



# HOMEOPATHY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

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## PRESS RELEASE

(July 16<sup>TH</sup> 2007, London) The inaugural Board Meeting of the newly formed Homeopathy Research Institute (HRI), took place in London in June signalling a new era in the field of homeopathic research in the UK.

The aim of the Homeopathy Research Institute is to promote and facilitate high-quality scientific research in the field of homeopathy. The HRI will be the first central resource dedicated solely to research about homeopathy as it is practised today. A key task of the Institute will be to communicate about the science relating to homeopathy to the medical and scientific communities, the media, the general public, and to homeopaths themselves. The Institute will form a bridge between the scientific and homeopathic communities backed up by a strong PR and communications team.

The Institute was founded by Dr. Alexander Tournier who holds a PhD in Biophysics from the University of Heidelberg and is a fellow at Cancer Research UK in addition to being a qualified homeopath. This background places Dr. Tournier in the unusual position of being able to speak the language of both academic science and homeopathy. He says, "Through this institute, my aims are to strengthen the scientific foundations of homeopathy, and promote homeopathy as a sound system of medicine well-deserving of a place alongside conventional medicine."

The HRI's Board of Directors consists of Dr. Tournier, Clare Relton Msc, RSHom, (DH training fellow in CAM Health Services Research at the University of Sheffield), Marcus Fernandez LCPH, MHMA, (homeopath and vice-principal of the Centre for Homeopathic Education), and Dr. Nagin Lad PhD, LCHE, (biochemist and homeopath). The Board is currently supported by a team of consultants including Dr. Patti Bayliss, McHB, FRCG, Sara Perkins Bran LCHE, (PR consultant and homeopath), and Dr. Natasa Peric-Concha PhD, (molecular biologist and trainee homeopath).

At the inaugural Board Meeting, the participants established a Scientific Committee in charge of developing the research program of the Institute. The Scientific Committee is headed by Dr. Tournier along with Clare Relton, and is presently composed of Dr. Lad and Dr. Peric-Concha, Dr. Lionel R. Milgrom PhD, FRSC, RSHom, MARH, Dr. Mike Emmans Dean PhD, MARH, Dr. Elizabeth Thompson MBBS, MRCP, FFHom, and Prof. Kate Thomas among others.

Clare Relton, who is currently developing appropriate trial designs for homeopathy research says, “I am very excited to be a part of the Homeopathy Research Institute as it will pull together ongoing homeopathy research and be a resource for new trials. Treatment methods, homeopathic remedies and principles, cost effectiveness, efficacy and safety are all areas the Institute will be examining.”

The Board also elected a PR Committee entrusted with developing the communications strategy of the Institute. This consists of Marcus Fernandez, Sara Perkins Bran and Natasa Peric-Concha.

The HRI invites participation from interested groups and individuals. In particular, we would like to hear from people with fund-raising expertise who are interested in consulting with our PR Committee. If you would like to donate funds, find out more or help in some way, please contact us.

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**Or visit [www.homeopathyresearchinstitute.org](http://www.homeopathyresearchinstitute.org)**



Attendees of the inaugural Board Meeting of the HRI left to right: Dr. Natasa Peric-Concha, Dr. Patti Bayliss, Clare Relton, Marcus Fernandez, Dr. Alex Tournier, Sara Perkins Bran, Dr. Nagin Lad.



The Board of the Homeopathy Research Institute left to right: Clare Relton, Marcus Fernandez, Dr. Alex Tournier and Dr. Nagin Lad.