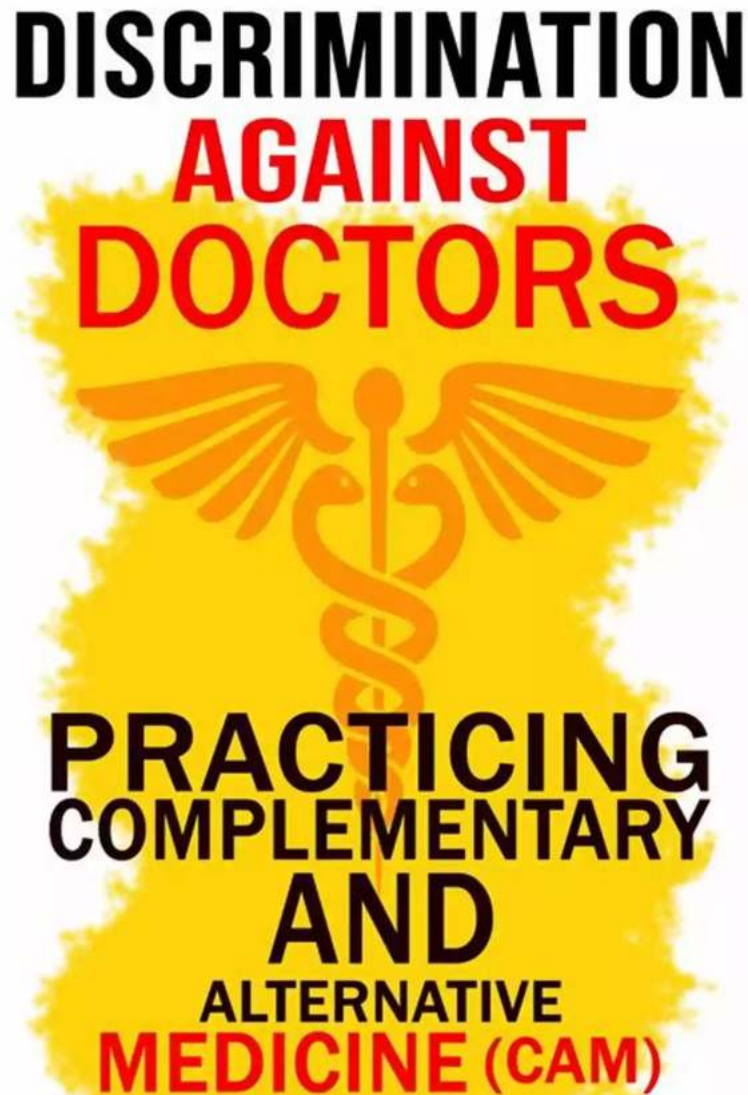


Discrimination Against Doctors Practicing Complementary And Alternative Medicine

TOMAS A. CAQUIAS, ESQ., MSTC

**DISCRIMINATION
AGAINST
DOCTORS**



**PRACTICING
COMPLEMENTARY
AND
ALTERNATIVE
MEDICINE (CAM)**

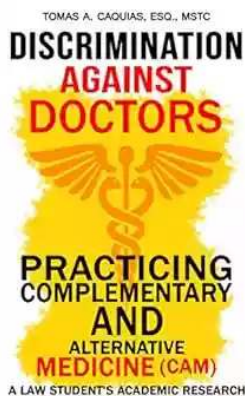
A LAW STUDENT'S ACADEMIC RESEARCH

Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) has gained significant popularity among patients seeking holistic approaches to their healthcare. However, despite its growing acceptance, discrimination against doctors practicing CAM remains a pervasive issue within the medical community. In this article, we explore the

various forms of discrimination faced by these doctors and the impact it has on patients and the field of healthcare as a whole.

The Rise of Complementary and Alternative Medicine

Complementary and Alternative Medicine encompasses a wide array of treatments and therapies that fall outside the scope of conventional medicine. These include acupuncture, herbal medicine, chiropractic care, naturopathy, and many other practices. CAM seeks to address the individual as a whole, taking into account the physical, emotional, and spiritual aspects of health.



DISCRIMINATION AGAINST DOCTORS PRACTICING COMPLEMENTARY AND ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE (CAM): A Law Student's Academic Research by Tomas Caquias(Kindle Edition)

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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With the growing dissatisfaction towards the limitations of traditional medicine, patients have increasingly turned to CAM to find more personalized and comprehensive approaches to their health concerns. As a result, doctors who specialize in CAM have seen a rise in demand for their services.

Challenges Faced by Doctors Practicing CAM

Despite the increasing acceptance and demand for complementary and alternative medicine, doctors practicing CAM continue to face discrimination within the medical community. This discrimination takes various forms and can have severe consequences for both the affected doctors and their patients.

1. Lack of Recognition and Validation

One of the primary forms of discrimination faced by CAM practitioners is the lack of recognition and validation from their mainstream medical counterparts. Conventional doctors often dismiss CAM as pseudoscience or unproven therapies, undermining the legitimacy of these practices and the expertise of CAM practitioners.

