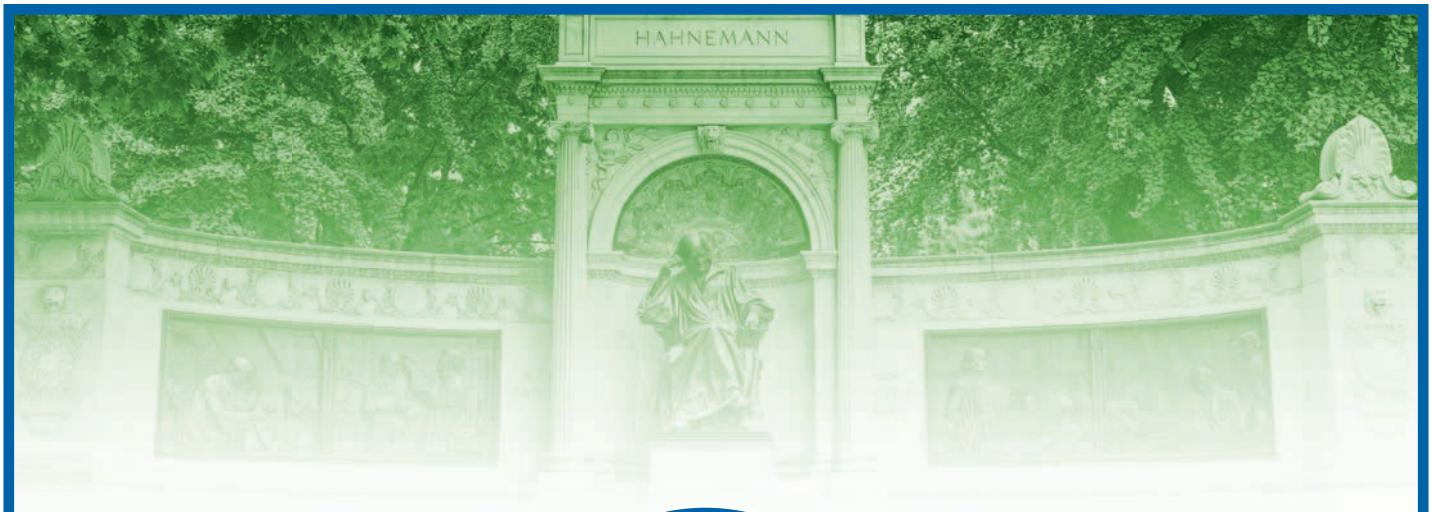

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR HOMEOPATHIC PRODUCTS

AAHP

— EST. 1923 —

CHAPTER SEVEN:

Homeopathy in the United States and Milestones

HOMEOPATHY IN THE UNITED STATES AND MILESTONES

Immigrants, primarily German, brought homeopathy to North America. Early practitioners established the first U.S. teaching academy in Pennsylvania, followed shortly thereafter by one in New York, then Massachusetts. The first pharmacy selling homeopathic medicines opened in 1835 in New York City (and was bought by Boericke in 1862). Otis Clapp & Sons opened in Boston five years later. The growth of homeopathy led physicians to found the American Institute of Homeopathy in 1844. Within a decade, Humphrey's Homeopathic Company opened in New York and Luyties Homeopathic Pharmacy Company in St. Louis.

The latter part of the 19th century was a high point for American homeopathy with Boericke & Tafel opening pharmacies in multiple cities, and many other pharmacies stocking homeopathic products. The first edition of the Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia of the United States was published in 1897, creating standards to identify starting ingredients and to manufacture homeopathic products.

Soon after, George Hyland opened a pharmacy in Los Angeles; this merged with others to become Standard Homeopathic Co. Then Borneman Laboratories opened outside of Philadelphia. In this period, there were 22 homeopathic medical schools; Boston University, Stanford University, and New York Medical College also had courses on homeopathy. Homeopathic care was provided through 100 hospitals and there were an estimated 1,000 pharmacies offering homeopathic medicines, including Ehrhart & Karl; Dr. Frost's; Wise's K.C. Homeopathic Pharmacy; Woodard, Clark & Co; and Halsey Bros. Looking back, one sees homeopathy's remarkable successes, including being one of the most widely used modalities of treatment during the American Civil War and its significant contributions to saving lives during the Spanish flu pandemic of 1918 and 1919.

Yet by the 1920s homeopathic schools were closing, partly due to a growing requirement for upgraded laboratory facilities in medical schools. Many homeopathic schools had neither interest nor resources to undertake such investments. Simultaneously, most schools were forced to change their curriculum to focus on biochemistry and pathology; neither are important in the homeopathic medical modality with its focus on the individual, and the one-on-one relationship between homeopath and patient. Also during the 1920s, other drug companies developed allopathic "miracle drugs" that were easy to prescribe to a wide range of patients.[1] Homeopathy did not encompass the right characteristics to adopt those "modern" medical methods of the era. Moreover, the homeopathic profession's numbers dwindled through retirement and attrition.

