



What are Boils?

Bacterial infections or the **inflammation of one or more hair follicles** can result in the formation of a [boil](#). They are usually painful and can be quite distressing, especially if they are recurring. A [boil](#) generally starts off as an inconspicuous pink and tender bump, localized to one area. This soon develops into a firm, hard, inflamed lump that is filled with bacteria-fighting white blood cells and dead skin tissue (pus).

The affected area usually gets larger and more painful until the [boil](#) bursts and the pus is able to drain. While some [boils](#) disappear within a few days, **many can take up to two weeks to heal**, which can be very painful and frustrating.

Where do Boils Appear?

[Boils](#) can occur anywhere on the skin, although they tend to **develop on the face, neck, armpits, buttocks, or thighs**. They also occur most frequently in areas containing hair and/or sweat glands, or in areas where chafing or recurrent friction occurs-- thus a **major cause of skin boils**. In some cases, [boils](#) can occur in **interconnected clusters called carbuncles**. In severe cases, they can develop into abscesses.

While anyone can develop [boils](#) and [carbuncles](#), people who have diabetes, a suppressed immune system, poor hygiene, acne, or other skin problems are at a higher risk.

Diagnosing Boils

Most [boils](#) can be adequately treated at home, and usually run their course and heal without medical attention. However, in some cases, **you may need to visit a general health practitioner** to avoid complications. Your doctor will simply examine the affected area to confirm diagnosis, and generally no other diagnostic tests are necessary. [Skin boil treatment](#) is generally simple and can be managed at home.

When to Consult a Doctor

- Fever
- The [boil](#) occurs between the buttocks (known as a pilonidal cyst)
- The [boil](#) is very painful and not improving
- The [boil](#) worsens rapidly
- You have frequent [boils](#)

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It is not intended to diagnose or treat any medical condition. Nothing in this eBook is intended to be a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment. Always seek the advice of your physician or other qualified health provider with any questions you may have regarding a medical condition.

Never disregard professional medical advice or delay in seeking it because of something you have read in this eBook or on ANY website.

- There are red lines radiating from the [boil](#), which suggests that the infection may have entered the bloodstream
- You have an underlying condition, resulting in immune deficiency

What causes Boils?

The main cause of [skin boils](#) is **generally due to an infection of a hair follicle**, which can occur for a number of different reasons.

Contributing Causes of Boils

- An ingrown hair
- A splinter or other piece of foreign material that has penetrated the skin
- Blocked sweat glands that become infected
- Chafing clothes
- Poor hygiene
- A lowered immune system
- Diabetes
- Malnutrition (Vitamin A or E deficiency in particular)

Help for Boils

There are a number of **treatment and prevention options for [boils](#)**, ranging from old-home remedies passed down over the generations to medical interventions and surgery.

The one important thing to remember is that **[boils](#) are most commonly related to low immune system functioning**. By boosting the immune system, you'll be able to prevent [boils](#) and recurrent infections.

Treatment for Boils

Home Treatment

[Skin boil treatment](#) administered by **self-care is usually the only treatment needed**, as [boils](#) generally heal by themselves within 4 to 10 days. Healing can be expedited by applying a warm cloth to the area or soaking the [boil](#) in warm water. This should help to relieve some of the pain and encourage the pus to surface. Once the [boil](#) has drained, the area should be washed with antibacterial soap and kept bandaged and sterile, as the open wound may be susceptible to further infection. Special **care should also be taken to prevent the spreading of the bacteria**, which can be transmitted to other areas of the skin or to other people through the pus. You should not squeeze or attempt to pop a [boil](#) if it is hard and firm, as [boils](#) should only be drained once they have become soft or once a head has formed. It is recommended to **leave the [boil](#) to burst on its own** to reduce the spread of infection to other areas.

Medical treatment

If the [boil](#) requires some medical intervention, your doctor may drain it by making a small incision on the tip of the [boil](#). This will help speed up the recovery, reduce pressure and pain, and it helps to lessen scarring. If the infection is especially deep, a small amount of gauze can be placed over the [boil](#) so that it can continue to

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Michele Carelse, Clinical Psychologist



All of our natural remedies are formulated by our expert team of herbalists, naturopaths and homeopaths, and headed by Michele Carelse.