This lack of recognition extends to medical institutions, where CAM is rarely included in the curriculum of medical schools. As a result, CAM doctors often face obstacles when seeking personal and professional development opportunities, limiting their ability to provide the best care for their patients.

2. Professional Exclusion and Isolation

Doctors practicing CAM also face professional exclusion and isolation due to the dominant medical culture that values pharmaceutical-based treatments and evidence-based medicine. These doctors may struggle to find collaboration and referral opportunities with conventional doctors, impeding their ability to provide comprehensive care for their patients.

Furthermore, insurance companies may refuse to cover CAM treatments or provide inadequate reimbursement rates, making it financially challenging for CAM doctors to sustain their practices. This exclusionary environment can lead to increased burnout rates among CAM practitioners and a limited patient access to alternative healthcare options.

Impact on Patients and Healthcare

The discrimination against doctors practicing CAM not only affects the professionals but also has tangible consequences for patients and the healthcare system as a whole.

1. Limited Patient Choice

By marginalizing doctors practicing CAM, patients are presented with limited healthcare choices. Many patients are seeking alternative approaches to address chronic illnesses, pain, and mental health issues, and by restricting access to CAM, their options become significantly limited. This limitation hinders patient autonomy and prevents individuals from receiving the healthcare that aligns with their personal beliefs and values.

2. Untapped Potential for Integrative Care

Integrative medicine, which combines both conventional and complementary therapies, has shown promise in providing comprehensive and patient-centered care. However, the discrimination against CAM doctors prevents the full potential of integrative care from being realized. By ostracizing CAM practitioners, the medical community misses out on the opportunity to develop innovative treatment approaches that could potentially improve healthcare outcomes.

Fostering Collaboration and Acceptance

Addressing the discrimination against doctors practicing complementary and alternative medicine requires active efforts from both the medical community and society as a whole. To foster collaboration and acceptance, the following steps can be taken:

1. Education and Integration

Medical institutions should integrate CAM into their curriculum, allowing future doctors to develop a more comprehensive understanding of healthcare options. This integration would also help create a bridge between CAM and conventional medicine, encouraging collaboration and mutual respect.

2. Promoting Research and Evidence

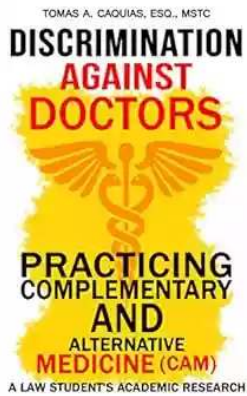
Further research into complementary and alternative medicine is crucial for establishing its efficacy and helping bridge the gap between CAM and conventional medicine. By investing in research and evidence-based studies, CAM practitioners can demonstrate the legitimacy of their practices and gain support from the medical community.

3. Insurance Coverage and Reimbursement

Ensuring adequate insurance coverage and reimbursement rates for CAM treatments is essential for providing financial stability to CAM doctors. This step would allow them to sustain their practices and improve access to alternative healthcare options.

Discrimination against doctors practicing complementary and alternative medicine remains a significant challenge within the medical community. By recognizing the value of CAM and fostering collaboration, the medical community can not only expand treatment options for patients but also develop a more comprehensive and patient-centered approach to healthcare. It is crucial for society to embrace the diversity of healthcare approaches and break down the barriers that hinder the progress of inclusive medicine.

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In this research based conversation starter, DISCRIMINATION AGAINST DOCTORS PRACTICING COMPLEMENTARY AND ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE (CAM), author and Texas lawyer T.A. Caquias examines the legal frameworks surrounding the "practice" of medicine. This law student's academic research, written in 2014, has placed a magnifying glass on what has been "allowed" to be called "contemporary medicine" and what is complementary, alternative, holistic, functional, natural, or integrative medicine.

Are you (Doctors/Patients) asking yourself these questions:

Who wrote my medical text books?

Why am I prescribing this drug?

What's the deal with all of these Electronic Medical Records (EMRs) and Insurance Codes?

Are doctors focused on symptoms or on the disease? (Problem Focused or Solution Focused)

Why are there so many conspiracy theories surrounding medical care if its

"science?"

Am I "practicing" medicine or pushing an agenda/pill?

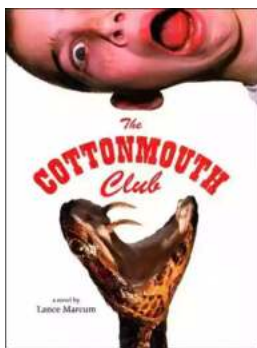
If you've asked these questions, you may want to read this book. *Have other pertinent questions? Please Leave A Comment

This book is an important study on the discrimination of medical and osteopathic doctors who are being held to a different standard from their peers when they dare to offer their patients therapies that are not approved by the powers that be. Learn who the players are and how to better advocate for your health and practice.



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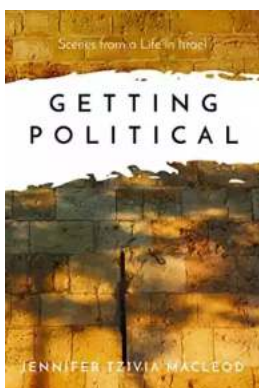
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