



وزارة الصحة
Ministry of Health

Regulations of Complementary and Alternative Medicine

Second Edition, 1441H (2019G)

Definitions

Article (1) Definitions

The following words and phrases, wherever mentioned in this Regulations of Complementary and Alternative Medicine, shall have the meanings assigned thereto unless the context requires otherwise.

Ministry: Ministry of Health

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National Center: The National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine

Chief Executive Officer: The Chief Executive Officer of the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine.

Regulations: Regulations of Complementary and Alternative Medicine.

Practitioner: Anyone that is licensed by the National Center to perform any Complementary and Alternative Medicine practices.

Facility: Any Facility that is licensed to practice Complementary and Alternative Medicine.

Complementary and Alternative Medicine: A set of therapeutic, preventive, or diagnostic practices that are not followed in the modern medical method which may be used in addition to the modern medicine.

Practices of Complementary and Alternative Medicine: Types of Complementary and Alternative Medicine that are licensed to be practiced in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, including phlebotomy, acupuncture, orthopedics, chiropractic, physical therapy, and other practices that the National Center will add in the future.

Professional Classification: A set of procedures to ensure the availability of requirements and experiences and their relationship to work in the field of Complementary and Alternative Medicine and the professional evaluation of the Complementary and Alternative Medicine Practitioner to be granted the appropriate professional degree.

Professional Registration: Preparing a register of Complementary and Alternative Medicine Practitioner in the database of the National Center to facilitate the professional follow-up on Practitioner while introducing them to the standards and ethics of the health professions in the Kingdom.

Facility License: A license that is granted to a Facility by the National Center authorizing it to provide one or more Complementary and Alternative Medicine practices.

License to Practice the Profession: A license that is granted to a Practitioner by the National Center authorizing them to perform one or more Complementary and Alternative Medicine practices.

Training Center: A health Facility or specialized center approved by the National Training Center.

Article (2): Identifying and Adopting the Practices of Complementary and Alternative Medicine

In addition to the Practices of Complementary and Alternative Medicine that are currently licensed, the National Center may add, cancel, or suspend any Complementary and Alternative Medicine practices in line with the Manual on the Standards of Complementary and Alternative Medicine Practices.

Article (3): Licensing Individuals to Practice the Profession

- 1- The Professional Registration and Classification Manual issued by the National Center and the procedures it adopts shall apply to the Practitioner.
- 2- It is prohibited to practice any type of Complementary and Alternative Medicine except after obtaining a license to do so from the National Center.
- 3- The following conditions are required for licensing to practice Complementary and Alternative Medicine:
 - A. The category of the Practitioner shall be among those mentioned in the Professional Registration and Classification Manual for Complementary and Alternative Medicine Practitioners issued by the National Center, who hold certificates recognized by the National Center in the specialties of phlebotomy, acupuncture, orthopedics, chiropractic, physical therapy, and other practices that the National Center will add in the future (otherwise, they shall obtain a classification from the Saudi Commission for Health Specialties and meet the requirements of the National Center).
 - B. The Practitioner shall complete the training period required for the profession in a Training Center recognized by the National Center, or obtain one of the recognized certificates in accordance with the conditions mentioned in the Professional Registration and Classification Manual.
 - C. Pass the tests required by the National Center as per the controls it adopts.
 - D. Register with the National Center, according to the Professional Registration and Classification Manual.
- 4- Based on the exigencies of public interest, The Minister may limit the granting of a license to practice one of the types of alternative and complementary medicine to the Saudis if there is a sufficient number of them in the Kingdom or in one of the regions or as per to the Saudization- related decisions of the Ministry of Labor and Social Development.
- 5- A temporary license may be granted to the visiting Practitioners or the like, provided that their qualifications are approved, under the conditions and controls established by the National Center.

Article (4):

- 1- The National Center shall inform the health authorities and other competent authorities of fraudulent certificates or any tampering therewith.
- 2- The “Manual for the Ethics of Practicing Health Profession” and other relevant manuals approved by the National Center shall apply to the Practitioner.

Article (5):

- 1- The Manual for Training and Scientific Activities issued and approved by the National Center shall apply to the Practitioner.
- 2- The Practitioner shall obtain the number of continuous professional development hours required as per their category under the Professional Registration and Classification Manual issued by the National Center.
- 3- The National Center shall have the right to organize or approve training courses or Training Centers, whether government or private, or to carry out any other activities in the field of training on the various Complementary and Alternative Medicine practices, in compliance with the controls and standards set by the National Center and approved by the Chief Executive Officer.
- 4- The National Center may draw up an indicative list of the prices of services provided by the Complementary and Alternative Medicine facilities.

Article (6):

The Practitioner or Facility shall be prohibited from advertising except after obtaining approval for the advertising form from the National Center in line with the controls and conditions issued thereby.

Article (7): Facilities Licensing

- 1- Any Facility is prohibited to practice any activity related to the Complementary and Alternative Medicine unless it obtains a license in the specialties of Complementary and Alternative Medicine.
- 2- The Facility building shall meet the health and technical requirements in line with the Law of Private Health Institutions and the Implementing Regulations thereof.

