

**Chapter 246-836A WAC  
COLON HYDROTHERAPIST**

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**WAC**

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**WAC 246-836A-010 Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Affiliation relationship" means documentation of affiliation between a colon hydrotherapist and a naturopathic physician as set forth in WAC 246-836-300.

(2) "Board" means the board of naturopathy.

(3) "Colon hydrotherapist" means a person certified under chapter 18.36A RCW and this chapter to perform colon hydrotherapy pursuant to an affiliation relationship with one or more naturopathic physicians.

(4) "Colon hydrotherapy" means the performance of enemas or colonic irrigation.

(5) "Department" means the department of health.

(6) "Direct visual supervision" means the supervising naturopathic physician is physically present and within visual range of the colon hydrotherapist.

(7) "GPACT" means the global professional association for colon hydrotherapy.

(8) "I-ACT" means the international association for colon hydrotherapy.

(9) "Licensed supervising naturopathic physicians" means a naturopathic physician licensed under chapter 18.36A RCW that enters into a training affiliation relationship with a colon hydrotherapist trainee for purposes of fulfilling the education and training requirements in WAC 246-836A-020.

(10) "NBCHT" means the national board for colon hydrotherapy.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.36A.160, 18.36A.095, and 2021 c 179. WSR 22-11-017, § 246-836A-010, filed 5/9/22, effective 7/1/22.]

**WAC 246-836A-020 Colon hydrotherapist—Education and training.**

An applicant for a colon hydrotherapy credential must successfully complete a colon hydrotherapy training program approved by the board.

(1) The colon hydrotherapy training program must be administered by a licensed supervising naturopathic physician under a training affiliation relationship. Such training affiliation relationship must also meet the requirements in WAC 246-836-310 (1)(a) through (c). The supervising naturopathic physician is responsible for verifying the content of the training and for ascertaining the proficiency of the trainee.

(a) The colon hydrotherapy training program must provide evaluation and assessment of knowledge and skills in the following areas:

- (i) The history, theory, and practice of colon hydrotherapy to include risks and contraindications;
  - (ii) Anatomy and physiology, a portion of which must include the anatomy and physiology of the alimentary tract as well as the function and disfunction of intestinal health;
  - (iii) Professional ethics and patient boundaries;
  - (iv) Business ethics and office procedures; and
  - (v) Equipment safety, infection prevention and control, and the handling and disposal of used equipment.
- (b) The colon hydrotherapy training program must include a colon hydrotherapy practicum component for which the supervising naturopathic physician shall provide direct visual supervision to the trainee. Such practicum must include at a minimum 30 colon hydrotherapy procedures performed by the trainee within six months.
- (c) The supervising naturopathic physician is responsible for ensuring the competency of the trainee in the performance of colon hydrotherapy procedures.
- (2) Documentation of all colon hydrotherapy training, duties, and responsibilities of the trainee must be completed, signed by the supervising naturopathic physician and the trainee, and placed in the trainee's file. Such documentation must be retained for two years.
- (3) Training programs that meet the requirements described in subsection (1) of this section are approved by the board.
- (4) A trainee must submit their completed application, with a copy of the documentation required in subsection (2) of this section, and all required fees, to the board within 90 days of completing the colon hydrotherapy training program to be approved to sit for the state colon hydrotherapy examination as set forth in WAC 246-836A-030.
- (5) A colon hydrotherapist who is currently certified, registered, or has otherwise been credentialed by GPACT, I-ACT, or NBCHT is considered to have met the education and training requirements in this section.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.36A.160, 18.36A.095, and 2021 c 179. WSR 22-11-017, § 246-836A-020, filed 5/9/22, effective 7/1/22.]

**WAC 246-836A-030 Colon hydrotherapist—Examination.** (1) Applicants for a colon hydrotherapist credential shall successfully pass the state board examination administered by the NBCHT, unless they are currently certified under subsection (3) of this section. Applicants taking the state examination must meet the education and training requirements in WAC 246-836A-020 and submit the application, supporting documentation, and application fee set in WAC 246-836A-990 to the department for approval prior to being authorized to take the examination. Once authorized, applicants then contact the NBCHT to be scheduled for the Washington state examination and pay the examination fee set by NBCHT directly to NBCHT. The examinations shall be conducted in accordance with the NBCHT security measures and contract.

