

17. Popularity of homeopathy

Status of Homeopathy in the various countries in the world:

Link:

<http://knol.google.com/k/dr-nancy-malik-bhms/status-of-homeopathy/pocy7w49ru14/7#>

Some facts:

- Homeopathy is being practised in 41 out of 42 countries in Europe.
- *45% of Dutch doctors use homeopathy.*
- By 2003, 86% of *Scottish GPs* surveyed were found to be in favour of homeopathy.
- Currently, homeopathy is the second most popular complementary medicine in the UK.
- 60% of the UK doctors who use homeopathy do so because of good experience of homeopathy, 2005.
- Bristol homeopathic hospital: 6 year study: 6544 patients: 70% patients reported clinical improvement following homeopathic treatment.
- About 6 million people in the **UK** choose homeopathy.
- According to surveys in **France**, an astounding 40% of the French public have used homeopathic medicines, and 39% of French physicians have prescribed them, *50% of the French population are regular users.*
- From 1990 to 2000, sales of homeopathic products in the United States rose 1000% (Sayner-Flusche 2000).
- According to the National Center for Homeopathy, sales of homeopathic remedies in the US are over \$300 million

Opinions and self-reported health status of Italians seeking homeopathic treatment – Institution Gruppo Belladonna Study Group, Via Giacosa 50, Milano, Italy.

Citation and Link

Pomposelli R, Andreoni C, Costini G, Dedor B, Mariani I, Castellini M, Tomaioli GM, Tonini E, "Opinions and self-reported health status of Italians seeking homeopathic treatment", *Homeopathy* 2006 Apr; 95(2):81-7.

http://www.unboundmedicine.com/medline/ebm/record/16569623/full_citation/Opinions_and_self_reported_health_status_of_Italians_seeking_homeopathic_treatment

Abstract:

"The use of homeopathy is increasing worldwide. This multi-centre cross-sectional study aims to describe the opinions and self-reported health status of a sample of Italian people seeking homeopathic care. A self-administered questionnaire including socio-demographic characteristics, knowledge and opinions about homeopathy, personal experience with homeopathy, and, self-reported health status (SF-12), was administered to a sample of people who had sought homeopathy. Of a possible 1229 individuals invited to participate, 1223 did so. The majority of the participants were female, young (mean age 42 years), well educated (mean 13 years of education). The reason for seeking care was for either physical or emotional conditions. Most participants had fair to good knowledge of homeopathy, and the self-experienced effect (subjective judgment on efficacy) was good regardless of the type of health condition reported. The Physical Component Summary (PCS-12) scores were similar to the general Italian population, but the Mental Component Summary (MCS-12) scores were lower in all relevant strata examined. This study provides information on the characteristics of people seeking homeopathic care, in particular the results of the SF-12 self-reported health status evaluation."