



IAAP

International Association of
Anthroposophic Pharmacists

International Regulation on Further Education (IFER) in Anthroposophic Pharmacy

**in order to gain the title
“Pharmacist specialised in Anthroposophic Pharmacy” (IAAP)**

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Preface

Classically educated pharmacists may be interested in extending their scientific knowledge by a multidimensional view on man and nature providing them with a better understanding of health and illness during human biography and of a comprehensive responsibility for nature. In order to extend knowledge and competencies in this direction a systematic and professional framework needs to be provided. For this purpose, the International Association of Anthroposophic Pharmacists (IAAP) compiled this further education regulation (IFER) covering Anthroposophic Pharmacy (AP).

Preamble

This IFER of the IAAP provides the framework for the acquirement of further expert competence of pharmacists who embrace the enlargement of their knowledge by a spiritual-scientific foundation of Anthroposophic Medicine (AM) and Pharmacy, as formulated by Rudolf Steiner and the physician Ita Wegman. The knowledge and skills IFER intends to create cover and apply to all fields of professional activities of pharmacists. Pharmacists specialised in AP are fully qualified pharmacists with profound supplementary knowledge, experience and skills in the field of AP including, among others, the competence of giving profound advice on Anthroposophic Medicinal Products (AMPs).

Furthermore, this further education intends to lead to an understanding of pharmacy as an integrative pharmacy. Pharmacies being one of the first contact points in the health systems should be in the position to offer a wide knowledge including complementary medicine. As the world is becoming more conscious of the relationship between planetary and human health, also patients may be looking for medicinal products and therapies, which include sustainability aspects. IAAP is relating to this development by encouraging reflection about the sustainability of production chains of medicinal products throughout the further education curriculum.

IFER also forms the basis for an official international recognition as an area of further education in the academic field of pharmacy. It additionally applies when there is no national organisation of anthroposophic pharmacists and thus no member-organisation of IAAP. It also serves as orientation for further education regulations of national anthroposophic pharmacists' associations.

It is intended to continuously develop IFER by IAAP's international further education committee (IFEC). It will be revised at least every five (5) years.



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1. Access requirements

For entering this further education in AP, candidates need to fill in the official application form (“Application for further education”) that can be downloaded from IAAP’s homepage (www.iaap-pharma.org).

Candidates who are interested in entering this further education in AP *and* are aiming to gain the title “Pharmacists specialised in AP” need to fulfil the following pre-requisites:

- Graduated Pharmacists need to have at their disposal a valid university degree in Pharmacy and must be validly registered as pharmacists either in their home country or their country of residence.
- Pharmacy students need to have at their disposal a certificate of enrolment in Pharmacy from a respective university offering an acknowledged course of studies in Pharmacy.

All documents are to be provided to IAAP upon written request.

Candidates of other professions than pharmacists will receive a certificate of attendance after their completion of this further education.

2. Duration

Training duration is 600 hours*, divided as follows:

- a) Attendance time: 200 hours
- b) Practical work: 45 hours
- c) Independent study time: 155 hours
- d) Project thesis: 200 hours

*One (1) hour in this context means 45 minutes.

Attendance time (a) includes the attendance of accredited courses and modules.

Practical work (b) is crucial for understanding AP through experience and can be realised e.g. through excursions, observational studies in nature, internships or experiments.

Independent study time (c) mainly comprises the time spent on preparing and following up attended seminars and courses, as well as independent work referring to the content of such seminars and courses. It includes also the time spent to study basic literature, which at least covers the following three basic works:

- Fundamentals of Therapy (GA 27)
- Spiritual Science and Medicine (GA 312)
- Spiritual Science and the Art of Healing (GA 319)

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In the project thesis (d) the candidate is asked to independently choose a topic in accordance with the contents of the completed further education in AP. He/ she will then elaborate it in the form of a written thesis for which IAAP recommends the guidance of a mentor. It is possible though to realise the project thesis without a mentor. In any case the chosen topic and structure of the project thesis need to be approved in writing by IFEC in advance.