Michele has had years of experience in the manufacturing and use of natural remedies. In addition, she is a trained Clinical Psychologist and has been incorporating natural remedies into her treatment of patients with depression, anxiety, ADD, ADHD and stress for many years with spectacular results.

drain. In addition, a course of oral or topical antibiotics may be prescribed to help rid you of severe or recurrent infections. **If boils are a recurrent problem**, your doctor may also suggest vitamin supplements (especially vitamin A and E) and tests may be done to determine if you have an underlying condition that may be compromising your immune system.

Surgery

Surgery is one of the last measures taken to prevent recurrent [boils](#). This may include the surgical removal of the sweat glands in the area of the skin that is frequently infected. Surgery is also sometimes necessary when trying to treat pilonidal cysts.

Natural Herbal and Homeopathic Remedies for Boils

There are a number of **herbal and homeopathic remedies** that can be of great benefit for someone suffering with [boils](#) or [carbuncles](#). Since **immune deficiency is one of the top causes of this skin infection**, naturally boosting the immune system is the first course of action for many people.

Herbs such as Echinacea purpurea, Astragalus membranaceous, Inula helenium and Withania somnifera are well-documented for their antiviral, anti-fungal and antibacterial properties, as well as their **ability to strengthen and assist the immune system**. These herbs not only help to treat current infections, but work well as a **preventative measure** so that the [boils](#) do not reoccur.

In addition, there are also homeopathic and herbal ingredients specific to skin ailments that can **help speed recovery** and keep the affected area clean and clear from harmful bacteria. Silicea, a homeopathic tissue salt, is very effective in helping the body to expel all foreign or toxic matter, including pus, and is frequently recommended in homeopathic dosage to quickly alleviate [boils](#). In addition, naturopaths often recommend liver and systemic cleansing herbs such as Silybum marianus and Gallium aperine for [skin boil treatment](#).

Additional Information on Boils

Self-Care Prevention Measures

There are a number of simple ways to prevent [boils](#) from reoccurring:

- Practice good hygiene and wash skin with soap regularly
- Avoid very tight or chafing clothing that irritates the skin
- Clean cuts and scrapes thoroughly
- Keep the immune system functioning well with a healthy diet and sufficient exercise

The Natural Approach

While Western medicine has become the norm in many cultures, it is **not the only treatment option**. Conventional Western medicine (often called allopathic or orthodox medicine) is the system of medicine taught at most medical schools, and many pharmaceutical and synthetic medicines are manufactured and marketed according to the principles of allopathic medicine.

Ask Our Experts a Product Question

If you have a question about one of our products, its usage or dosage, ask Michele and her team of experts about about it [HERE!](#) We will do our best to get you an answer within 24 hours.

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Because most of us in the Western world have grown up in a society in which allopathic medicine is the prevailing norm, we forget that only a few decades ago, homeopathic, herbal and other natural medicines were commonly available and freely used-- even by conventional doctors. While there are often heated debates about which system of medicine is 'better' than the other, many responsible doctors (whether they are allopathic or not) recognize that **both have a role to play in the treatment program.**

Natural medicine has often been frowned upon by conventional doctors, especially by those who do not have sufficient knowledge of these medicines. However, it is encouraging to note that some medical schools are now beginning to re-introduce it into their course work, thereby **providing doctors with a wider range of treatment options** from which to choose. In many countries, especially in Europe, India and China, **natural and homeopathic medicines are commonly prescribed** by conventional doctors and represent a significant part of the total annual drug sales.

Naturopathy is a branch of medicine (just as allopathy is a branch of medicine) which operates according to the underlying philosophy that the **body has an innate capacity to heal itself.** While natural medicines are often called 'alternative' or 'complimentary' medicines, they are, in fact, a **unique and independent form of medicine** in their own right, well able to **treat a variety of conditions.** Perhaps the term 'holistic' medicine is more apt, given the broad range of treatment options and approaches which are to be found within the practice of natural medicine. This encompasses many different disciplines, including herbalism, homeopathy, iridology, osteopathy, chiropractic, therapeutic massage techniques, aromatherapy, acupuncture and many, many more.

