

# House Acupuncture & Herbs

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## Informed Consent to Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine Treatment

**Print Patient Name** \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby request and consent to the performance of procedures which are within the scope of practice of acupuncture or oriental medicine including, but not limited to, acupuncture, moxibustion, cupping, electro-acupuncture, gua sha, herbology, and various modes of physiotherapy, on me (or the patient named above, for whom I am legally responsible) by the acupuncturist named above.

Acupuncture has been explained to me as a medical treatment performed by the insertion of special sterilized fine needles through the skin into the underlying tissues and muscles at specific points on the body for the purpose of alleviating pain and treating other clinical conditions. I have had an opportunity to request and review additional information explaining the additional services performed at this office.

I understand and am informed that there are some risks to acupuncture and oriental medicine treatment, including, but not limited to: slight bruising, tingling near the needling sites that last a few days, nausea, infection, and blisters. There have been instances reported of fainting, infections, and scarring. There have been instances reported of spontaneous miscarriage and pneumothorax. I understand that some herbs may be inappropriate during pregnancy. If I suspect I am pregnant, I will immediately inform the acupuncturist. If I experience any gastro-intestinal upset or allergic reactions to the herbs, I will inform the acupuncturist. If I have any diagnosed allergies to grasses, nuts, or pollens, I will inform my acupuncturist.

I understand that, as with any medical treatment, results are not guaranteed. I do not expect the acupuncturist to be able to anticipate and explain all risks and complications, and I wish to rely on her to exercise judgment during the course of my treatment, based upon the facts then known, and to proceed in a manner that she determines is in my best interests.

I have read, or have had read to me, the above consent. I have also had an opportunity to ask questions about its content, and by signing below, I agree to the above-named procedures. I intend this consent form to cover the entire course of treatment for my present condition and for any future condition(s) for which I seek treatment. I understand that I am free to withdraw my consent and discontinue participation in one or more procedures at any time.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Patient or  
Patient's Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print name of Patient's Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness to Patient's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship or Authority of Representative

## Services Explained

- **Acupuncture** – The medical treatment performed by the insertion of special sterilized fine needles through the skin into the underlying tissues and muscles at specific points on the body for the purpose of alleviating pain and treating other clinical conditions.

In addition to acupuncture, other Chinese medical therapies which may be used during treatment include the following:

- **Moxibustion** – The herb mugwort is ignited to apply heat to specific acupuncture points and areas of the body. Adds energy to the body, enhances immunity, improves digestion, helps pain, increases circulation. May be done at the end of the needle, near, or on the skin. Burns and scarring are potential risks of moxibustion.
- **Cupping** – Fire is used to create a suction of a glass cup of the skin. Used to alleviate pain, for colds and flu, to increase range of motion and mobility, and to improve the functioning of the internal organs. They may be moved or stationary. Common side effects include red to purplish discoloration similar to bruising that may last from 1-14 days following treatment.
- **Gua sha** – A flat object is moved across the skin to create friction. Used to alleviate chronic pain, pain from injury, and to increase range of motion and mobility. Common side effects include redness and/or discoloration that resembles bruising that may last from 1-14 days following treatment.
- **Electro-acupuncture** – Inserted acupuncture needles are electrically stimulated at various high frequencies to cause relaxation of the muscles and analgesia of the area of pain.
- **Massage (Tui Na)** – Chinese massage utilizing the same meridians as acupuncture. Side effects may include soreness or bruising.
- **Herbal prescriptions** - Herbs and nutritional supplements (which may come from plant, animal, or mineral sources) recommended and sold in this clinic are traditionally considered safe when prescribed by a Chinese Medicine practitioner. Some herbs may be toxic in large doses, when pregnant or nursing, when taken with alcohol, or when not taken as directed. Some possible side effects of taking herbs are nausea, indigestion, vomiting, diarrhea, headache, hives, and tingling of the tongue. I have informed Cheryl House of any diagnosed allergies, and if I am currently pregnant, nursing, or trying to get pregnant.