



Acupuncture and Dry Needling Standard of Practice

Purpose

To establish a clear Standard of Practice for members of the PEI Chiropractic Association, outlining their duties, obligations, and scope of practice when providing acupuncture/dry needling services as adjunctive therapies.

Objective

To guide chiropractors in the safe and effective integration of acupuncture/dry needling into chiropractic care and to provide the public with information relating to the authorized use of these adjunctive therapies by chiropractors.

Acupuncture and Dry Needling

The PEI Chiropractic Association (“the “Association”) supports the use of acupuncture/dry needling as adjunctive therapies within the scope of chiropractic treatment, provided they fall within the member’s current level of professional competence and that the chiropractor meets the necessary levels of training as prescribed by this standard and the bylaws. .

A member is authorized to perform acupuncture and/or dry needling in their practice only upon fulfilling the prerequisites set forth in the Association's By-laws. In addition, the offices where these services are provided must be appropriately equipped with the following:

- Single-use (disposable) sterile acupuncture needles
- Appropriate sterilization equipment for needle injectors
- A patient safety bell
- Protective gloves
- A hazardous waste disposal container

Scope of Practice

Chiropractors may utilize acupuncture/dry needling as adjunctive therapies within their practice, but shall not refer to themselves as an acupuncturist or represent themselves to be practicing acupuncture as a primary focus of their professional services. These therapies are to be used only as one component of the chiropractic treatment plan and not as a standalone approach to care. While nothing in this standard prevents a chiropractor from only utilizing acupuncture/dry needling during an office visit if a patient's

condition warrants this, the primary intent of acupuncture/dry needling as an adjunct therapy is to complement primary methods of chiropractic treatment such as education, exercise prescription, spinal adjustments, joint mobilizations, soft tissue mobilization/manipulation and other evidence based methods to address conditions of the neuro-musculoskeletal system.

Enforceability

Any complaints alleging a breach of this Standard of Practice by a member will be investigated pursuant to the provisions of *The Chiropractic Act, 2009*. This standard has an effective date of October 28th, 2025. In the event of a conflict between this standard and the Act or bylaws, the Act and bylaws shall prevail.