Most naturopaths will use a variety of treatment modalities in order to treat their patients in a **holistic way to support health, relieve symptoms and prevent future disease.** In fact, even the World Health Organization defines health as being "... more than simply the absence of illness. It is the active state of physical, emotional, mental and social well-being." This is a wonderfully clear description of holistic or natural medicine, which strives to **support health** (thereby relieving or preventing symptoms), rather than simply eliminating disease.

Although allopathic medicine certainly has a role to play and has made a tremendous contribution to medical science during the past century, there is a growing perception that it is not the only answer. In many cases, **holistic medicine can accomplish just as much,** if not more – without the risk of side effects, addiction and sacrifice to health so commonly associated with pharmaceutical drugs. Contrary to common perception, and provided that they are manufactured in the correct way, **natural medicines can work quickly and safely to promote healing.**

In many cases, they can **succeed where pharmaceutical drugs have failed.** Despite frequent reports that they are 'unproven' and 'untested', the opposite is true. Natural medicines have a **long history of usage** and there is a **wealth of empirical evidence** to support their effectiveness and safety. In addition, active clinical research is carried out by many academic hospitals and universities to **support the extensive traditional and empirical evidence behind natural medicines.**



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It is also important to know that, like any medicine, herbal and homeopathic medicines **must be manufactured in the correct way**, following acceptable procedures and manufacturing methods to ensure maximum effectiveness and safety. Due to the recent rise in popularity of natural remedies, many companies have sprung up to take advantage of the market. Unfortunately, **not all of them are equipped to manufacture to the correct standards**, often resulting in a flood of inferior (and sometimes even unsafe) remedies onto the market – and giving natural remedies a bad name.

Even some pharmaceutical companies have rushed to claim their market share by producing so-called ‘standardized’ extracts of herbs and offering these as superior to the tried and tested methods of naturopathic manufacturing. Nothing could be further from the truth. While **‘standardized’ extracts** may offer benefit of easy consistency of dosage (and cheaper more efficient production lines), they have **grave disadvantages**, including an increase in side effects, as the medicines produced in this manner lose the natural protective properties of the herbs. In some cases, these side effects have proved fatal – as was seen in the liver toxicity associated with standardized extracts of kava kava, a herb previously safely used for generations without any known side effects.

Most naturopaths recommend what is called the Full Spectrum Method of extraction – which **retains the benefits of ALL the active ingredients within the herb** as opposed to isolating only one – thereby providing a more complete treatment as well as superior protection against side effects.

Whatever your choice, **always choose wisely**. Research what is best for you. If you have a chronic or life-threatening condition, don’t make changes without first discussing them with your doctor, in order that your condition may be monitored. **Well-informed and supportive practitioners will support patients** who want to take responsibility for their own health.

Related Natural Remedies:

Pure-Heal Gel: Promotes the natural healing of wounds, minor burns, grazes and bites.

Pure-Heal Gel is a 100% safe and natural topical herbal remedy that **assists the natural healing ability of the skin**. Pure-Heal Gel has been formulated as a natural companion to our effective Pure-Clenz Solution for complete care of your family’s minor wounds, abrasions, burns and insect bites.

Pure-Heal Gel contains a carefully selected combination of well-known and respected traditional herbal remedies for **promoting natural healing**. The soothing gel base and subtle lavender aroma also provide an **immediate comforting effect**.

Like all Native Remedies products, Pure-Heal Gel has been developed with care and is manufactured according to the highest pharmaceutical standards. Individual ingredients are well-researched and have been specially chosen for their **high safety profile in family health**.

[Learn more about Pure-Heal Gel](#)

Six Good Reasons to choose Native Remedies as your trusted suppliers of herbal & homeopathic remedies:

1) All Native Remedies products are manufactured according to the highest pharmaceutical standards - using only the best quality raw ingredients from nature’s medicine chest.

2) Native Remedies and our suppliers are registered with the FDA as accredited suppliers and manufacturers of health supplements. Our products are sold all over the world and are manufactured to strict international standards in a GMP accredited manufacturing plant.

3) All our remedies are manufactured in an FDA registered pharmaceutical facility under close supervision.

