

Natural Help 4...

Emphysema



What is Emphysema?

Emphysema is a **long-term and progressive respiratory disease** that causes shortness of breath and difficulty breathing. Damage to the small air sacs and airways within the lungs causes the lungs to lose elasticity, making it impossible to completely exhale air.

So while lungs with normal elasticity will stretch to capacity to take in fresh air and then easily exhale carbon dioxide (like a balloon), **lungs with emphysema have become less elastic** and so have to work extra hard to exhale. The more CO₂ that remains in the lung sacs after exhaling means less oxygen can be inhaled with each breath. As **emphysema** progresses, breathing becomes effortful and energy - consuming, and it slowly begins to interfere with certain physical activities.

It is important to remember that while **emphysema** is a serious and frustrating condition, it **develops slowly (usually over years)** and there are a number of treatment options that can further slow down its progression.

What are the Symptoms of Emphysema?

As emphysema progresses so slowly, most people do not notice any symptoms or slight changes in breathing during the early stages of the illness. Unfortunately, this means that most people are only diagnosed when symptoms are severe, by which time the disease is in advanced stages and serious irreversible damage has already occurred. Symptoms may include:

- Shortness of breath or dyspnea
- A persistent cough (with or without phlegm)
- Wheezing
- A feeling of tightness in the chest
- A barrel-like distended chest
- Lowered oxygen levels may result in fatigue, irritability and difficulty concentrating
- Frequent headaches

Diagnosing Emphysema

Diagnosing emphysema will begin with a detailed medical history and a physical examination. Your physician will need to know the **details of your smoking history** and as much information as you can give regarding all your symptoms. Further tests such as a lung function test, blood tests, chest X-rays, and a CT-scan may also be recommended to make an accurate diagnosis and to determine the full extent of the damage to lung tissue.



The content of this ebook is intended for informational purposes only.

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.

What Causes Emphysema?

The **main cause of emphysema is smoking**. By smoking, the lungs are continuously exposed to harsh chemicals and irritants. It is the body's reactions to these irritants entering the airways and alveoli that cause much of the damage associated with [emphysema](#).

As foreign particles enter the lungs, defensive cells called macrophages are released which help to attack and destroy these foreign inhaled particles. Unfortunately, these macrophages also **destroy certain proteins that are involved in keeping the lung's elasticity**. In addition, the chemicals in cigarettes destroy and paralyze the delicate cilia in the bronchial tubes, which are responsible for sweeping irritants and germs out of the lungs. As these cilia no longer perform, germs and foreign particles remain in the airways, causing inflammation and permanent damage to lung tissue.

Another [cause of emphysema](#) is a **deficiency of the protein called alpha-1-antitrypsin (AAt)** which is responsible for protecting the elastic structures of the lungs. This hereditary deficiency is the main cause of early onset [emphysema](#) or emphysema in people that have never smoked.

Help for Emphysema


Conventional Treatment

Conventional [treatments for emphysema](#) focus predominantly on relieving symptoms and avoiding further respiratory complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia. Treatment may include:

Medications: There are a number of different medications that may be prescribed to help reduce symptoms and assist with easier breathing. These may include bronchodilators, diuretics, and corticosteroids. Many physicians will also recommend antibiotics and [flu](#) or pneumonia vaccines to prevent further lung complications. Ask your health care provider to inform you of all side-effects of any medication prescribed and be wary of prolonged use of antibiotics as these have a detrimental effect on the immune system.

Oxygen Therapy: Many people with severe [emphysema](#) find great relief with continued or transient oxygen use. This will increase the amount of oxygen available to the lungs and blood stream and may relieve some of the debilitating symptoms. There are different types of oxygen therapy and different methods of administration so speak to your health care provider about what options would best suit you should oxygen therapy be necessary.

