

College of Massage Therapists of Ontario

Additional Technique Standard 2 Perform an Acupuncture Treatment

Conditions:

Given that the client's treatment plan indicates that acupuncture treatment may be appropriate and the client has consented to receiving acupuncture.

Task:

Perform acupuncture

Standard:

Quality / Technical:

- So that you are current in your qualifications to practice acupuncture as a massage therapy modality, including meeting minimum education requirements established by the College of Massage Therapists of Ontario.
- So that you do not perform an acupuncture treatment or technique in which you are not qualified to perform or which is beyond the scope of your education, training, capabilities, experience, and scope of practice.

Quality / Interpersonal:

- So that you inform the client of the potential risks and reactions to the treatment
- So that you inquire as to the client's comfort with regard to the acupuncture and any pain or discomfort during treatment.
- So that you stop or modify treatment immediately when the client indicates an unexpected increase in pain.
- So that you do not use a technique or continue its use if the client indicates a preference not to use it.
- So that you make the client aware that some techniques may be painful, depending on how they are applied and the condition being treated.

Safety:

- So that you are aware that there are always potential risks associated with the practice of acupuncture. Serious adverse events of acupuncture include but are not limited to: infection, puncturing injury to vital organs, damage to major vessels and nerves. Safety in acupuncture requires constant vigilance in maintaining high standards of cleanliness, sterilization, aseptic technique and careful anatomical considerations
- So that the needles and guide tubes used for treatment are single-use, pre-packaged, pre-sterilized, unexpired, manufactured for use in acupuncture, intended for the specific kind of acupuncture being performed, and disposed of properly at the end of the treatment.
- So that the number of needles inserted into the client reconciles with the number of needles removed from the client.

Reference:

Policy on Acupuncture

Infection Control for Regulated Professionals