Article (8):

Upon obtaining the license, the Facility shall comply with the following:

- 1- Practice the Complementary and Alternative Medicine activity specified in the license, abide by the conditions contained therein, and not to practice any other activities other than those mentioned in the license before meeting the conditions necessary for practice and obtaining the required license from the National Center.
- 2- Open an electronic medical record for each patient, record all medical information, and maintain the record in a safe manner ensures the privacy of the information.
- 3- Not to receive critical and emergency cases, childbirth, and surgical cases, and refer them immediately to hospitals.
- 4- Transfer all conditions to hospitals and treatment centers if their health condition so requires during the examination or treatment.
- 5- Inform the competent authorities in the Ministry and the National Center of any cases of infectious or epidemic diseases.
- 6- Inform the security authorities of the criminal cases.
- 7- Provide the National Center with a periodic report every three months that includes data and numbers of the return patients in Facility.
- 8- Place the original license in a prominent place in the Facility so that it could be seen by the return patients and representatives of the competent authorities.
- 9- The term of a Facility's license shall be five years, and the Facility shall renew it three months before the expiry date thereof.
- 10- Adhere to the controls, manuals, and procedures for Complementary and Alternative Medicine facilities and every update that the National Center will add in the future.

Article (9):

The Practitioner or Facility may not:

- 1- Employ the unlicensed health Practitioners or provide assistance to any person illegally practicing any type of the alternative or complementary medicine.
- 2- Keep medications and herbs at workplaces, contrary to what is permitted by the instructions of the Ministry, the National Center, and the relevant authorities.
- 3- Use detection or treatment devices that are prohibited in the Kingdom or that do not comply with the specifications and standards.
- 4- Conduct examinations or treatment for a fee or for free in the unlicensed and not designated places.
- 5- The Practitioner may not perform work that exceeds the competence, scope of practice, or capabilities thereof.

Article (10): Penalties of Practitioner

The Practitioner of Complementary and Alternative Medicine shall be subject to the professional, criminal, and disciplinary liability of the Law of Practicing Health Professions and the Implementing Regulations thereof.

Article (11): Penalties of Facilities

The facilities shall be subject to the penalties stipulated in the Law of Private Health Institutions and the Implementing Regulations thereof.

Article (12): Monitoring and Supervision

- 1- The National Center shall monitor and evaluate the activities of the licensees to practice the Complementary and Alternative Medicine (individuals and facilities).
- 2- The officials assigned by a decision of the Chief Executive Officer shall undertake inspections and detect violations of the Complementary and Alternative Medicine facilities and the Practitioners thereof.
- 3- The National Center shall have the right to establish one or more committees to impose penalties for violations of these Regulations by a resolution of the Minister. The decisions of the committee(s) may be appealed within sixty (60) days from the date of notification.

Article (13): General Provisions

1. Such Regulations shall be effective from the date of the approval and issuance thereof.
2. The Chief Executive Officer shall approve the manuals and controls stipulated in such Regulations.
3. The facilities, that provide any of the Complementary and Alternative Medicine practices separately or within other health services at the time of issuance of such Regulations and do not obtain the required license from the National Center, shall apply for it within a period not exceeding six (6) months from the date such Regulations comes into force to obtain the necessary license under the controls established by the National Center.

The Table of amendments contained in the Regulations of National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine compared to the first edition of the Regulations issued by the Ministerial Resolution No. 367674 dated 14/10/1435H

No.	Article	Current Text	New Text
1	1/2	The previous Regulations was only regulating one practice, which is phlebotomy.	The current Regulations regulate all Complementary and Alternative Medicine practices.
2	2/5	The Practitioner shall obtain the number of continuous medical education hours required as per their category under the Professional Registration and Classification Manual issued by the National Center.	The Practitioner shall obtain the number of continuous professional development hours required as per their category under the Professional Registration and Classification Manual issued by the National Center.
3	4/5	Text Addition	The National Center may draw up an indicative list of the prices of services provided by Complementary and Alternative Medicine facilities.
4	7	The Practitioner of Complementary and Alternative Medicine shall be subject to the professional, criminal, and disciplinary liability of the Law of Practicing Health Professions and the Implementing Regulations thereof.	Deletion of the text and moving it to Article (10) under the title of "Penalties".
5	9/8	The term of a Facility's license shall be three (3) years, and the Facility shall renew it three months before the expiry date thereof.	The term of a Facility's license shall be five years, and the Facility shall renew it three months before the expiry date thereof.
6	2/9	The National Center may draw up an indicative list of the prices of services provided by the Complementary and Alternative Medicine facilities.	Deletion of the text and moving it to Article (5).
7	10	Text Addition	The Practitioner of Complementary and Alternative Medicine shall be subject to the professional, criminal, and disciplinary liability of the Law of Practicing Health Professions and the Implementing Regulations thereof.

No.	Article	Current Text	New Text
8	11	<p>The facilities shall be subject to the penalties stipulated in the Law of Private Health Institutions and the Implementing Regulations thereof.</p> <p>2-.Any person opens an Facility without obtaining a license shall be punished with the following penalties:</p> <p>2.A: Closure of the Facility and denial of obtaining a license for a period of not less than six (6) months and not exceeding two (2) years from the date of closure.</p> <p>2. B: A fine of not less than fifty thousand (50,000) Riyals and not exceeding one hundred fifty thousand (150,000) Riyals.</p> <p>3. An Facility, whose license term has expired and yet continues to provide any Complementary and Alternative Medicine practices, shall be punished with the penalties mentioned in Paragraph (2).</p>	<p>The facilities shall be subject to the penalties stipulated in the Law of Private Health Institutions and the Implementing Regulations thereof.</p>
8	11	<p>Without prejudice to any stricter penalty stipulated in other Regulations, any person violates any of the provisions of these Regulations shall be punished with one or more of the following penalties:</p> <p>4. A: A fine of not less than ten thousand (10,000) Riyals and not exceeding one hundred thousand (100,000) riyals.</p> <p>4. B: Closure of the Facility for a period not exceeding sixty (60) days.</p> <p>4. C: Withdrawing the license, and the license holder may not apply for a new license except after the lapse of at least two (2) years from the implementation of the withdrawal decision.</p>	<p>The facilities shall be subject to the penalties stipulated in the Law of Private Health Institutions and the Implementing Regulations thereof.</p>

