group came together in person for the first time in Bergamo, Italy. We had an exciting working agenda and some of our members were able to join us from different parts of Europe – it was amazing! It gave us the chance to review our work to date and to set goals and tasks for 2024 and 2025.

The success of the first two conferences on agrohomoepathy and the environment (organised by ECH and later by ECH in collaboration with ABHAMA) was discussed and the structure of the audience based on the existing collected data was analysed, mainly according to profession and country.

Alongside the activities conducted indoors, our WG had an outdoor session in the public park, where our members put their expertise together to repertorise and treat some olive trees infested by pests. The session was very insightful and set the scene for more practical activities within the WG. We also exchanged ideas about expanding our activities and take part in more events and webinars in 2024-2025. For the next in-person meeting (in the Netherlands in 2025) it was decided to organise a workshop aimed at supporting members in the process of remedy selection.



A very interesting collaborative session took place together with the Pharmacy SC which demonstrated the need to approach different groups to discuss topic of similar interests.

It was established that the information exchange should be continued with bi-monthly meetings of the WG and that we will start working on the creation of an ECH Integrative Homeopathy Course. This proposal will be presented to ECH members in the online autumn meeting in November 2024.

Due to many demands from the public as well as new projects that are coming up on the horizon of the Agrohomoepathy WG, particularly at an international level, it was decided that the group would need a Board to better tackle this new phase and projects. Therefore, the Agrohomoepathy WG Board was formed from the members that were able to join in person: Nuria Cuch, Niurka Meneses, Therese-Liise Aasma, Sara Faggin, Celine Bouffard, Gulden Haspolat, Astrid Cisar, Mariya Lilova and Julie Germain. From now on, the Board will support the development of activities of the WG as well as being involved in group decision-making. As we progress with the activities, there will be more opportunities for members of our WG to get involved.

The next meeting of the Agrohomoepathy WG will be online on 12 June, at 7pm (UK time). The agenda will be circulated soon. One of the highlights of this meeting will be a seminar given by Niurka

Meneses, from Bern University, where she will present her international experience and perspectives on agrohomeopathy research.

We hope to see you soon,

Ileana and Leonardo

Joint Coordinators, ECH Agrohomeopathy Working Group

03



MICHAEL FRASS

ROBUST RESPONSE TO CRITICISM

Prof Dr Michael Frass has released a statement in response to a request from the public media journal *Spiegel* concerning his study published in *The Oncologist* in 2020. This study is the one assessed by the Austrian Association for Scientific Integrity and is not retracted.

Frass M, Lechleitner P, Gründling C, Pirker C, Grasmuk-Siegl E, Domayer J, Hochmair M, Gaertner K, Duscheck C, Muchitsch I, Marosi C, Schumacher M, Zöchbauer-Müller S, Manchanda RK, Schrott A, Burghuber O. *Homeopathic Treatment as an Add-On Therapy May Improve Quality of Life and Prolong Survival in Patients with Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer: A Prospective, Randomized, Placebo-Controlled, Double-Blind, Three-Arm, Multicenter Study. The Oncologist 2020;25:e1930-e1955. doi: 10.1002/onco.13548. Epub 2020 Nov 7.*)

This is a brief summary followed by a more detailed comment of the most important points, which is why the work is so exceptionally robust and valid. Any falsification, fabrication or manipulation of the data can therefore be ruled out:

1. The study was accompanied and monitored by the planning statistician with the help of the computer-aided randomization program *Randomizer* of the Medical University of Graz. This program automatically writes a protocol (= audit trail), so that every inclusion or exclusion process was recorded. Subsequent exclusion ('post-hoc exclusion') is therefore not possible, as every step has been monitored.
2. The authors, most of whom are not interested in homeopathy, had control of and access to the study data at all times.
3. The study was analysed in a four-stage procedure, which is unusual for an academic study: the data were entered into the tamper-proof *Research, Documentation and Analysis* (RDA) platform of the Medical University of Vienna, then forwarded by the planning statistician to the analysing statistician by means of an elaborate clearing process at the University. This quadruple evaluation check proves the extraordinary quality of the results.

We therefore confirm the reliability, veracity and accuracy of the data presented in our article published in *The Oncologist*.

Read the study: <https://academic.oup.com/oncolo/article/25/12/e1930/6444088?login=false>

Read the response to criticism:

[https://mcusercontent.com/4748775642562c8590f61e415/files/5a658384-f267-f4ad-55c4-540ab31b6f0e/How valid are the accusations of the review Commission.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/4748775642562c8590f61e415/files/5a658384-f267-f4ad-55c4-540ab31b6f0e/How_valid_are_the_accusations_of_the_review_Commission.pdf)

CANCER ET HOMÉOPATHIE

Jean-Lionel Bagot



The treatment of cancer has made enormous progress in recent years. Yet sufferers frequently have to endure numerous side effects, taking a serious toll on their quality of life.