It is not surprising that a core group of homeopathic pharmacists and manufacturers would come together in the early 1920s to discuss the changing market conditions and take what steps they could for the preservation of homeopathy in the face of a shrinking practitioner pool. Each had their own path to follow in the coming years; yet in 1923, several influential homeopathic companies with their dedicated pharmacists banded together in a loose grouping to support one another. Thus was born the American Association of Homeopathic Pharmacists, which would come to promote quality and consistency in the preparation and manufacture of homeopathic medicines. Early member companies included Boericke & Tafel; Ehrhart & Karl; Humphrey's Pharmacal; John A. Borneman and Sons; Luyties Pharmacal; and Otis Clapp & Sons. The following year, a similar process happened within the practitioner community with the formation of the American Foundation for Homeopathy (AFH).

The newly formed AAHP could not reverse the tides of change impacting the entire homeopathic community. Yet, the collegiality and communication within the association, despite the members' natural competition in a slowly shrinking market, made it possible for the industry to survive the next 50 years while being well positioned for the amazing changes that would follow. After 50 years of experience with the allopathic miracle drugs along with increased awareness of side effects and long-term problems, the 1970s brought a revived interest by U.S. consumers in homeopathic products. This change led to the development of a third leg of support: the founding of the National Center for Homeopathy, which advanced the legacy of AFH and helped to foster the growing consumer interest for homeopathy into the 21st century.

Today this growth continues, fueled by consumer demand for natural products. This has resulted in a sustained growth in sales of homeopathic products that has risen faster than the U.S. economy and has outpaced the overall growth rate for conventional OTC products. For a century, AAHP has remained a stalwart promoter of excellence in the manufacture of homeopathic medicines.

References

1. https://www.wholehealthnow.com/homeopathy_info/history.html

Milestones for Homeopathy in the United States and Significant AAHP Activities

1796	Hahnemann experiments with quinine and articulates "Law of Similars."
1825	Hans Birch Gram introduces homeopathy in the United States.
1835	First homeopathic school in United States opens.
1835	William Radde begins selling homeopathic remedies in New York City. Boericke purchases the business in 1862.
1840	Otis Clapp & Sons opens in Boston.
1844	Physicians establish the American Institute of Homeopathy.
1853	Humphrey's Homeopathic Medicine Company opens in New York City. Later changes name to Humphrey's Pharmacal.
1853	Luyties Homeopathic Pharmacy Company opens in St. Louis. Later changes name to Luyties Pharmacal.
1860	Nelsons Homeopathic Pharmacy opens in London. U.S. subsidiary opens in 1996.
1869	Boericke & Tafel opens in Philadelphia; now a part of Schwabe N.A. Inc.
1884	Boericke & Tafel opens pharmacy in Washington, D.C. In 1927 it becomes Washington Homeopathic Pharmacy; now Washington Homeopathic Products in WV.
1897	American Institute of Homeopathy publishes the first edition of the Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia of the United States.
1903	George Hyland opens pharmacy in Los Angeles. It merges with others into Standard Homeopathic Co.; now called Hyland's Consumer Health.
1906	U.S. Federal Pure Food and Drug Act holds drugs to USP and NF standards of strength, quality, and purity.
1907	Borneman Laboratories opens outside Philadelphia; Later changes name to John A. Borneman and Sons, and sold to Boiron in 1983.
1910	Flexnor Report publication leads to defunding and closure of many medical schools, including (within a decade) the homeopathic medical schools.
1912	Misters Ehrhart and Karl open their eponymous pharmacy in Chicago.
1915–1935	Use of homeopathy declines as homeopathic practitioners age, training opportunities dwindle, and use of chemical drug products is promoted.
1920	Last purely homeopathic medical school closes.
1920–1940	Sales through homeopathic pharmacy and the number of these pharmacies serving doctors and consumers directly slowly declines.

