

I.

All therapeutic treatments contemplated for a patient must be evaluated for all possible reactions. The primary focus of treatment by dentists is the oral/facial complex, but any treatment in this area will result in an overall effect on the entire person. The human organism is an integrated, bio-cybernetic entity and is incapable of being treated as separate components.

II.

The Holistic dentist realizes that without health and balance in all categories of a person's make-up, optimum health for that person is impossible. The basic triad of categories - STRUCTURE, MENTAL/EMOTIONAL and BIOCHEMICAL - must be considered and evaluated when aiding a patient to obtain optimum health.

III.

The Holistic dentist is one member of a health team and as a team member he/she offers and accepts consultation and collaboration with health therapists from other disciplines and schools of practice.

IV.

As Holistic dentists we are concerned with the planetary environment. For optimum health to be realized, it must not be damaged or destroyed by the air we breathe, the water we drink or the soil which produces the food we eat. The Holistic dentist, as one of the guardians of the public's health, supports all efforts to realize a clean and healthy environment. Since preventing disease and assisting patients to attain good health is the primary goal of Holistic dentists, Holistic dentists strongly oppose any industrial, governmental or private activity which poisons or creates pollution in the environment.

V.

The Holistic Dental Association is opposed to the placement or use of all materials or substances that are known toxins or have the possibility of causing an adverse reaction in a patient. The Holistic Dental Association believes that every effort must be made to use non-toxic substances as therapeutic agents to treat human disease.

VI.

Holistic dentists properly incorporate into their practices, following adequate training, the additional techniques of other schools of health practice where complementary therapies will benefit the patient. These complementary, or at times alternative therapies, will be used as an adjunct to therapies that are taught in established schools of dentistry. The Holistic Dental Association will provide in its Standards of Practice recommendations for the education/training of the Holistic dentist.

VII.

In some emergency situations, and only for short periods of time, the use of a pharmaceutical agent or toxicant substance may be indicated. In these instances, the negative effects possible with the use of the substance must be fully and completely explained to the patient. The patient must provide fully informed consent before the administration of a pharmaceutical agent or toxic substance is given.

VIII.

The Holistic Dental Association wholeheartedly supports the concept of freedom of choice in health care. True freedom in health care delivery involves the unfettered dynamics of dentist/patient interaction. Both parties must accept responsibility to one another and should owe no responsibility to anyone or anything else. Freedom and responsibility are inseparable and interdependent. There is an implication that the relationship between dentist and patient is of a sovereign nature and should be treated as such.

DEFINITIONS

1. **ALLOPATHY** - Therapy with remedies that produce effects differing from those of the disease being treated. A system of treating disease by inducing a pathologic reaction that is antagonistic to the disease being treated.
2. **BIOENERGETIC** - The transfer of energy between all living systems.
3. **BIOLOGIC** - The science of life.
4. **BIO-CYBERNETICS** - The theoretical study of control and communication processes in biological systems.
5. **DOCTRINE** - A principle or creed of principles presented for acceptance or belief. A doctrine is the necessary foundation of duty, the skeleton of truth.
6. **HOMEOPATHY** - "Like cures like." The use of minute quantities of remedies that if used in massive doses would produce the effects of the disease being treated.
7. **NATUROPATHY** - A therapeutic system which does not use drugs but employs natural forces such as light, heat, air, water, massage, and diet.
3. **PHARMACOGNOSY** - The science of natural drugs and their physical, botanical and chemical properties. The dealing with crude natural drugs.
9. **PHYTOTHERAPY** - The use of biologically active plant substances.
10. **PROBIOTIC** - Favoring the support of life, relating to the promotion of life and life conditions.
11. **STANDARD** - An acknowledged measure of comparison for quantitative or qualitative value; norm. A degree or level of requirement, excellence, or attainment.
12. **TENETS** - The principles or doctrines held in common by members of an organized group. Tenets are opinions, doctrines, principles, or dogma held by a person or organization.
13. **TOXINS** - A poisonous substance of animal or plant origin having a protein structure. A substance that is harmful, destructive or deadly.