ICMART LEXICON of Medical Acupuncture
LATVIA
LATVIA

NATIONAL/REGIONAL ACUPUNCTURE PRACTICES

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

1. Traditional Chinese Medicine
   - Traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) is a comprehensive part of the entire medical "Art of Healing", based on the concept of mutual and constant interaction among the main five substances of the Universe directly affecting the normal physiology of the Humans.

2. Medical Acupuncture
   - Medical acupuncture is one but the most important part of TCM, based on the system of channels and points, directly corresponding to the certain Zang-Fu organs. The fundamental concepts of TCM are integrated within the modern Academic medicine knowledge and successfully applied in modern clinical practice.

3. Auricular Acupuncture
   - Auricular acupuncture is the autonomous part of the Acupuncture system and the most common microsystem among the others. It involves the neuro-physiological mechanisms of the interaction between the main functional systems of the Human and auricular acu-points.

4. Laser Acupuncture
   - This is the modern modification of the conventional acupuncture, obtaining the specific response from the Acu-macrosystem.
B. Education/Training Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medical Acupuncture Modality</th>
<th>Theoretical Hours</th>
<th>Clinical Hours</th>
<th>Proficiency Testing</th>
<th>Preliminary Practice</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TCM</td>
<td>580</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Acupuncture</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auricular Acupuncture</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laser Acupuncture</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CORE CURRICULUM**

**TCM ACUPUNCTURE**

There is a step-by-step education covering the wide range of information including Chinese philosophy, normal and pathological physiology, theory of fundamental substances, etiology and pathogenesis, syndromes and patterns differentiation, differential diagnosis and pattern-oriented treatment.

The course starts with the introduction of the Taoist philosophical principles that are the essence of TCM emphasizing the Taoist approaches to the cultivation of the healthy mind, body and spirit. A survey of medical history in China, significant personalities and events are presented in chronological or conceptual order, as well as the presentation of various schools of thought and models of healing strategies are covered.

Historical and scientific overview of acupuncture as a part of TCM and its significance in modern academic medicine.

The basic knowledge of Acupuncture system, channels, points, anatomy and physiology and indications for the major Acu-points.
Deep understanding of the principles of the Five Phases with the emphasize on the indications for and identification of the Wu Shu Xue system points in various pathological conditions.

The main classical Chinese and modern needling techniques to harmonize the movement of Qi.

Introducing the basic knowledge of Qi, principles and techniques to become aware of Qi to promote its circulation along the Jing-Luo system in order to improve health by balancing the internal organs.

Application of acupuncture as a main part of TCM is emphasized on a detailed understanding of the treatment and prevention of common diseases according to the fundamentals and experience of TCM.

Therapeutic techniques include not only acupuncture itself, but moxibustion, cupping, dermal acupuncture, long needle techniques and etc.

The clinical part of the education program includes series of courses on main patterns differentiation, symptoms obtained discussions and practical application of proper acupuncture techniques under the guidance and supervision of the experienced and certified acupuncture doctors.

The theoretical as well as clinical parts of the core curriculum finalizes with the examinations necessary to obtain the state approved certificate on Medical Acupuncture Doctor valid for the period of running 5 years.

**AURICULAR, ELECTRICAL AND LASER ACUPUNCTURE**

The neuro-physiological characteristics of the auricular microsystem through the concepts of evolution of the auricular and the 3-phase system and P. Nogier’s 7 frequencies.

Auricular zones and master points are discussed in details.
After completing the examination in theoretical background of the auricular neurophysiology multiple clinical practice sessions are taken under the supervision of the certified and experienced acupuncture doctors.

Essentials of the biological action of the electrical frequency modulated current and low power laser radiation of the different spectrum are discussed through the introductory part of the course.

The specific response of the biological tissues and the acu-points is carefully studied in the second part of the theoretical part of the core curriculum.

The substantiation of the optimum physiological parameters for the EAP and LPLR finalize the theoretical part of the curriculum. The evaluation of the theoretical skills (oral examination) concludes the first part of the course.

Multiple clinical practice sessions of the application of electrical (or laser) acupuncture supervised by the experienced stuff are aimed at gearing the students to the proper understanding the operation of the main modern technical devices for the related techniques in medical acupuncture.
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