HOMEOPATHY IN THE UNITED STATES AND MILESTONES

1921	Weleda opens in Switzerland; opens a New York City pharmacy in 1931.
1923	AAHP founded; early members include Boericke & Tafel, Ehrhart & Karl, Humphrey's Pharmacal, John A. Borneman and Sons, Luyties Pharmacal, and Otis Clapp & Sons.
1932	Boiron opens in Paris as a pharmacy and moves to Lyon in 1974; its U.S. subsidiary opens in 1983.
1938	U.S. Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act requires drugs to be safe, and bear adequate direction for use; the Act recognizes HPUS equally with USP and NF.
1951	Durham-Humphrey Amendment resolves distinction between OTC drugs and those requiring a prescription before being dispensed.
1962	Kefauver-Harris Amendments address safety and effectiveness; establishes GMPs; creates conditions in which all homeopathic drug products are considered Rx Only.
1965–1975	Back-to-Nature movement begins and grows. Interest renews in alternative methods of healing.
1965–1985	Homeopathic pharmaceutical companies experience first wave of growth and focus on sales through retail stores.
1972	FDA introduces OTC Drug Review for allopathic drugs; it states the agency will address homeopathic drug products at a later date.
1975–1980	AAHP members renew interest in working together in response to evolving regulatory circumstances and to further develop positive market conditions.
1980	Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia Convention of the United States is incorporated.
1980	U.S. market attracts overseas companies that establish U.S. subsidiaries and affiliates, which further accelerates market growth.
1980s	The 1951 Rx only conditions for homeopathic drugs is unevenly enforced by FDA against imports, causing problems with U.S. Customs and manufacturers.
1981	AAHP meets with FDA with proposal on criteria for Rx homeopathic drug products.
1983–1988	AAHP members work together to further the dialog with FDA and address the agency's concerns, which leads to the development of Compliance Policy Guide 400.400.
1988	FDA publishes Compliance Policy Guide 400.400 Conditions Under Which Homeopathic Products May Be Sold.
1980s	AAHP launches Compliance Through Education events for industry members.
1990	AAHP meets with FDA regarding solution to complexity of drug listing requirements.
1991	AAHP successfully petitions FDA to rescind requirement for English-only names on product labels.
1994	AAHP successfully petitions FDA for exemption from Imprinting of Solid Oral Dosage Form Drug Products for Human Use rule.

HOMEOPATHY IN THE UNITED STATES AND MILESTONES

1994	AAHP successfully petitions FDA for exemption from alcohol content limits.
1995	Homeopathic pharmaceutical companies experience second wave of growth, expanding in numbers and size. Sales focus expands from retail stores to reaching new consumers.
1999	AAHP writes and sponsors continuing education course for pharmacists.
2000	AAHP supports American Institute of Homeopathy's rededication of the Samuel Hahnemann Memorial.
2000	"Big Pharma" companies slowly turn their attention to consumers' interest in alternative products and begin to buy product lines and companies.
2002	AAHP conducts market survey on size, sales, and product line distribution.
2005	AAHP successfully reverses U.S. Customs Service classification of homeopathic drug products as "food."
2007	AAHP contracts for first of two analyses of data on homeopathic drug product safety from the American Association of Poison Control Centers.
2011	AAHP launches a federal relations program to educate congressional members on homeopathic drugs and appropriate regulations.
2011	AAHP hosts a luncheon briefing at the U.S. Capitol Visitor Center for Capitol Hill staff.
2011–2012	AAHP works with FDA to simplify Electronic Drug Registration and Listing for multiple attenuations of homeopathic drug products.
2013	AAHP honors Senator Tom Harkin with an award in appreciation for his support of health care choices.
2015	Renewed FDA attention on homeopathic products due to unexpected growth of consumer usage leads to two-day hearing in which AAHP takes leading role.
2015	AAHP contracts second analysis of data on safety from the American Association of Poison Control Centers to address FDA's interpretation of the data. AAHP thanks Consumer Healthcare Products Association for project support.
2015	In response to FDA hearing, AAHP submits 98-page document proposing reasonable requirements for industry while addressing FDA's concern to protect public health.
2015	FTC holds workshop to address clinical trial of homeopathic drug products or a disclaimer statement on labeling and advertising; AAHP takes lead, coordinating support and presentations.
2016	AAHP honors Senator Barbara Ann Mikulski for her support of policies that safeguard homeopathic manufacturers and medicines.
2016	AAHP develops, consumer tests, and adopts disclaimer wording to address FTC's concerns.
2016	AAHP meets with former Senator Harkin to discuss long-term legislative strategies.

HOMEOPATHY IN THE UNITED STATES AND MILESTONES

2016	AAHP hosts a luncheon between Senator Bob Casey and the homeopathic community.
2017	AAHP successfully defended the industry against unintended consequences of OTC monograph reform by monitoring and advising lawmakers on provisions of the legislation that would have subjected homeopathic manufacturers to user fees.
2017	FDA withdraws 1988 Compliance Policy Guide and publishes draft Drug Products Labeled as Homeopathic Enforcement Guidance.
2018	After more than 40 legislative visits, AAHP successfully works with Senators and Representatives to send letters to FDA regarding consequences of CPG withdrawal.
2018	AAHP submits comments to Enforcement Guidance with suggested changes.
2019	AAHP meets with FDA to voice industry concerns regarding Enforcement Guidance.
2019–2021	AAHP hosts a series of "Summits" to create basis for the industry and FDA to move forward. The events address technical gaps in cGMPs and other topics to provide additional education opportunities for compliance.
2019	AAHP launches industry reception and Integrative Medicine Retailer Award.
2020	AAHP supports members in litigation with FDA by filing amicus briefs.
2021	AAHP educates industry members on new reporting requirements from CARES Act.
2022	FDA finalizes revised draft guidance, incorporating some of AAHP's suggestions such as FDA's definition of homeopathic drug products includes only those monographed in HPUS.
2023	AAHP celebrates 100 years of service and dedication to integrity, quality, and trust. Presents history and achievements to multiple audiences both within and outside the homeopathic community.
2024	AAHP begins its second century with a new name to better reflect its contemporary membership and focus: American Association for Homeopathic Products.