

Membership Application

Yes, I want to join NCAHF.

Payment enclosed

Please bill me.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone: () _____

E-mail: _____

Signature (individual members only) _____

I support NCAHF's beliefs and purposes. (Required for membership, not for newsletter subscriptions)

Make checks payable to the National Council Against Health Fraud, Inc. No cash please.
Outside U.S.A. please send money order or U.S. bank check only – in U.S. Funds

Annual Rates

Category	Amount
<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Subscription	\$ 15
<input type="checkbox"/> Library Subscription	18
<input type="checkbox"/> Student Membership*	15
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Membership	20
<input type="checkbox"/> Professional Membership	30
<input type="checkbox"/> Supporting Membership	100
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron Membership	1,000
<input type="checkbox"/> Donation**	_____
Total _____	

(Membership includes Newsletter and NCAHF Bulletin Board)

*Fulltime students only, please verify

**Donations are tax-deductible under IRS tax code 501(3)(c)

What Is Fraud?

“A false representation of a matter of fact, whether by words or by conduct, by false or misleading allegations, or by concealment of that which should have been disclosed, which deceives or is intended to deceive another so that he shall act upon it . . .”

— *Black's Legal Dictionary, 4th Edition, 1968*

What Is Health Fraud?

Health fraud is the deceptive promotion, advertisement, distribution or sale of articles, intended for human or animal use, that are represented for human or animal use, that are represented as being effective to diagnose, prevent, cure, treat, or mitigate disease (or other conditions), or provide a beneficial effect on health, but which have not been scientifically proven safe and effective for such purposes. Such practices may be deliberate or done without adequate knowledge or understanding of the article.

— *Definition approved and sanctioned by the FDA Compliance Policy Council, 1993.*

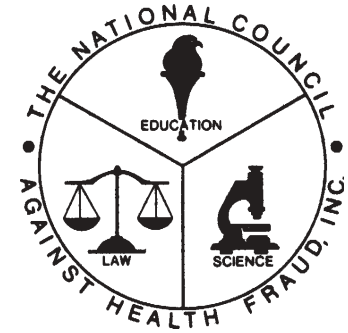
What Is a Quack?

Anyone who promotes medical schemes or remedies known to be false, or which are unproven, for a profit.

— *U.S. House of Representatives, Select Committee on Aging, Subcommittee on Health and Long-term Care, 1984*

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National Council Against Health Fraud



Combating the public health problems of health fraud, misinformation and quackery since 1977

What is the National Council Against Health Fraud?

NCAHF is a nonprofit, tax-exempt, voluntary health agency that focuses on health fraud, misinformation, and quackery as public health problems. It is private, nonpartisan, and nonsectarian. It includes health professionals, educators, researchers, attorneys, and other concerned individuals. Its officers and board members serve without compensation.

What NCAHF Believes

Our founding principles are derived from consumer protection law and scientific principles. We believe that:

- “Consumer” is not a special class but a role played by all; everyone in a free enterprise society has a stake in maintaining high standards for health products and services.
- Professionals in the health sciences, academia, law, and business as well as government agencies share a responsibility to help consumers protect themselves from deception and exploitation in health-related matters.
- The scientific process is essential for discovering truths and validating health claims and information.
- Health products and services should be:
 - Proved safe and effective before marketing, with proponents bearing the burden of such proof
 - Accurately labeled or fully described
 - Truthfully advertised
- As stated in the Consumer Bill of Rights, consumers have:
 - The right to choice
 - The right to information
 - The right to safety
 - The right to be heard
 - The right to consumer education

Council Purposes

- Evaluate claims made for health products and services.
- Educate consumers, professionals, businesspeople, legislators, law enforcement personnel, organizations and agencies about health fraud, misinformation, and quackery.
- Provide a center for communication among individuals and organizations concerned about health misinformation, fraud, and quackery.
- Support sound consumer health laws and oppose legislation that undermines consumer rights.
- Encourage and assist legal actions against consumer protection law violators.

Who May Join?

Anyone who supports the beliefs and purposes of the Council may join NCAHF. Applications are subject to approval by the membership committee.

What Do Members Gain?

- An informative bimonthly newsletter and bulletin board
- Discounts on books and other items offered by the Council
- Ready access to experts on health fraud and quackery
- Opportunity to share expertise with media
- A role in a growing anti-quackery constituency

How Can Members Help?

Members can be actively involved by:

- Serving as resource persons, task force members, speakers, writers, researchers, investigators, and/or expert witnesses
 - Writing letters objecting to health fraud, misinformation and quackery
 - Reporting suspected abuses to the Council
 - Contributing items for the *NCAHF Newsletter* and *NCAHF Bulletin Board*
 - Helping to organize symposia
 - Serving as Area Network Coordinators
 - Serving as officers or members of the NCAHF Board
- ... and other ways.

Council Activities Include:

- An extensive Web site
 - Free weekly electronic newsletter
 - Task forces on important consumer health issues
 - A speakers bureau
 - Experts for media interviews
 - Consumer complaint referral services
 - Help in locating expert witnesses for court cases
 - Help to law enforcement agencies
 - Complaints filed against false advertising
 - Research on questionable health-related topics
 - Advice to students studying consumer health issues
 - Financial grants for special projects
 - Professional and consumer education courses
 - Help to businesses wanting to reform marketing practices
 - Advice to legislators
 - Aid in cancelling columns and broadcasts that promote health misinformation
 - Symposia on health fraud, misinformation and quackery
 - Experts for the media
 - A resource center for information on promoters of quackery and other topics of interest
 - Contributions to consumer health publications
 - Audiovisual aids
 - Awards to journalists, legislators, and others who oppose health fraud, quackery, and misinformation
- ... and more.



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