

## **Dr. John Pittman Elected President of North Carolina Integrative Medical Society**

*Raleigh integrative medicine physician looks to bridge gap between conventional and non-conventional doctors*

RALEIGH, NC – February 19, 2009 – The Carolina Center for Integrative Medicine (CCIM), the Triangle's leading provider of integrative medical treatments and therapies, is pleased to announce the recent election of Dr. John Pittman, M.D. as President of the North Carolina Integrative Medical Society. NCIMS provides educational opportunities to practitioners, as well protects the rights of practitioners to treat patients with the best health care modalities available.

Dr. Pittman founded the Carolina Center in 1994. He received his MD degree from Mercer University in Macon, Georgia and attended the Pediatric Residency Program at NC Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem with an interest in Preventive Medicine. He is one of the area's most outspoken advocates pushing for the removal of mercury from dental amalgam fillings and Thimerosal in children's vaccines. He testified at the Environmental Defense public hearing to discuss the current health crisis caused by mercury toxicity and was one of several speakers to speak at the State Capitol Building to support legislation to ensure safer vaccines and flu shots for North Carolina's children and pregnant women.

Dr. Pittman is the only local physician fully certified in chelation therapy for the treatment of heavy metal toxicity and only one of six medical practitioners in the state of North Carolina who is a Diplomate through the American Board of Clinical Metal Toxicology. He is a regular guest lecturer for the UNC School of Medicine Division of Integrative Medicine, speaking annually to medical students about the dangers of heavy metal toxicity and the use of chelation therapy as a treatment for this condition. Most recently, Dr. Pittman was recognized by *Business Leader* and *Triangle Business Journal* magazines as one of their Health Care Leaders.

Dr. Pittman was one of a small group of North Carolina physicians who formed NCIMS in 2002. He helped organize the society's statewide conference in 2004 where he was the keynote speaker on Mercury Toxicity. NCIMS continues to attract new members and associates, growing to a group of nearly 100 doctors statewide. Dr. Pittman said that he's looking forward to the opportunities his new role will bring, especially the ability to reach out to non-conventional physicians.

"The fact that I'm the new president of NCIMS brings a new dimension to my work, realizing that I am now the spokesperson for Integrative Medicine in North Carolina," says Dr. Pittman. "My personal goal as NCIMS president is to bridge the divide that has split conventional and non-conventional doctors and help educate more mainstream physicians about the scientific research that exists and supports the use of many non-pharmaceutical modalities."

NCIMS believes that the combined knowledge of mainstream medical practices and alternative medicine is ultimately superior to a single-model approach to health and wellness. The organization thinks this integrated approach will ultimately lead to safer, faster, more affordable, and more effective healthcare. For more information, visit the [NCIMS website](#).

### **About the Carolina Center for Integrative Medicine**

Since 1994, the Carolina Center for Integrative Medicine has been the Triangle's leading provider of integrative medical treatments and therapies. Practice founder, Dr. John Pittman, is the only local physician fully certified in chelation therapy for the treatment of heavy metal toxicity and only one of six medical practitioners in the state of North Carolina who is a Diplomate through the American Board of Clinical Metal Toxicology.

The Carolina Center utilizes a combination of the most progressive alternative therapies, along with dietary and lifestyle modifications, to treat a wide variety of chronic illnesses and immune system dysfunctions. Conditions treated include Atherosclerosis & Disorders of Circulation, Chronic Digestive Disturbances, Chronic Infections & Immune Dysfunction, Degenerative Neurological Disorders, Fibromyalgia, Lyme Disease, Natural Hormone Replacement Therapy, Multiple Chemical Sensitivity/Environmental Allergies, and Pediatric Program for Autism. The Carolina Center also provides Chemical Detoxification and support for patients injured through exposure to mold, pesticides, mercury, and sick building syndrome. For more information, call (919) 571-4391 or visit [www.carolinacenter.com](http://www.carolinacenter.com).

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