Surgery: Two surgical options are available for those with advanced [emphysema](#). The first is called lung volume reduction surgery (LVRS), in which surgeons remove small pieces of damaged lung tissue. This creates extra space within the lung cavity allowing the healthy tissue and diaphragm to work more efficiently. The [emphysema](#) still progresses slowly so this is not a permanent solution. The effects of this procedure are usually felt for about two years. The second option is a lung transplant in which either one or both lungs are replaced with a lung from a donor. This option is limited as there is a long waiting list and a scarcity of donor



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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.

lungs.

Natural Remedies

Herbal and homeopathic remedies have been used with great effectiveness in alleviating the symptoms of respiratory illnesses including [Emphysema](#). Used in conjunction with conventional medications or as a part of a holistic treatment plan, herbal medicines can be used to support [respiratory health](#), **maintain open airways and assist with easier breathing**. Examples of such herbs include Matricaria recutita and Astragalus which are known for their antispasmodic and anti-inflammatory properties.

In addition homeopathic ingredients such as Mag Phos and Nat Sulph help to ease chest and throat constriction while soothing irritated mucous membranes and reducing the presence of phlegm in the chest. Used on a regular basis, natural remedies can help **improve overall respiratory health, open up bronchioles**, loosen constricted chests and ensure strong immune system functioning.

Tips on Slowing the Progression of Emphysema

- If you do smoke, now is the perfect time to quit smoking naturally. This is the most important thing that you can do for your health at this point. It is also important that you avoid second-hand smoke, so ask family and friends not to smoke in your presence and sit in the non-smoking areas when going out.
- Practice regular diaphragmatic breathing exercises that help you control your breathing with your abdominal muscles.
- Avoid other respiratory irritants such as paint fumes, dust, air pollutants, perfumes and incense.
- Keep healthy with a balanced diet and regular exercise.
- Avoid respiratory infections where possible! Protect yourself against developing colds and flu and if they do appear, treat them as soon as possible so that they do not have time to develop into chest infections.
- Drink plenty of water!
- Avoid cold air. When you do go out in cold weather, wear a scarf over your nose and mouth to warm the air before it reaches your lungs.

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 medicine, is the system of medicine taught at most medical schools and most pharmaceutical and synthetic medicines are manufactured and marketed according to the principles of allopathic medicine. Allopathic medicine is also sometimes called orthodox medicine.

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

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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in the treatment program.

Natural medicine has often been frowned on by conventional doctors, especially by those who did 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, which 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 and that, 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.

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



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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. These include 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:

BioVent Drops: Supports bronchial and respiratory health for easy breathing.

BioVent Drops is a 100% safe, natural formula. BioVent Drops have been used for many years to **safely support the respiratory system and maintain easy breathing**.

Containing a selection of ingredients known for their supportive function in **maintaining open airways and supporting lung health**, BioVent Drops are presented in liquid tincture formula, making them easy to take for all ages.

BioVent Drops is a unique combination of natural ingredients used to promote the ongoing health of the respiratory tract and lungs. Used daily, it can promote respiratory functioning and health, and also support the immune system.

BioVent Drops may be combined with our Triple Complex BronchoSoothe Remedy - for on the spot comfort and support of healthy bronchioles and easy breathing.

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!

[Learn more about BioVent Drops](#)

BronchoSoothe: Natural asthma remedy helps to relax and open airways for normal breathing.

Triple Complex BronchoSoothe is a safe, non-addictive, natural remedy

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](#).

containing *100% homeopathic ingredients* especially selected to temporarily **relieve tightening of the chest to open airways and improve respiratory health.**

Triple Complex BronchoSoothe is a *combination of three biochemic cellular-supporting tissue salts* and may be taken at the first signs of **chest constriction, closed airways or abnormal breathing** for effective, temporary help.

Triple Complex BronchoSoothe is taken internally to support lung and bronchiole functioning, and **maintain respiratory tract and immune system health.** Presented in small tablet form, Triple Complex BronchoSoothe is easy to ingest and hassle-free with **no artificial colors or preservatives.**

Due to its unique homeopathic formula, Triple Complex BronchoSoothe is *safe for all ages, as well as during pregnancy and nursing.*

[Learn more about BronchoSoothe](#)

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



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Alternative Healing Academy

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

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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