



January 15, 2012

To whom it may concern,

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments regarding the Declaration of Dr. David Savitz.

My name is Sharon M. Weinstein, and I am a registered nurse, health educator and founder of the Integrative Health Forum (www.ihfglobal.com) and director of the Energy Medicine continuing medical education series. Allow me to share some information related to the Forum and the implications of having subjects such as EMF sensitivity lectured in the academic environment.

Integrative health forum

The Integrative Health Forum evolved in 2003 as the result of the work of 13 charter members with a vision of creating the evidence-base for wellness practice. The group has grown significantly as a result of weekly calls, breakfast seminars, and more. In 2008, the European Health Forum was created to address the needs of wellness specialists in the European community. Together, as IHFglobal, we can extend our message to the masses – worldwide. Our goal is to become a recognized international leader for wellness and health, and the resource for health-related issues.

In 2008, the Energy Medicine continuing medical education came to life in Chicago. Under the direction of chief education officer, Sharon Weinstein, the template for a program that would attract licensed healthcare professionals as well as lay professions was created. Applications were made, and alliances created with the American Academy of Family Practice, the American Holistic Nurses Association, the National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork, the National Certification Commission on Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM) and CEBroker representing all professional boards for the State of Florida to ensure approval for the educational model and content.

This is the only program of its kind in which the concepts of cellular energy and the function of the human body are integrated with the growing focus on the dangers of WiFi and cellular technology. Faculty was chosen to represent the content based upon their knowledge and expertise. Our faculty includes:

Dr. Peter Goldberg

Peter Goldberg is a board certified Doctor of Acupuncture and practitioner of Energy Medicine specializing in stress and pain management. In practice since 1989 in western Massachusetts, he is a member of the American Academy of Pain Management. Dr. Goldberg has used magnets and other Energy Medicine modalities in his practice for the past 20 years and has lectured extensively on the principles of stress management, aging, and the integration of Eastern and Western health care. He holds two masters degrees in Community Health Administration and Acupuncture Physical Medicine, and is a member of the American Academy of Pain Management.

Dr. Ronald Lynch

Ronald Lynch, M.D., M.S. graduated from the University of Maryland School of Medicine. As a Board Certified Family Doctor, he is affiliated with Florida Hospital where he served a three year Family Practice Residency. He has served the Central Florida Community in various capacities over the past twenty years. As a student and

contributing scientist of natural medicine, which includes acupuncture, homeopathy, magnetic therapy, and other complementary therapies, he encourages and supports natural medicine alternatives and evidence based medicine. He firmly believes the future of medicine will involve integrative approaches including acupuncture, magnetic therapy, homeopathy, light therapy and nutritional medicine. His practice offers numerous services for preventive health screenings. He has established an office in Lake Mary designed to provide new options for those seeking intelligent, compassionate, natural and conventional care.

Anthony Bove

Anthony Bove is President of Nu-Magnetics in Washington State. He holds 38 patents in the field of magnetics and healing for the human body. He has a science and business background coupled with a huge heart for making a difference. He has touched the lives of millions with his products because he chose to take a stand to change the consciousness of society by truly helping others by getting to the root cause of how we can stay healthy!

Curtis Bennett

Curtis Bennett is renowned for his unparalleled knowledge in the field of thermal imaging. He has spent his career applying this know-how to the areas of the energy medicine, building materials science, the environment and others. Curtis' background is in architecture and building engineering, with a separate certification in electrical energy provision. Mr. Bennett tailored his own education with a specific focus on infrared systems. Mr. Bennett is also committed to contributing to the overall improvement of the earth's ecosphere by using his know-how to extend mankind's vision beyond the visible. In doing so, his thermal imaging has demonstrated that by making prudent choices of building materials, their role in the global warming trend can be minimized. Curtis Bennett has a professional background in building design, engineering, construction and separate national credentials in electrical energy provision. Curtis is the only person in the world that completed an education in engineering and electron flow specifically to compliment his background with a technology that allows us to see temperature beyond our visible spectrum.

Sharon M. Weinstein

Sharon Weinstein, MS, RN, CRNI, FACW, FAAN is President, Core Consulting Group, LLC. specializing in workforce-related issues impacting healthcare delivery, globalization, nurse-physician collaboration, patient/staff safety, humor in the workplace, stress management, and total wellness. Sharon has over thirty years of progressive clinical, education, administrative and health policy experience in healthcare management and clinical practice. She is also President of SMW Group LLC.

