



ICMART LEXICON of Medical Acupuncture

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International
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Medical
Acupuncture and
Related
Techniques





UNITED STATES of AMERICA



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NATIONAL/REGIONAL ACUPUNCTURE PRACTICES

A. Type(s) of Medical Acupuncture most commonly practiced:

1. French Energetics

- French Energetic Acupuncture is defined as a type of acupuncture which emphasizes the movement of energy to promote healing. Meridian patterns, in particular the yin-yang pairs of primary meridians are stressed.

2. TCM

- TCM acupuncture is defined as a type of acupuncture which is based on creating a balance between and among the eight principles of complementary opposites (yin/yang, internal/external, excess/deficiency, hot/cold).

3. Auricular Therapy

- Auricular Acupuncture Therapy is a therapeutic system utilizing the human ear where organs are projected as transitory holographic reflections of the brain's memory. This medical model enables the detection and the treatment of energetic and pathological disturbances on both the somatic and the psycho-emotional levels. This is achieved through the use of a complex physical and energetic reflex system and a unique somatotopic correspondence organization.



B. Education/Training Requirements

Medical Acupuncture Modality	Theoretical Hours	Clinical Hours	Proficiency Testing	Preliminary Practice
French Energetics	200	100	Y	N
TCM	500	500	Y	Y
Auricular Therapy	30	30	N	N

CORE CURRICULUM

FRENCH ENERGETIC ACUPUNCTURE

Beginning with an historical and scientific overview of acupuncture and its application in modern medicine, the core curriculum involves the combination of physiology, pathology, channel and point location, palpation of trigger points, needling technique, gross anatomy of major acupuncture points and indication and identification of the acupuncture channels and points. It encompasses traditional models of acupuncture, including the circulation of Qi energy, characteristics and symptoms of the energy axes, the action of command points and the five phases model as well as classical and/or specialty applications of acupuncture.

Clinical instruction offers supervised experience in critical thinking, patient evaluation and application by trained instructors who are physician acupuncturists. Instruction involves review of point and meridian locations, hands-on patient evaluation and interval testing with a final examination.

Diagnosis is based on determining the level and intensity of the energy circulation disturbance. Therapy is directed at accessing the concomitant axes and subsystems involved.



TCM ACUPUNCTURE

Training begins with education in the basic theories of Chinese medicine which includes the theory of Yin and Yang and Five Phases, theory of Zang Fu and their manifestations, theory of Qi, Blood and Body Fluid, theory of channels and collaterals, theory of etiology and pathology, theory of pathogenesis, theory of differentiation of syndromes. There is necessarily a stepwise education, first in traditional Chinese medical physiology, pathology and pathogenesis, then in diagnosis, syndrome analysis, and treatment principles. Training in diagnosis includes specific courses dedicated to teaching the nuances of tongue and pulse diagnosis.

Education in the practical application of acupuncture therapy also progresses in a stepwise manner beginning with study of the channels and collaterals, point location and actions, then basic and advanced needle technique and acupuncture treatment principles. Therapeutic techniques include moxibustion and other techniques derived from acupuncture including cupping therapy, electro-acupuncture, scalp acupuncture, and auricular therapy.

The process of training then progresses to a series of courses on clinical acupuncture practice. These clinical acupuncture practice courses teach a detailed understanding and treatment of common diseases according to the theory and experience of traditional Chinese medicine. These include the common illnesses of internal medicine, pediatrics, dermatology, ENT, ophthalmology, and obstetrics and gynecology and trauma.

The educational program includes some courses in the history and philosophy of Chinese medicine, introduction to Chinese classic texts, (Nei Jing, Nan Jing) and in modern scientific studies on the mechanism and action of acupuncture.

During the period of supervised practice the doctor in training assumes the responsibilities of diagnosis and treatment under the supervision of experienced doctors of acupuncture.



The goal of the training outlined above is to produce physicians whose theoretical and practical knowledge and proficiency in acupuncture therapy is at a level commensurate with what is required for any specialty of medicine. Training physicians in TCM acupuncture requires much more time than styles of acupuncture that utilize acupuncture primarily within the theoretical framework of modern medical theories, hence the greater number of hours required.

AURICULAR ACUPUNCTURE THERAPY

The curriculum begins with a review of the history of auricular acupuncture all over the world. The curriculum also addresses the anatomy, the embryology and the innervations of the ear. It also addresses the details of Nogier's discovery and its evolution to the three-phase system.

The curriculum addresses the characteristics of the acupuncture micro-system in general and the bases of their ability to holographically reflect the memory retention pattern of the brain. The concept of auricular territories and auricular phases are discussed including the evolution of the auricular system from the simple inverted fetus presentation to the sophisticated 3-phase system. The concept of the 7 Nogier frequencies and the auricular zones with the various master points are also addressed.

The projection somatotopy of the three embryological tissues (mesoderm, endoderm and ectoderm) are fully discussed with their relative clinical application to acute, chronic and chronic degenerative pathology. The curriculum then takes the students to multiple clinical practice sessions of point identification and clinical applications of three-phase auricular therapy.

Identification and treatment of energetic blockages are discussed in full. The students are guided on how to conduct a proper auricular consultation and the application of treatment principles. The anatomical and the physiological principles of choosing the appropriate ear for treatment are discussed together with the principles of using the various auricular needles, electrical devices, laser devices, magnets, beads, and pellets.



Multiple sessions of clinical practice are aimed at gearing the students to appropriately examine, diagnose, and treat various clinical and energetic problems.



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