



Petition to:

Increase UK Central Government Support for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM)

This petition is now closed, as its deadline has passed.

We the undersigned petition the Prime Minister to Increase UK Central Government Support for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM). [More details](#)

Submitted by Professor Joseph Chikelue Obi – **Deadline to sign up by: 26 March 2010**
– **Signatures: 1,028**

More details from petition creator

* The whole wide spectrum of Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) is not being treated fairly by this particular UK Labour Government : Far much more (high level) support is urgently required.

<http://petitions.number10.gov.uk/CAMSupport/>

Government response

The UK Government is a coalition between the Conservatives and the Liberal Democrats and is not a Labour Government.

The Department of Health will not be withdrawing funding for homeopathy or any other complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) on the NHS, nor will the licensing of homeopathic products be stopped. Decisions on the provision and funding of any treatment will remain the responsibility of the NHS locally.

A patient who wants homeopathic treatment on the NHS should speak to his or her GP. If the GP is satisfied this would be the most appropriate and effective treatment then, subject to any local commissioning policies, he or she can refer them to a practitioner or one of the NHS homeopathic hospitals.

Last year, the Department of Health along with devolved Departments, consulted on the

regulation of practitioners of acupuncture, herbal medicine and traditional Chinese medicine. The consultation closed in November 2009, and more than 6,500 responses were received. The high response rate is a testament to the strength of feeling about public access to CAMs.

The consultation examined in detail the options for regulation, including alternatives to statutory regulation. Once the Government has considered the consultation responses, it will make clear the next steps in the regulatory process.

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