

10th Conference on Health Care of the Chinese in North America

Bridging Conventional & Complementary Medicine: The Experience at California Pacific Medical Center



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Integrating medical practices and knowledge from diverse sources is at the foundation of the work of the Institute for Health and Healing of California Pacific Medical Center (CPMC) and its Health and Healing Clinic. Our clinic is M.D. based and oriented toward comprehensive assessment of each patient from a viewpoint that acknowledges the contribution to wellness and illness of body, mind, and spirit. A treatment plan is created with each patient incorporating conventional and complementary modalities as practices.

Our three-year experience at the Health and Healing Clinic has been different from the often quoted data of David Eisenberg, M.D. on the use of alternative and complementary medical practices. The acuity, severity and complexity of the disease processes with which the patients have presented to our clinic have been greater than the samples reported in the New England Journal of Medicine in 1993 and the Journal of the American Medical Association in 1998. The nature of our patient population, our assessment and management approach, and how we have engaged issues related to credentialing, quality and performance improvement, efficacy, satisfaction and sustainability will be discussed.