This includes formulation, acquiring and testing of raw ingredients as well as final manufacturing. This gives us the confidence to say that when you are buying a Native Remedies product, you are buying the safest and the best! We know what goes into our remedies - which is why we know what you will get out of them!

4) Manufacturing is done strictly according to the principles of GMP (Good Manufacturing Practice) and all raw ingredients undergo stringent testing before being approved by our registered manufacturing pharmacists.

5) We offer a free email [Ask Our Experts](#) service run by trained consultants ready to advise you on the best choice for your health.

6) We offer an unconditional [One Year Money Back Guarantee](#).

Pure-Clenz: Promotes fast, infection-free healing and helps reduce bleeding.

Pure-Clenz Solution is Nature's First Aid, and is a safe and effective product used for generations to **cleanse wounds and facilitate healing**. The carefully selected herbal ingredients in Pure-Clenz Solution are 100% safe and natural, and have a long and well-documented history of traditional use for treating skin injuries.

Pure-Clenz Solution **works for the entire family**, but is perfect for the inescapable bumps and scrapes that children are prone to receiving. Pure-Clenz Solution contains carefully selected herbs that **helps reduce bleeding and promote infection-free healing**.

Like all Native Remedies products, Pure-Clenz Solution has been developed with care and is manufactured according to the highest pharmaceutical standards. Individual ingredients are well-researched and have been specially chosen for their high safety profile in natural family health.

Learn more about Pure-Clenz

DetoxDrops: To assist in the elimination of toxins from the body.

Detox Drops are a 100% safe, non-addictive natural herbal remedy formulated for adults by our team of natural health experts. **Detox Drops** contain a selection of herbs known for their **supportive function in promoting liver health and well-being**.

Detox Drops can be used as part of a gentle detoxification program to safely cleanse and flush out the system. It supports the body's natural ability to remove toxins and waste by-products, **without harmful side effects and without harsh laxatives**.

The formula remains true to the **whole spectrum method** of herbal extraction, ensuring the bio-availability and balance of all the active ingredients contained in the remedy. This method of manufacture also **significantly reduces the likelihood of side effects** and maintains all active ingredients in perfect balance – exactly as nature intended!

By cleansing and refreshing all body systems, Detox Drops can also represent a wonderful start to any new program to stop smoking, fight addiction, or address unhealthy weight issues.

Learn more about DetoxDrops

ImmunityPlus: Promotes healthy immune system functioning and helps fight viral and bacterial infections.

ImmunityPlus is a 100% safe, non-addictive natural herbal remedy formulated to safely maintain the **health and systemic balance of the immune system**, without harmful side effects and stimulants.

ImmunityPlus contains a selection of herbs known for their supportive function in maintaining immune system health and well-being. It supports the healthy



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functioning of the immune system, thereby helping to maintain the **natural defense against pathogens** and optimum performance.

As we grow older, we sometimes begin to notice that our immune systems are not as good as they used to be. ImmunityPlus can especially benefit those individuals needing to **support routine immune strength** to guard against common conditions associated with the maturing of cells.

ImmunityPlus can be used consistently-- without compromising health and or causing serious side effects-- to help **maintain the body's natural ability to fight viral and bacterial infections**. It also supports healthy convalescence.

The formula remains true to the **whole spectrum method** of herbal extraction, ensuring the bioavailability and balance of all the active ingredients contained in the remedy. This method of manufacture also **significantly reduces the likelihood of side effects** and maintains all active ingredients in perfect balance – exactly as nature intended!

[Learn more about ImmunityPlus](#)

Read the testimonials for these quality products [here!](#)

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Alternative Healing Academy

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With the increasing popularity of aromatherapy, reflexology, color & crystal therapy and a return to a more holistic lifestyle, people have begun searching for ways to earn more money; expand their skills; improve the health of themselves, friends & family; and increase their knowledge of alternative medicine.

The **Alternative Healing Academy** has developed several new courses in the holistic health care field for those who would like the opportunity to learn a healing modality at their own pace and in their own homes.

A Doctor of Reflexology with The Alternative Healing Academy is teaching classes with curriculum very similar to the Reflexology Practitioner Course and the Basic Aromatherapy at her local community college.

