

## **Informed Consent**

### Information to Patients

**Nature of Treatment:** Your treatment may include acupuncture, moxibustion, cupping, electric or magnetic stimulation, acupressure, dermal friction (Gua Sha), infra-red (heat lamps), sonopuncture (sound stimulation), Chinese herbs, therapeutic exercises and dietary counseling based on the fundamentals of Chinese medicine. Joyce Greenberg, L.Ac. will explain the nature of each type of treatment as needed.

**Purpose of Treatment:** The purpose of the treatment is to resolve your complaint, i.e. the reason you are seeking treatment. Acupuncture is a health care service that is based on an Oriental system of medical theory. Diagnosis and treatment, based on these theories are used to promote health and treat organic or functional disorders.

**Benefit of Treatment:** Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine procedures have been used effectively to treat disease for hundreds of years. The World Health organization lists 43 conditions, which may effectively be treated by Chinese medical methods. These include muscular-skeletal injuries, digestive disorders, respiratory diseases, women's health issues, etc. Joyce Greenberg cannot guarantee the outcome of any course of treatment.

**Risks of Treatment:** Acupuncture and Oriental medicine have been shown to be relatively safe. However, there are some uncommon but potential risks. These potential risks may include but are not limited to:

- discomfort during and after the insertion of a needle
- “needle sickness” (dizziness, fainting, nausea)
- localized, minor bruising or swelling
- minor burns with the use of moxa
- gastro-intestinal upset with the use of Chinese herbs (if this occurs, consult with practitioner so that your formula can be modified)
- possible, temporary aggravation of symptoms that existed prior to treatment
- a broken needle (rare with the use of disposable needles)

**Please notify Joyce Greenberg, L.Ac. if you have any adverse effect from treatment**

**Special Situations:** Some herb and acupuncture points are contra-indicated during pregnancy. Please notify Joyce Greenberg, L.Ac., if you might be pregnant. Additionally, you need to inform Joyce Greenberg if you have severe bleeding disorders or if you are wearing a pacemaker or other electronic medical device.

**Use of Disposable Needles:** To reduce the possibility of infection from acupuncture, all needles are pre-sterilized, one-time-use needles made of surgical stainless steel needles. After each treatment they are disposed of as medical waste, needles are never reused. Additionally, Joyce Greenberg has training in Clean Needle Technique and Universal Precautions.

**Unforeseen Risks:** Joyce Greenberg, L.Ac. is unable to anticipate or explain all risks and complications that may occur during or after treatment. Joyce Greenberg, L.Ac. will exercise judgement based upon her determination of your best interests.

**Requirement of Washington State Law:** Washington State Law does not permit acupuncturists to treat certain disorders without the consultation of a physician, i.e. a medical doctor.

- a. Cardiac conditions including uncontrolled hypertension
- b. Acute abdominal symptoms
- c. Acute undiagnosed neurological changes
- d. Unexplained weight loss or gain in excess of 15% of body weight within a 3 month period
- e. Suspected bone fracture or dislocation
- f. Suspected systemic infection
- g. Any serious undiagnosed hemorrhagic disorder
- h. Acute respiratory distress (without previous history or diagnosis)

### **The Consent Part**

I \_\_\_\_\_, request and consent to the performance of acupuncture and other Oriental Medicine procedures. I understand that I am free to withdraw my consent and that I may stop treatment or any procedure at any time. I understand that my signature in this form indicates that I have read and understand the preceding information regarding my treatment. I understand that if I have any questions about this information, I should ask Joyce Greenberg, L.Ac. I, hereby release Joyce Greenberg, L. Ac. From any and all liability that may occur in connection with the above-mentioned procedures, except for failure to perform the procedures with appropriate medical care.

Patient's name (Please print) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Patient's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Or Health Surrogate \_\_\_\_\_

Joyce Greenberg holds a Masters of Acupuncture from the Northwest Institute of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. She is a national board certified acupuncturist and licensed in the State of Washington.