



The Skeptic Encyclopedia

“What we won't do is pretend that the work of lunatic charlatans is the equivalent of true scientific discourse”

-Wikipedia's co-founder Jimmy Wales commenting about alternative medicine, March 23, 2014.

Examples of Wikipedia's Assaults and Bias Against Alternative Medicine

The following are examples taken from Wikipedia entries for various Complementary and Alternative Medicine that exemplify gross bias and prejudice by Skeptic editors who monitor and control these pages.

Alternative Medicine "describes any practice that aims to achieve the healing effects of medicine, but which lacks biological plausibility and is untested, untested or proven ineffective.... Frequently used derogatory terms for the alternative are new-age or pseudo, with little distinction from quackery." [Note: 98 of the 198 citations recorded in the Wikipedia entry are from Skeptic publications and blog sites; 126 of the 140 US medical schools require alternative medicine courses]

Complementary Medicine or Integrative Medicine "is when alternative medicine is used together with functional medical treatment, in a **belief** that it improves the effect of treatments.

Chiropractic "is a pseudoscientific complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) that is concerned with the diagnosis and treatment of mechanical disorders of the musculoskeletal system, especially the spine... There is no conclusive evidence that chiropractic is effective for the treatment of any medical condition."

Homeopathy "is a pseudoscientific system of alternative medicine.... The lack of convincing scientific evidence supporting its efficacy and its use of preparations without active ingredients have led to characterizations as pseudoscience and quackery."

Acupuncture "is a pseudoscience because the theories and practices of TCM are not based on scientific knowledge, and it has been characterized as quackery... Writing in *Science-Based Medicine*, [a popular Skeptic

opinion blog] Gorski said that its findings highlight the conclusion that acupuncture is "a theatrical placebo whose real history has been reckoned beyond recognition." [Note: *Acupuncture is increasingly being taught in conventional American medical schools*]

Image: Wikipedia co-founder Jimmy Wales (right) with celebrity Skeptic and father of the New Atheism movement Richard Dawkins



Naturopathy "is a form of alternative medicine that employs an array of pseudoscientific practices branded as "natural", "non-invasive", or promoting "self-healing"... naturopaths have repeatedly been denounced as and accused of being charlatans and practicing quackery."

Traditional Chinese Medicine. "There is no scientific evidence for traditional Chinese concepts such as *qi*, meridians, and acupuncture points...The concept of vital energy is pseudoscience."

Ayurvedic Medicine. "There is no good evidence that indicates Ayurveda is effective for treating any disease, and it is pseudoscientific."

Herbal Medicine "describes alternative and pseudoscientific practices of using unrefined plant or animal extracts as unproven medicines or health-promoting agents."

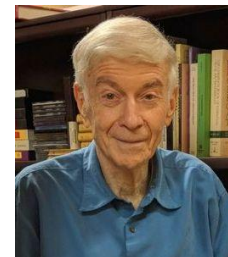


Image: Stephen Barrett, life-long Skeptic, founder of the opinion website Quackwatch, the most cited reference for Wikipedia attacks against health & alternative medicine.

Energy Medicine "is a branch of alternative medicine based on a pseudo-scientific belief that healers can channel healing energy into a patient and effect positive results... There is no reliable scientific evidence that bioresonance is an accurate indicator of medical conditions or disease or an effective treatment for any condition."



Image: Dr. David Gorski, radical Skeptic on the anti-alternative medicine Science Based Medicine blog often cited on Wikipedia

Craniosacral Therapy (CST) "is a form of bodywork or alternative therapy that uses gentle touch to palpate the synarthrodial joints of the cranium... CST is a pseudoscience, and its practice

has been characterized as quackery."

Therapeutic Touch, "is a pseudoscientific energy therapy... There is no good medical evidence or the effectiveness of therapeutic touch." [Note: *Therapeutic Touch is taught in over 100 colleges, universities and medical schools and over 80 hospitals*]

Wikipedia Page for Dr. Deepak Chopra.

"Evolutionary biologist Richard Dawkins has said that Chopra uses "quantum jargon as plausible-sounding hocus pocus"... He is placed by David Gorski among the "quacks", "cranks" and "purveyors of woo", and described as "arrogantly obstinate". [Note: *Dr. Chopra is a world renowned pioneer in integrative medicine, former chief of staff at New England Memorial Hospital and currently a thet University of California San Diego*]

Wikipedia Page for Dr. Mark Hyman. "Hyman is a proponent of functional medicine, a controversial form of alternative medicine that lacks evidence for its use"



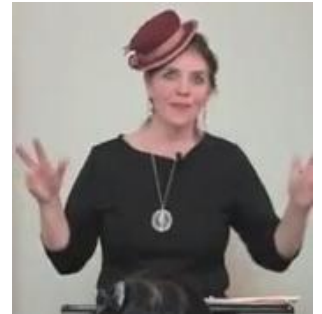
Wikipedia describes Functional Medicine "as pseudoscience, quackery." [Note: *Dr. Hyman was the former chief editor of the journal Alternative Therapies in Health and Medicine and a medical adviser to Bill and Hillary Clinton*]

Image: Celebrity Skeptic spokesperson James Randi, the inspiration behind Guerilla Skepticism on Wikipedia

What Wikipedia Skeptics Have to Say

From a Skeptic's Wikipedia Policy Page. "This unapologetic endorsement of the NPOV [Neutral Point of View] policy on pseudoscience and the policy on fringe science is the clearest indication yet that Wikipedia's robust response to cranks, quacks and charlatans is solidly in line with Wikipedia's foundational goals."

Image: James Randi disciple Susan Gerbic, founder of Guerilla Skepticism on Wikipedia



Guerrilla Skepticism on Wikipedia "is a serious organization of so-called "skeptics" to influence and manipulate Wikipedia articles in a systematic way... is part of an international network of materialistic fanatics who - after their own understanding - try to edit and re-write articles in Wikipedia to ensure that Wikipedia is reflecting their personal world-view and ideology... She [Susan Gerbic] relates that the project's goal is to improve the Wikipedia pages for all skeptical spokespeople"

is part of an international network of materialistic fanatics who - after their own understanding - try to edit and re-write articles in Wikipedia to ensure that Wikipedia is reflecting their personal world-view and ideology... She [Susan Gerbic] relates that the project's goal is to improve the Wikipedia pages for all skeptical spokespeople"

Image: David Gorski and James Randi



Susan Gerbic reply to Jimmy Wales. "Jimmy you have already done more than anyone could possibly dream that can

be done.... Thank you. Allowing us editors to 'do our job'... I can't imagine what else you can do, my brain is teeny tiny compared to your mighty brain, if you come up with something please oh please let us in on it, we want to help."

From Skeptic blog Skeptoid. ".... the rules of evidence on Wikipedia are pro-skeptic and pro-science. If you are pushing an idea that science rejects, Wikipedia will reject it too... Paranormalists and pseudoscientists take note: skeptics are not bullying you off Wikipedia. We are only enforcing the rules of evidence as clearly stated on the service. If you cannot provide adequate evidence for your ideas, they will not be accepted. So says Jimmy Wales, so say we all."

Please Visit [PRN's Wikipedia Watch](#) for dozens of investigative reports on Wikipedia's untrustworthiness about Complementary and Alternative Medicine and [Skeptical About Skeptics](#)