And, she has reinvented herself multiple times throughout those thirty years. From clinical practice to education, from home care to international arenas, and from practice management to wellness, Sharon has been on the cutting edge of changes within the healthcare community and has led the pack each step of the way. She is the founder of the Integrative Health Forum and created the Energy Medicine interdisciplinary continuing medical education series. Sharon earned a Master's Degree in health management and gerontology, a certificate in health administration, a bachelor's degree in nursing and behavioral science and is a graduate of the Kellogg Executive Management Program and a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing. She is a clinical assistant professor in the Department of Public Health, Mental Health and Administrative Nursing and in the Institute for Healthcare Innovation at the University of Illinois College of Nursing. She is a frequent presenter at domestic and international meetings and symposia.

About the Declaration

We are facing a serious threat, and with time, it will challenge our health and our future. It is no secret that the public is increasingly concerned about exposure, and thus, the IHF has created an EMF Education link to disseminate information about this serious problem and what it means. We face a serious health threat that every parent should know about – and that is WiFi and cellular technology.

I ask that you consider these questions: Is there an invisible danger – wireless radio high frequency signals? Is it unsafe for students, and is it in your child's school or in your own home? The impact on students' health is real and is manifested as headaches, eye strain, a feeling that something is in your eyes, dizziness, and increased heart rate.

The symptoms appear at school and disappear once the child gets home, if there is no WiFi at home, or if it is turned off when not in use! And cellular phones present similar challenges.

Dr. Savitz has raised key issues related to the effects of power line electromagnetic fields within the bands known as extremely low frequency (ELF) electromagnetic fields (EMF). It is my understanding, however, that he is not involved in radio frequency radiation. There are substantial differences in the parts of the spectrum, and they cannot, and should not, be combined for the sake of documentation and dissemination of knowledge. To do so would be a huge mistake and a discredit to the publics we serve.

While he has cited multiple references, they are not relevant to the discussion, specifically items 5 through 8 which relate to ELF. Further, Dr. Savitz is not the original author of the last two publications cited in item 8. Again, as we proceed with the document, items 25, 26, and 30 are also irrelevant.

I ask you to pay special attention to item 14a; there are no epidemiological studies on WiFi. The sequential items address exposing people now and conducting studies later; well, this is what was done with asbestos, DDT, ELFs, Chernobyl and more. And look at the generations of people involved, simply because the governments involved were unwilling to be transparent about the issues involved. I had the opportunity to work in an area of Belarus that was part of the 'zone' affected by Chernobyl, and there were over 1800 young students in one orphanage alone, all of whom had been exposed in utero and who now had various forms of cancer and leukemia. Is that what we want for our children? And these issues are not limited to third world or evolving nations! Look at item 29 in which we see an increase in the number of salivary gland tumors in Israel associated with cell phone usage. We may not see the ramifications of exposure now, but our children will see them in their lifetimes.

Each and every day, I work with families affected by so-called Smart Schools...do we want these schools to be smart, or do we want our kids to be safe?

Dr. Savitz makes numerous errors of omission in citing the references for his work; his expertise is clearly not in the field of EMF sensitivity related to WiFi and more. I wonder if he is a parent, and how he would feel if his own child/children were to be exposed to a form of radiation that we assume is 'safe' but that remains untested, particularly when studies have documented the harmful effects.

And the safety issues continue. As a licensed healthcare professional, I witness the dangers of interference with defibrillators, cardiac monitors and intensive monitoring devices caused by radiofrequencies.

As an epidemiologist, Dr. Savitz is limited in his ability to see beyond what is visible to the naked eye and in poorly documented studies. Do we really intend to sit by and accept this type of testimony as evidence that our future and that of our children and grandchildren will not be affected by the invisible threat? We know that the study and practice of epidemiology are limited because they cannot establish a chain of causation, nor can they make predictions concerning possible outcomes. As a parent, educator, and grandparent, I suggest that all families across the globe and specifically in North America consider wired technology. Safety first...it is our first and only priority.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on what appears to be a slanted deposition by someone who is clearly not an expert. To qualify him as such is a discredit to the public and to our future.

Sharon M. Weinstein, MS, RN, CRNI, FACW, FAAN