(2) Examination candidates shall be advised of the results of their examination in writing by the NBCHT.

(3) A colon hydrotherapist who is currently certified, registered, or has otherwise been credentialed by GPACT, I-ACT, or NBCHT is considered to have met the examination requirement in this section.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.36A.160, 18.36A.095, and 2021 c 179. WSR 22-11-017, § 246-836A-030, filed 5/9/22, effective 7/1/22.]

**WAC 246-836A-040 Colon hydrotherapist—Application.** An applicant for a colon hydrotherapist credential shall submit the following to the board:

- (1) Completed application on forms provided by the department;
- (2) Proof of successful completion of education, training, and examination required in WAC 246-836A-020;
- (3) Proof of an affiliation relationship with a naturopathic physician as required in WAC 246-836-300;
- (4) Proof of current certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR);
- (5) Any fee required in WAC 246-836A-990;
- (6) Fingerprint cards for national fingerprint-based background check pursuant to RCW 18.130.064(2), if requested by the department; and
- (7) Any additional documentation or information requested by the board.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.36A.160, 18.36A.095, and 2021 c 179. WSR 22-11-017, § 246-836A-040, filed 5/9/22, effective 7/1/22.]

**WAC 246-836A-050 Colon hydrotherapist—Affiliation relationships.** (1) A colon hydrotherapist may perform colon hydrotherapy only under an affiliation relationship with a naturopathic physician as required in WAC 246-836-300. Such affiliation relationships must be registered with the board before a colon hydrotherapist may perform colon hydrotherapy services on patients referred from that naturopathic physician. A registered affiliation relationship will remain in effect until rescinded by either practitioner.

(2) A colon hydrotherapist who has a registered affiliation relationship with a naturopathic physician and desires to terminate such relationship must provide a minimum of 60 days' notice to that naturopathic physician prior to submitting documentation to the board rescinding that relationship. If a colon hydrotherapist employee or naturopathic physician employee within a practice is terminated from employment, then any affiliation relationship with that terminated employee is immediately suspended and rescission is effective once documentation is submitted to the board.

(3) If a colon hydrotherapist desires to become affiliated with additional naturopathic physicians, he or she must enter into an additional affiliation relationship with each naturopathic physician as set forth in WAC 246-836-300. Such additional affiliation relationships must also be registered with the board before a colon hydrotherapist may perform colon hydrotherapy services on patients referred to them from the additional naturopathic physicians.

(4) There is no limit to the number of affiliation relationships a colon hydrotherapist may have with naturopathic physicians.

(5) A colon hydrotherapist's certification is considered inoperable when there is no registered affiliation relationship on file with the board.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.36A.160, 18.36A.095, and 2021 c 179. WSR 22-11-017, § 246-836A-050, filed 5/9/22, effective 7/1/22.]

**WAC 246-836A-060 Colon hydrotherapist—Activities allowed or prohibited.** A colon hydrotherapist is authorized to perform colon hydrotherapy services. Such services shall only include the administration of substances ordered or prescribed by the referring naturopathic physician for the specific patient receiving the colon hydrotherapy procedure. A colon hydrotherapist is prohibited from administering any controlled substance or experimental medication.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.36A.160, 18.36A.095, and 2021 c 179. WSR 22-11-017, § 246-836A-060, filed 5/9/22, effective 7/1/22.]

**WAC 246-836A-070 Minimum standards of practice for colon hydrotherapy.** (1) A colon hydrotherapist shall:

(a) Allow a patient privacy to dress or undress except as may be necessary in emergencies or custodial situations; and

(b) Always provide the patient a gown or draping except as may be necessary in emergencies.

(2) A colon hydrotherapist shall use safe, functional, and hygienic coverage and draping practices during the practice of colon hydrotherapy when the patient is disrobed. Safe, functional, and hygienic coverage and draping means:

(a) The colon hydrotherapist explains and maintains coverage and draping boundaries; and

(b) Movement of the body does not expose the patient's gluteal cleft and perineum beyond that needed to perform the colon hydrotherapy procedure.