Dr Jean-Lionel Bagot and his team in Strasbourg have been very successfully treating the various side effects of chemotherapy, radiotherapy and surgery for many years. With homeopathy as supplementary treatment, he can often achieve astonishingly effective palliation of the side effects and the complaints resulting from the illness. In this definitive work Dr Bagot describes systematically and in detail which homeopathic remedies have proved effective for which complaints – including nausea, sensory disturbances, loss of hair or aphthae during chemotherapy, fatigue and pain after surgery or psychological problems, a weakened immune system and skin irritation with radiotherapy.

Dr Bagot treats 4000 cancer patients a year and therefore has a unique level of experience and expertise in this area. His advice is often surprisingly specific. For each common type of chemotherapy, he offers targeted homeopathic guidelines for how to counter the side effects of each particular chemical. Homeopathy thereby shows itself to be the optimal supplement to conventional treatment. The book is written in an accessible style and it is easy to use the recommendations in practice. It is an invaluable help – for those affected as well as for practitioners.

This book is a goldmine of practical advice to deal as best as possible with the toxicity of conventional treatments and to cope with daily life.

Prof Gilles Freyer, cancerologist, University Hospital Centre of Lyon

Click here to buy this book –

<https://www.shisso-info.com/en/project/cancer-et-homeopathie>



A BRIDGE FROM HOMEOPATHIC TO MAINSTREAM MEDICINE

by Rienk Stuut, SC Documentation

The founder of homeopathy, Hahnemann, caused a rift between homeopathy and mainstream medicine due to his irreconcilable attitude. The main developments of homeopathy occurred early on, before the profound discoveries of the biological and physical fields. In this early period, Hahnemann accidentally discovered the action of non-material medicines and, in conjunction with them, the self-healing capacity and a systems-theoretic approach to disease processes. Mainstream medicine developed later but now, given among other things, the increase in chronic disease at younger ages and the excessively high cost of treatment, it no longer seems to be making substantial progress. It could therefore learn a lot from homeopathy, provided the latter cleans up its own thinking and incorporates modern insights.

Read the complete article here:

– https://mcusercontent.com/4748775642562c8590f61e415/files/b5f9b874-b459-a0fc-b564-639c196d495e/A_Bridge_from_Homeopathic_to_Mainstream_Medicine.pdf

Rienk welcomes comments and feedback from colleagues – rienkstuu@mac.com

03



TCIH Coalition welcomes WHO's comprehensive draft of the Traditional Medicine Strategy 2025–2034 and calls on countries to support its completion.

Geneva, 7 May 2024

As the leading voice representing civil society organisations in the fields of Traditional, Complementary, and Integrative Healthcare (TCIH), the [TCIH Coalition](#) supports [WHO's draft traditional medicine strategy 2025–2034](#). Countries should actively contribute to its finalisation, preparing it for adoption by the World Health Assembly in 2025.

The TCIH Coalition has formally responded with specific comments to the WHO's [call for consultation](#), following the Coalition's outreach to its over 300 signatory organisations across the globe. This new draft strategy sets out a vision of how traditional with complementary and integrative medicine can be successfully integrated into healthcare systems. *It is undoubtedly a step forward to make tomorrow's healthcare more person-centred and holistic, addressing physical, mental, spiritual and social well-being*, stated Dr Scarlet Soriano, North Carolina, USA, Board Member of the Academy of Integrative Health and Medicine ([AIHM](#)).

Research is strongly emphasised by the draft strategy, calling on countries to invest significantly in TCIH research and to further develop research methods for complex treatments like TCIH. *Given that approximately one-third of the world's population regularly uses some form of traditional or complementary medicine, governments must prioritise funding research in this area*, emphasised Dr Tido von Schoen-Angerer, Geneva, Switzerland and Vice President, International Federation of Anthroposophic Medical Associations ([IVAA](#)).

For the very first time, the WHO has also highlighted how countries should learn from the close link

of traditional healing practices to nature. *We, as Indigenous peoples, live in reciprocal relationships with Mother Earth and our people. We depend on them for our health, and we are also responsible for ensuring their health. While not yet perfect, I welcome how the WHO's draft strategy values traditional medical knowledge as it has so much to offer everyone*, stated Dr Alana Gall, a Pakana woman from Lutruwita, Australia, Vice-Chair, Indigenous Working Group for the World Federation of Public Health Associations ([WFPHA](#)).

