



Reiki Federation Review of

National Working Group on the Regulation of Complementary Therapists 2005. (NWG 2005)

(The complete document can be downloaded from the Department of Health website:
http://www.dohc.ie/publications/complementary_therapists.html)

The National Working Group on the Regulation of Complementary Therapists 2005 was set up in 2003 to progress practical areas of regulation.

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1. Overview:

RFI Professional Members were greatly involved in the NWG 2005 and submitted RFI recommendations for Practitioner Training to the NWG 2005.

RFI has completed a lot of the items from the NWG 2005 recommendations to date. A few recommendations are outstanding.

When RFI has completed all recommendations from the NWG 2005, ie RFI will have Self Regulated its Professional Practice as recommended by the NWG 2005 and Department of Health, RFI will be considered Self Regulated.

Self Regulation is deemed, provided the Association has all the self regulatory mechanisms in place. It then can prove as effective as Statutory Registration.

So RFI can be considered as effective as Statutory Registration, when RFI have implemented all NWG 2005 recommendations.



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2. NWG 2005 Background:

Firstly some points noted and items of concern in 2005 by the NWG that are relevant to Professional Reiki Practitioners

Every therapist practicing a complementary therapy should be competent qualified and registered member of a relevant professional association.

This will ensure that the public will be able to access up to date sources of information and make an informed judgement as to what they can expect from a competent and registered practitioner.

Recommendations 1 to 7 (Ref NWG 2005 Document) to be implemented without delay and then Recommendation 8 (Higher Governing Complementary Council) will be attainable.

The public will then be able to avail of the many benefits of complementary therapies in the knowledge that their Therapist is Qualified, Competent and Registered and that they as consumer have full support, information and protection from the wider complementary sector.

The public needs a reliable current source of information regarding standards to be expected in relation to good practice.

The public also needs to know where they can find a competent and qualified therapist: however they can check that the therapist is currently registered with an association for that therapy and what grievance procedures are available to them should difficulties arise.

Quality and Accountability

Two key principles in 2001 Health Strategy were Quality and Accountability. Protection of the public must be at the Heart of effective standards of any activity.

People trust in the standard of care being provided. They need the provision of reliable and up to date information which is crucial for them in making an informed choice about a therapists and a therapy.

Because Quality and Accountability relating to training of therapists is so central to any development of common standards, the Working group focussed its attention on that area from early 2004.

The Irish professional associations for complementary therapist are seeking to promote and develop their sector particularly in the area of harmonisation of standards of practice and qualification.



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Through Complementary Therapy Association's interaction with the Dept of Health over a number of years the NWG on the Regulation of Complementary Therapists was set up in 2003 to progress practical areas of regulation.

Areas addressed

Definition

Categorisation

Education and Training

Professional Associations

Unification of Professional Association from the same Therapy.

Education and Training

Current state: variations in course content, course duration, theoretical and practical, assessment procedure, qualifications and practical experiences of course providers and trainers.

Concerns:

Courses not including practical aspects where these are integral elements to the proper practice of the therapy.

Courses taught by Therapists whose own practical expertise of the therapy is inadequate or non existent.

Areas to Cover:

Initial Training

Registration with a professional association

On going monitoring and clinical supervision where relevant

Ethical consideration, proper business practices, CPD and grievances and disciplinary procedures.

Curriculum for Complementary Therapy Courses: pg 27

The Working Group recommends that every course should include the following areas to an appropriate level related to the therapy being studied.

Ethics and Code of Practice

Scope of Practice including: duty of care, contra indications

Professional/Practitioner Development

Clinical Practice including Case History, Questioning, assessment

Clinical Supervision



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Anatomy & Physiology
Personal Development
Study Skills and Research
Legal Obligations
History, philosophy, theory and practice of the particular therapy.

Professional Association Template:

Advise on standards and criteria for training of therapists.
Maintain a current register of Practitioners and provide CPD
Code of Ethics etc
Provide source of Information for Therapists and Public

Regulation

Self Regulation: provided the Association has all the self regulatory mechanisms in place it can prove effective as statutory registration.

The trend internationally is towards a robust system of self regulation.

The development of robust systems of voluntary self regulation is recommended for all class 2 therapies.

This will need the active support of the Department of Health.

3. RFI Review of NWG 2005 Recommendations:

This is a review of the progress RFI has made with respect to NWG 2005 recommendations.

Note:

The Reiki Practitioner Module was presented to RFI members and was agreed at EGM 22 Sept 2007 and EGM 9 Feb 2008 by RFI members..

The RFI Committee are obliged to work in accordance with the Constitution as agreed by RFI Members. According to the RFI Constitution under the Functions and powers of the Committee section 10a, v "To monitor the implementation of all motions passed at AGMs and EGMs, RFI need to review progress with respect to the NWG 2005 and progress any outstanding items.



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1. Professional Practicing Members who qualified under the Grandparent Clause according to the NWG 2005 received the status of Reiki Practitioner Module.
2. Reiki Practitioner Module Training for Reiki Teachers was provided on 20th October and 6th November 2012. All RFI Teachers are now in a position to teach the Reiki Practitioner Module according to the RFI Teaching guidelines.
3. A Continuous Professional Development (CPD) Scheme has been provided by RFI was introduced 20th October 2012. Membership renewals in March 2014 will require CPD Log Cards to be submitted
4. A First Aid Course was provided in September 2013 and information on course providers appears on the RFI Website.
5. Practicing Professional Members are requested to participate in a First Aid Course as soon as is possible and the motion to include as part of Professional Membership will be brought to the AGM in April 2014.
6. Membership renewals in March 2015 will require a copy of a First Aid Certificate to be submitted provided the motion is passed at AGM April 2014

Review by

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