Our holistic health courses were developed by professionals in the Holistic Health Care field trained in the following modalities: Aromatherapy, Advanced/Master Aromatherapy, Reiki, Tuning Fork Therapy, Color and Crystal Therapy, Homeopathy, Herbalism, and Advanced Reflexology.

Furthermore, since we at the Alternative Healing Academy also realize that not everyone wants to make alternative medicine a career choice, we also offer **basic courses** as well as several [Mini Courses](#) which will teach you the skills you need to help improve the health and quality of life for yourself, your family and your friends.

[Check out our Affordable Payment Plans!](#)



All graduates of an Alternative Healing Academy home study course will receive a 20% discount off [AHHA Practitioner Membership](#) if they meet qualifying criteria and join within six months of their graduation date.

About Our Courses

Would you like to learn accurate, detailed aromatherapy, reflexology and/or color & crystal therapy information at your own pace in the comfort of your home? Would you like to become certified in Reflexology, Aromatherapy or Color and Crystal Therapy? An Alternative Healing Academy Distance Learning Course could be what you're looking for...

If you own or work for one of the following:

Natural Foods Store, Aromatherapy Store,
New Age Retail Store, Gift Shop, Herb Store,

Aromatherapy Manufacturer,
Massage Center, Holistic Center, Day Spa, or any type of Salon

If you are a practitioner:

Massage Therapist, Esthetician, Chiropractor, Nurse, Herbalist,
Acupuncturist, Bach Flower Therapist, Body Worker, Reiki,
Doula, Midwife, Energy Worker

If you are interested in personal development or improving the health of yourself and your family - these courses are also for you!

[Advanced Color/Crystal Reflexology Practitioner](#) | [Basic Anatomy & Physiology](#) | [Basic Reflexology Practitioner](#)
[Basic Aromatherapy Practitioner](#) | [Advanced Reflexology Practitioner](#) | [Advanced Aromatherapy Practitioner](#)
[Basic Color/Crystal Therapy Practitioner](#) | [Mini Courses](#) | [Advanced ReflexAromatherapy Practitioner](#)

Common Questions Asked About Holistic Health Distance Learning Courses:

What is Certification?



Most schools will offer an exam that tests the student's knowledge of the material taught in the respective course. Upon successful completion of this exam, a Certificate or Diploma will be issued by the school attesting that the student has successfully met the requirements as specified by that school. The only governmental recognition of Aromatherapy in North America is the occupational title designation granted to the BCAA under the Societies Act of British Columbia.

What is a Certified Aromatherapist or Reflexologist?

Most prospective students want to know whether taking our courses will lead to their becoming 'Certified' in that healing modality, thereby leading to the title of Certified Aromatherapist, Certified Reflexologist or Certified Color/Crystal Therapist. The answer to this really depends on what you mean by 'Certified.' We believe it can be misleading to purport that completing a course in a healing modality such as reflexology, aromatherapy or color/crystal therapy will lead to a designation of 'Certified' Therapist. These are not official

title designations nor are they ones which are recognized by any country's governmental body. All that these titles mean is that this is what an Individual Instructor, School or Institution decided to put on the Diploma it awards those who successfully complete their course.

What is an accredited course in Aromatherapy or Reflexology?

The answer to this will depend on who you are asking. At the present time, British Columbia is the only government to recognize Aromatherapy as a distinct profession and has granted Occupational Title Protection to the members of the BCAA (British Columbia Alliance of Aromatherapy) with the exclusive right for its members to call themselves Registered Aromatherapists (R.A.).

At this time, neither Reflexology nor Color/Crystal Therapy have such occupational designations in any country although one prominent Reflexology school in Colorado, The Modern Institute of Reflexology, has gained occupational designation for their institution in that state. MIR has been designated by the Colorado State Division of Private Occupational Schools - Dept. of Higher Education as an approved school. Our Reflexologist who developed the reflexology modules for our courses was trained at MIR as a Certified Reflexologist, a Master Reflexologist and a Dr. of Reflexology.

In the United States, the NAHA (National Association for Holistic Aromatherapy) has put into place their Approved Standards for Aromatherapy Training. The Alternative Healing Academy's Advanced Aromatherapy course meets and exceeds these standards and we are in the application process of becoming an approved program through the NAHA.

