

CODEX – GERMAN STANDARDS ARE NOT THE ANSWER
by Gray Graham, Nutritional Consultant

As much as we might complain about current government restrictions in regards to nutritional supplements, my recent trip to Germany taught me how much worse it could be!

There is an increasing interest in nutritional therapies in Germany and as a result of that I have been invited on several occasions to teach my seminar “Foundations of Functional Nutrition” to German Health Care Practitioners. In Germany, most of the supplements that are available can only be prescribed by a doctor and can only be purchased at a pharmacy. Not even the doctors themselves can purchase high quality supplements except through the pharmacy at full cost. I personally use and distribute products from Biotics Research, so I am very familiar with the pricing. In Germany, the same products are twice as expensive! This puts a burden on the patients in Germany because nutritional supplements are not usually covered by insurance companies there either.

Most practitioners of natural medicine in the United States have a pharmacy from which they sell supplements directly to patients. This often lowers the cost of the supplements and allows the doctor to charge less for their office visits. If the standards of Germany and many other European Countries are adopted in the new Codex rules it will certainly mean less availability and higher costs to American consumers, as it does now in Germany.

I would like to let you know that I appreciate the work you do at PfAM. “The cost of *health* freedom is constant Vigilance.”

Gray Graham works for the Nutritional Therapy Association, Inc as a Nutritional Consultant and distributes products for Biotics Research. He is an official lecturer of the Price-Pottenger Nutrition Foundation and has taught for over seven years Foundations of Functional Nutrition Series Seminars to over 1,000 health care practitioners.

For more information you can reach Gray Graham at: Nutritional Therapy Association, Inc, P.O. Box 354, Olympia, Washington 98507 or 1-800-918-9798 or (360) 493-0900 or email: Biotics.ww@msn.com

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