The purpose of such thesis is that the candidate demonstrates that he/ she is familiar with the fundamentals of AM and AP. The elaboration of the chosen topic can have a practical part, but in any case needs to include distinct and adequate own contribution of the candidate in the form of e.g. own thoughts and/ or own observations. The compilation of literature without a new, self-contained conclusion is not considered sufficient.

Examples of topics for a project thesis (among others):

- Own observation in relation to a specific plant for its use in AM/ AP
- Manufacturing of newly composed AMPs
- Development of therapy concepts/ pharmaceutical guidance concepts
- Compilation of country-specific regulatory requirements for AMPs
- Developing questionnaires for anthroposophic counselling in the pharmacy

The project thesis should be written in English language and needs to have between 35'000 and 50'000 characters. Other languages need to be discussed with and need to be confirmed by IAAP. An English summary in the beginning of the thesis is compulsory. For any further administrative details see appendix B ("Guideline for project thesis") to this document.

The whole further education in AP – from the first module to the examination – shouldn't exceed a period of six (6) years. Any extension of this maximum training period may be considered upon written request to IFEC.

3. Examination

In order to receive a certification on this further education in AP participants need to take an oral exam for which they have to apply in advance. The application form ("Application for final examination") can be downloaded from IAAP's homepage (www.iaap-pharma.org). Details about the examination can be found in appendix C ("Guideline for final examination").



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4. Core syllabus

- 4.1. Fundamentals: anthroposophic understanding of the human being and natural kingdoms including cosmological aspects, health and illness
- 4.2. Competencies specific to AP including sustainability aspects

5. Core competencies

Participants of this further education in AP are supposed to develop the following core competencies according to the core syllabus (see 4.):

5.1. Fundamentals (see 4.1.)

- Understanding the human being as a dynamic equilibrium of functional systems as defined in AM
- Understanding of the formative forces in nature and the human being
- Understanding the concept of health and illness in AM
- Ability understand anthroposophical medical anamneses and to transfer to pharmaceutical therapies

5.2. Competencies specific to AP

- Knowledge of a phenomenological and goetheanistic observation of nature and the human organism
- Knowledge of the manufacturing processes in AP and their principles
- Knowledge of the galenic forms in AP
- Knowledge of safety and efficacy aspects of AMP
- Knowledge how to link findings of the anthroposophic medical understanding to substances (e.g. in order to recommend AMPs for self-medication)
- Evaluating the appropriateness of an anthroposophic drug therapy referring to a patient's medical anamneses, including appropriate choice of AMP, posology, possible interactions and side effects
- Selecting, dispensing and advising on AMPs according to prescription and for self-medication
- Effectively explaining and communicating with patients about their health, possible anthroposophic medication and further measures concerning their lifestyle
- Communicating and collaborating with anthroposophic physicians and other therapeutic health professionals
- Ability to follow ongoing research and development in AM and AP
- Awareness about the different documents (i.e. pharmacopoeias, codices and other) which describe quality standards applicable to AMP
- Knowledge of relevant legislations concerning AMP on the market and magistral manufacturing

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For sample core curriculum see appendix A.

6. Certification criteria

Conditions for certification:

- Completion of this further education in AP within the maximum training period of six (6) years
- Evidence of at least one (1) year work in a pharmaceutical field (e.g. public pharmacy, hospital pharmacy, pharmaceutical company, university, etc.)
- Passed examination

7. Use of Title

The right to use the title "Pharmacist specialised in Anthroposophic Pharmacy (IAAP)" is dependent on an individual membership of the IAAP or of a local anthroposophic pharmacists association.

Pharmacists specialised in AP and certified by IAAP have the opportunity to acquire the "Anthromed Pharmacy" quality label for their pharmacy (<https://iaap-pharma.org/certification>).

8. Recognition of further education courses

Candidates who entered the further education in AP before this IFER came into force can apply for final examination and certification after IFEC has evaluated and confirmed in writing the equality of hours and content of their training so far.

9. Validity

This IFER comes into force by approval of the IAAP board in September 2021.

Appendices

- Appendix A: Sample core curriculum
- Appendix B: Guideline for project thesis
- Appendix C: Guideline for final examination