

National Academy of Medicine's (NAM's) [Action Collaborative on Countering the U.S. Opioid Epidemic](#)

*Statement of the **Academic Consortium for Integrative Medicine & Health** in response to the Action Collaborative on countering the U.S. Opioid Epidemic.*

The mission of the *Academic Consortium for Integrative Medicine & Health* (The Consortium) is to advance evidence-based integrative medicine and health in research, curricula and sustainable models of clinical care through academic institutions and health systems.

Embedded within that mission is our commitment to health system transformation, through the study and promotion of health and healing. The opioid crisis does not exist in isolation but is the organic consequence of the underlying crisis of inadequately treated pain within the health system. We hereby commit to join with the work of the National Academy of Medicine's Action Collaborative.

Specifically, we commit to:

- Working with our members, professional healthcare organizations, educational institutions and the public to develop competency-based pain education and training programs for health professionals that are patient-centered, interprofessional, team-based and collaborative.
- Advancing the development, study and dissemination of comprehensive integrative pain management strategies and guidelines, that are evidence-based including
 - nonpharmacologic options such as physical modalities including acupuncture therapy, chiropractic therapy, osteopathic manipulative treatment, massage therapy, and physical therapy; relaxation therapy, and cognitive behavioral therapy
 - pharmacologic options including non-opioid and opioid medications, and
 - procedures to alleviate suffering from pain
- Disseminating through our conferences and webinars the best practice models for treatment strategies and proactive preventative care for people with acute and chronic pain, and for those at risk of opioid dependence and addiction, by using patient-centered, personalized care informed by research, data and metrics.

The Academic Consortium for Integrative Medicine & Health (the Consortium) is the organizational home for the major academic health centers and health systems in North America that have programs in integrative medicine and health. It was founded in 1999 by eight academic health centers including Duke University, Harvard University, Stanford University, University of California, San Francisco, University of Arizona, University of Maryland, University of Massachusetts, and the University of Minnesota. Now with **75 institutional Members**, the Consortium continues to grow and represents thousands of scientists, educators, clinicians and other health professionals who share an interest in the field of Integrative Medicine and Health. **The Consortium's mission is to advance evidence-based integrative medicine and health in research, curricula and sustainable models of clinical care.**