In Canada, there are a number of different Associations including the BCAPA (British Columbia Association of Practicing Aromatherapists) and the CFA (Canadian Federation of Aromatherapists). Time will tell if one authoritative body or association becomes the standard by which to judge and govern the educational offerings of these alternative healing modalities.

It has to be noted that NO form of aromatherapy "certification" is currently recognized in the USA by anyone other than those in the trade, nor is aromatherapy (or essential oils in the aromatherapy trade) regulated by any governmental body.

Some information about the courses we offer:

1) You can receive the course in one of two ways: A cd with the modules and tests in PDF format can be shipped to you; or, The modules can be emailed to you three at a time. Each time you complete the tests for the current three modules, a new set of three modules will be emailed to you.

2) All modules are clearly explained, are in pdf format and fully

illustrated.

3) The Advanced Aromatherapy Practitioner and the Advanced Reflexology Practitioner courses are designed to meet the National Association for Holistic Aromatherapy (NAHA) guidelines.

4) A tutor will be available via email to answer any questions you may have.

You will be contacted after purchase to find out how you would like your course delivered. All tests for the course can be either emailed or snail-mailed to The Alternative Healing Academy.

Upon successful completion of any full diploma or certification course (with a score of 80% or higher), you will receive a beautiful Diploma, suitable for framing.



Course Testimonials

"I'm done! Going through the final and the case studies and having such amazing experiences and opportunities to help people, I truly feel blessed and honored to have had the intense education that came with this course. I discovered in me a new ability to serve others, not only through education but through the power of healing that comes with the use of essential oils. I am continuing to train personally with Alexandria Brighton and have begun work toward opening an aromatherapy practice. Thank you so much for your patience and knowledge. Most of all thank you for this new way of living and enjoying Life."

-A. Lindquist - Advanced Aromatherapy Practitioner

"I am finding the course great. It is written very well so even people like me can understand the human body a whole lot better. I just hope that I can remember it all. I don't think I have a chance of remembering the names of everything in the muscular system or the movement system. But, I do have more of an understanding of how everything works now. I find it just amazing. Thanks Heaps."

-M. Oliver - Basic Anatomy & Physiology

"This information is great that you are teaching. I would really like to talk my oldest daughter into taking your course. It really goes into detail which is very informative."

-Debbie F. - Basic Reflexology

"Seven years ago I started to see a reflexologist for migraines and sinus problems. I was amazed that I finally found relief without medication. I decided this year to search out a course in reflexology so I could help family and friends and show them the benefits of reflexology. I researched various courses on the internet and decided to go with the basic course through the Alternative Healing Academy. I was impressed with course material and the ease of receiving the course material."

"I was given an choice of having a CD sent to me or to receiving and sending back the assignments through email. I choose email. I received 3 lessons at a time that I could read and study on my own time frame and return the lessons when I was done. Everything was sent in a very timely manner and communication was open and quick. If I needed help, I knew it was only a click away and the response time was very quick. The techniques used also came in a video mode in the email that I could replay as much as I needed to."

"I felt I learned a lot and am able to help myself and others. Being able to log 20 hours of treatment time and writing the case histories for the final exam was extremely rewarding and helpful. I would recommend this course to others interested in reflexology because the course material was very informative and complete and written in easy to understand language."

-Jean Russell - Basic Reflexology Course

"I'm so excited about (the Advanced Aromatherapy course) and I'm particularly excited about the possibility of making custom blends for people! I hadn't anticipated having that opportunity when I took the course so I'm excited to have everything done! I'm very excited to have finished. I really enjoyed this course and really appreciate all the work you've put into it! This has been a fabulous jumping off point for me and I'm so glad I took it."

"p.s. I know the boys are much slower at the Reflexology, but my son is loving the classes."

-Megan P. - Advanced Aromatherapy Course

Our Associations

Organizational Member of the American Holistic Health Association - <http://www.ahha.org/>

Professional & Business Member of the National Association of Holistic Aromatherapy - <http://www.naha.org/>

Professional Member of the International Reflexology Association - <http://www.holisticbenefits.com/ima/international-reflexology-association.html>

Professional Member of the International Aromatherapy Association - <http://www.internationalaromatherapyassociation.com/>

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