The Coalition also found it encouraging that the WHO's strategy highlighted the contribution TCIH has made to the growing global health challenges. *Recognizing the pivotal role of TCIH in addressing current and future health challenges, WHO has rightly elevated TCIH and increased its own capacity through the new WHO Global Traditional Medicine Centre in India. The new strategy is promising because it is both action and target-oriented*, emphasised Dr Raj Manchanda from Delhi, India and the Liga Medicorum Homoeopathica Internationalis ([LMHI](#)).

Finally, the TCIH Coalition commits to continued engagement with the WHO on the strategy and beyond. *At the TCIH Coalition, we will continue to advocate for a more substantial voice of civil society in TCIH. We made specific suggestions on where the strategy can be further improved. From now on, we are closely monitoring countries' involvement to support the finalisation of the strategy*, concluded Dr Natalia Sofia Aldana Martinez in Bogotá, Colombia, the Red de Medicinas Tradicionales, Complementarias e Integrativas de las Américas ([Red MTCI Américas](#)) network.

Read the full press release here – <https://www.tcih.org/2024/05/07/press-release/>

03

HOMEOPATHY AT WITTEN/HERDEKE



The University of Witten-Herdecke now includes homeopathy on its website, embedded in the pages for the Institute for Integrative Medicine (IFAEMM):

<https://www.ifaemm.de/forschung-im-ifaemm/4-1-homöopathie-wissenschaft/>

And IFAEMM also provides 3 corrections to the criticism of the review by Hamre et al. 2023, featured in our ECH's October newsletter –

<https://www.ifaemm.de/forschung-im-ifaemm/kritiken-und-repliken/>

03



PRESENT YOURSELF PROFESSIONALLY as a university researcher

Our thanks to ECH member Petra Weiermeyer who has kindly provided readers with an example of how universities prefer researchers' information to be structured.

<https://www.vetmeduni.ac.at/oeffentliches-veterinaerwesen/ueber-uns/wissenschaftliches-personal/weiermeyer-petra>

When an Italian doctor wants to listen to a patient's chest, she asks them to say *trentatre* (33). That's why the number appears in the name of SIAMI's research newsletter. This is published online monthly by Elsevier-Edra and has a reach of 90,000 readers! Italian homeopaths write reviews and provide abstracts of relevant scientific articles relating to homeopathy and Integrative Medicine. ECH does not have the human or financial resources to duplicate this excellent idea, but we have been given permission to reproduce one of the articles in each of our newsletters.

Arsenicum album induces cell cycle arrest and apoptosis and inhibits epithelial-mesenchymal transition in hormone-dependent MCF7 breast cancer cells. *Tiziana Di Giampietro*

According to the International Agency for Research on Cancer, breast cancer is one of the most diagnosed cancers and has topped the world list since 2020. The causes of the increase in this cancer are poorly defined and linked to pollution and environmental poisons.

For example, arsenic trioxide (ATO) is an inorganic compound associated with serious carcinogenic risks and has been reported as a groundwater contaminant in several parts of India.

Surgical removal of the primary tumour does not guarantee a cure because, as the cause of pollution persists, recurrence is possible within a few months or years.

Conventional treatment varies according to the molecular subtypes and makes use of cytotoxic drugs that kill tumour cells but induce injurious side effects, either acute or long-term, that also lead to the death of healthy cells.

In this sense, Integrated Medicine is supportive of chemotherapies.

Homeopathy is a branch of science that treats patients holistically with highly diluted and dynamised drugs that have no adverse or accumulating effects with other therapies. The dilution and dynamization of ATO, according to the hormetic or Arndt-Shutz principle, could be antidotal to the effects that ingested toxic doses have produced in the diseased organism.

Arsenic trioxide (As₂O₃) has been used therapeutically since the 18th century for various cancers, including skin and breast cancer, and gained popularity following FDA approval for its use against acute promyelocytic leukaemia. ATO, in high dilutions, is used as a homeopathic medicine (Arsenicum album) to treat various pathological conditions involving the gastrointestinal, skin, respiratory and neurovascular systems. Due to its similarity in symptomatology with arsenic poisoning, Arsenicum album is a valuable remedy for ATO-induced groundwater pollution toxicity. In the study by Iye et al, Ars 6C, 30C and 200C were found to have a therapeutic effect on arsenic-induced toxicity in leucocytes. Similarly, Kundu et al. reported the efficacy of Ars 30C in reducing liver enzyme damage.