(3) The colon hydrotherapist shall use hygienic, safe, and sanitary practices, including:

(a) Wearing gloves during insertion of the speculae;

(b) Using fresh gloves for every patient during insertion;

(c) Being physically present with the patient during insertion;

(d) Not reusing or repurposing disposable materials; and

(e) Cleaning and sterilizing any reusable materials within manufacturer's specifications.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.36A.160, 18.36A.095, and 2021 c 179. WSR 22-11-017, § 246-836A-070, filed 5/9/22, effective 7/1/22.]

**WAC 246-836A-080 Recordkeeping and retention.** (1) Documentation. A colon hydrotherapist providing colon hydrotherapy services to a patient must document services provided. Documentation should be in sufficient detail to support and enable anticipated continuity of care. The documentation must include:

(a) Patient name and contact information or name and contact information of a parent or guardian if a patient is under 18 years of age;

(b) Age of patient;

(c) Date the colon hydrotherapy service is provided;

(d) Written informed consent to treat, which is considered valid for the duration of the treatment referral or one year unless revoked; and

(e) For colon hydrotherapy where the focus is on treating a health condition, the documentation must also include symptoms and expected outcome measures as reported by the referring naturopathic physician and the treatment plan for future sessions, if applicable.

(2) Patient records.

(a) Colon hydrotherapist records for patients shall comply with record retention requirements and be secured with properly limited access consistent with chapter 70.02 RCW and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

(b) A colon hydrotherapist shall ensure the patient record is legible, permanent, and recorded within 24 hours of treatment. Documentation that is not recorded on the date of service must designate both the date of service and the date of the chart note entry.

(c) The colon hydrotherapist shall retain in the patient record correspondence relating to any referrals by a naturopathic physician concerning the diagnosis, evaluation, or treatment of the patient.

(d) Patient records should clearly identify the referring naturopathic physician and the colon hydrotherapist providing the colon hydrotherapy service.

(e) Records for clients or patients 18 years of age and older must be retained by or be otherwise accessible to the colon hydrotherapist for at least three years from the date of last treatment, or for patients under the age of 18 years old, at least three years after the patient reaches 18 years old.

(f) After the retention period, records may be disposed of pursuant to this subsection. Disposal must be done in a secure and confidential manner in compliance with chapter 70.02 RCW and HIPAA and must include, as appropriate:

(i) Shredding;

(ii) Deleting, erasing, or reformatting electronic media; or

(iii) Rendering other readable forms of media unusable or unreadable.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.36A.160, 18.36A.095, and 2021 c 179. WSR 22-11-017, § 246-836A-080, filed 5/9/22, effective 7/1/22.]

**WAC 246-836A-100 Mandatory reporting.** Mandatory reporting requirements under chapter 246-16 WAC apply to a person who holds a colon hydrotherapist credential.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.36A.160, 18.36A.095, and 2021 c 179. WSR 22-11-017, § 246-836A-100, filed 5/9/22, effective 7/1/22.]

**WAC 246-836A-110 Sexual misconduct.** The sexual misconduct rules under WAC 246-836-500 and 246-836-510 apply to a person who holds a colon hydrotherapist credential.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.36A.160, 18.36A.095, and 2021 c 179. WSR 22-11-017, § 246-836A-110, filed 5/9/22, effective 7/1/22.]

**WAC 246-836A-990 Colon hydrotherapist fees and renewal cycle.**

(1) Licenses must be renewed every year on the practitioner's birthday as provided in chapter 246-12 WAC.

(2) The following nonrefundable fees will be charged:

<b>Title of Fee</b>	<b>Fee</b>
<b>Application-Original license</b>	\$215.00
<b>License renewal</b>	
Renewal	215.00
Late renewal penalty	110.00
Expired license reissuance	65.00
<b>Duplicate license</b>	10.00
<b>Verification of license</b>	25.00

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.36A.060, 18.36A.140, 43.70.110, 43.70.250, 43.70.280, and 2021 c 179. WSR 22-11-012, § 246-836A-990, filed 5/9/22, effective 7/1/22.]