

AcuLinks Acupuncture

Informed Consent – AcuLinks Acupuncture

Instructions: This is a medical consent form. It is for new patient who visit the AcuLinks Acupuncture. It covers the AcuLinks Acupuncture clinic located in 7636 SE Foster Rd., Portland, Oregon, 97206. Please read it carefully. Then sign the form on the back. Signing the form tell us that you have read and understand what it says. A copy of this form is posted in the clinic. It is also available to any patient upon request.

General Information about Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM)

Acupuncture is a form of traditional medicine. It was developed in ancient China. It has been used successfully for many centuries. Acupuncture can treat many different health problems, and is known to be very safe. Treatments are done by highly trained practitioners, using fine solid metal needles. They are inserted at special locations just beneath the skin. The needles are sterile, and they are used one time only, and then thrown away. Some patients do not feel the needles. Others feel some sensations (usually mild).

Electro-acupuncture is similar to acupuncture, but is of recent origin (20th century). A mild electric current is applied to the needles. Some patients feel a mild tingling sensation when electro-acupuncture is used.

Moxibustion is a traditional therapy that can be used with acupuncture or electro-acupuncture. Heat is applied near the skin at special locations. A traditional herb is often used in moxibustion treatments (Mugwort, Ai Ye).

Cupping is another therapy that may be used by acupuncturists. It includes heat and suction. Special glass cups are used in this clinic. This therapy is frequently used on the back.

Traditional Chinese Herbs are used by acupuncturists to treat a variety of illnesses or painful conditions. Special herb formulas can be used along with acupuncture. Herbs can help the body's systems to heal or work better. Herbs can be strong medicine, so it is important to follow the dosage direction carefully.

TuiNa are form of traditional massage. It is sometimes used alone or sometimes in addition to acupuncture. It may help with painful condition. It may also help the body to feel better generally.

What to Expect at this Acupuncture Clinic

Service Animals: I understand that sometimes service animals (e.g. guide doges) may be in the clinic. These animals may be helping other patients. Ask front desk for more information.

Continue and sign on the second page...

Medical Records: I understand that my medical records may contain vital health information. I agree to allow my medical records be sent to AcuLinks Acupuncture if necessary to help my treatments. I also agree to let my practitioner at this clinic see my medical records if they need to.

Primary Care Doctor: A primary care doctor is often a patient’s first contact for medical help. I understand that in the state of Oregon, acupuncturists are **not** considered primary care doctors. I understand that is should have my own primary care doctor before seeking treatment. If I do not have a doctor, I will inform my practitioner about this. I understand that I may be asked to see a doctor before being treated.

Confidentiality and Patient Privacy Policies: I understand that any information about my health conditions, and the treatments I receive, is private. AcuLinks Acupuncture staff and practitioner are all trained to keep my information confidential. AcuLinks Acupuncture’s patient privacy polices always follow US federal privacy rules. My practitioner will give me a copy of AcuLinks Acupuncture’s patient privacy policies, in case I have questions.

Financial Polices: I understand that payment is required at the time of service in this clinic. Cash, checks or credit cards are accepted. Receipts may be used for insurance reimbursement if necessary. Late cancellations (less than 24 hours notice) and missed appointments are billed to patient accounts. A finance charge of 1.5% per month (18% APR) is added to any overdue accounts (e.g. those not paid within 30 days).

Information about Potential Risks or Side Effects: I understand that treatments I receive may have certain risks or side effects. My practitioner will discuss these issues with me. Sometimes my condition may get worse for a while, but this is usually temporary. Sometimes acupuncture can cause pain or discomfort. Minor bruising or bleeding may occur. Sometimes patient may feel dizzy or faint. In extremely rare cases, lung puncture (pneumothorax) may result. Electro-acupuncture can sometime cause tingling or very mild electric shocks. Moxibustion may (very rarely) cause burns or scarring. Cupping may cause bruising or *very rarely (burning or scarring. Chinese herbs may sometimes cause stomach pain, digestive discomfort, or changes in bowel movements. If used on the skin, herbs may cause skin irritation. If I take herbs and they cause me problems, I understand that I should stop taking them immediately. I will call the clinic if this occurs. Acupressure or massage may sometime cause muscles to feel sore or achy.

Acknowledgement: My practitioner named Lin Kong, L.Ac., has explained this consent form to me, and the information it contains. Any questions I had were answered. I have received a copy of this form to keep. I consent to receive treatment at the AcuLinks Acupuncture clinic. I understand there are no guarantees, and that acupuncture may not work in my case. I understand that other kinds of treatment may work better. This may include treatment by a Western medical doctor. I understand that I may stop treatment at any time.

Patient Signature

Today’s Date

Patient’s Name

(Please Print)