In this study, Basu and her colleagues tested the antitumour potential of arsenic trioxide, Arsenicum album 6C, by treating hormone-dependent breast cancer cells in vitro (MCF7) to evaluate its antiproliferative and apoptotic potential. The effect of Ars 6C on the cell cycle, wound healing, generation of reactive oxygen species (ROS) and modulation of the expression of key genes that are aberrant in cancer was examined.

To ascertain the cause of DNA damage, the researchers studied ROS generation. ROS are involved in processes that lead to permeabilisation of the mitochondrial outer membrane and subsequent release of cytochrome C, which initiates further activation of programmed cell apoptosis effectors.

- ROS levels in MCF7 cells after treatment with Ars 6C were measured by the flow cytometry method, and significant differences were observed between Ars 6C- and SC (placebo)-treated cells, which suggests that ATO-induced DNA damage and cytotoxicity might be associated with ROS generation in MCF7 cells.

Translated with www.DeepL.com/Translator (free version)

Article available here – <https://8440234.fs1.hubspotusercontent-na1.net/hubfs/8440234/Article.pdf>

03

JOIN THE TEAM! CALL FOR CANDIDATES FOR ECH COUNCIL



Would you like to work for homeopathy in Europe? Do you want to be in touch with homeopathic colleagues all over Europe? Do you have ideas about how homeopathy in Europe could move forward? Do you have special skills, expertise or energy that you are able to make available for ECH? Join the ECH Council team!

Members of Council are elected by the General Assembly for a period of 4 years, which is renewable. All ECH members can be nominated to become Council members. Some members have come to the end of their terms of office but are eligible for re-election.

Vacant posts requiring to be filled:

- Coordinators for SCs Politics and Provings (to allow Jean Pierre Jansen and Natalia Tzima more time for their roles as President and Vice-President respectively);
- Treasurer (must have financial skills and competence);
- Joint Coordinators for SCs Education and Pharmacy (to assist Dora Pachova and Susann Buchheim);
- And, of course, anyone who can offer useful skills and some of their time is very welcome to apply.

Please consider seriously whether you have skills and expertise to offer ECH. The elections will take place at the online General Assembly on 16 November 2024. There are six Council meetings per year and these are held on Zoom, apart from once a year when we have our ECH Spring or Autumn meeting. Feel free to contact a Council member for further information.

Applications should include a motivation letter, a short CV and a letter from the President of your Association, if appropriate, endorsing your candidacy. The deadline for applications is 15 September 2024 and they should be sent to – generalsecretary@homeopathyeurope.org

Join an amazing team and dare to have your say about homeopathy in Europe!

03



HRI – SAVE THE DATE!

HRI are delighted to announce that their next conference will take place in Greece's beautiful second city, at the [Makedonia Palace Hotel](#), Thessaloniki, from **20-22 June 2025**. The call for abstracts will be launched in September (submission deadline: **9 December 2024**).

03

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



5th Advanced International Homeopathic Seminar (hybrid meeting) 18-23 June, Island of Tinos, Greece

Details here – [https://mcusercontent.com/4748775642562c8590f61e415/files/9e24cece-8ba7-e500-a2b2-39900c73c484/5th Advanced International Homeopathic Seminar.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/4748775642562c8590f61e415/files/9e24cece-8ba7-e500-a2b2-39900c73c484/5th%20Advanced%20International%20Homeopathic%20Seminar.pdf)



Société Homéopathique Internationale
de Soins de Support en Oncologie

6th Strasbourg Congress, Homeopathy in Integrative Oncology 28 -29 June, Clinique Sainte Barbe, Strasbourg, France

Programme details – <https://www.shisso-info.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Programme-du-6eme-Congres-de-Strasbourg-de-la-SHISSO.pdf>



LMHI 77th WORLD HOMEOPATHIC CONGRESS: United to Keep Moving Forward, 2-5 October, Seville, Spain

Full details and registration here – <https://lmhi2024.org>



ECH AUTUMN MEETING – Save the Date!

Saturday 16 November 2024, online

General Assembly + ECH Academy Round Table on Biodiversity & Homeopathy, plus reports from Subcommittees and Working Groups

More details to follow



Faculty of
Homeopathy

FACULTY OF HOMEOPATHY 100TH CONGRESS: *Integrative Medicine for a Sustainable Future*
21-24 November, Edinburgh, Scotland

Full details and registration here – <https://www.facultyofhomeopathy.org/pages/Congress-2024>

Please note: Discount code for ECH members – ECHtake10



If you would like to submit an item to be considered for inclusion in the July issue, please send it to the editor at documentation@homeopathyeurope.org by 20 June.