



College of Traditional Chinese Medicine
Practitioners and Acupuncturists of Ontario

Ordre des praticiens en médecine traditionnelle
chinoise et des acupuncteurs de l'Ontario

STANDARD FOR DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT

Date of Approval: January 14-15, 2013 (Approved by the Transitional Council)
Version: 1.0

Standard of Practice: Diagnosis and Treatment

R. TCMPs and R. Acs are health care professionals who possess a fundamental body of knowledge, skills and judgment following traditional Chinese medicine principles which are directed to effective patient care in the diagnosis and treatment of patients. R. TCMPs and R. Acs use the essential principles of traditional Chinese medicine to assess patients and promote their health, and prevent and treat common disease. Their care is characterized by ethical and safe clinical practice as well as with effective communication in partnership with patients and other health care providers.

R. TCMPs and R. Acs are authorized to perform two controlled acts, which they have been authorized to perform within their scope of practice under the Traditional Chinese Medicine Act. The two controlled acts that R. TCMPs and R. Acs are authorized to perform are:

- Performing a procedure on tissue below the dermis and below the surface of a mucous membrane for the purpose of performing acupuncture.
- Communicating a traditional Chinese medicine diagnosis identifying a body system disorder as the cause of a person's symptoms using traditional Chinese medicine techniques.

Under the Regulated Health Professions Act, R. TCMPs and R. Acs may delegate the two controlled acts authorized to R. TCMPs and R. Acs under the Traditional Chinese Medicine Act provided they comply with the Regulated Health Professions Act, and the professional misconduct regulation made under the Traditional Chinese Medicine Act.

R. TCMPs and R. Acs must be able to accurately assess body system disorders through traditional Chinese medicine techniques. R. TCMPs and R. Acs must be proficient in providing treatment using traditional Chinese medicine therapies to promote, maintain or restore health. R. TCMPs and R. Acs must be skilled in the application of acupuncture and must adhere to the World Health Organization (WHO) standard for the location of acupuncture points. R. TCMPs must be able to accurately select and recommend herbal medicines based on the Traditional Chinese Medicine diagnosis and treatment plan and make modifications based on the patient's physical, medical and health history as necessary.

R. TCMPs and R. Acs must be able to perform the two controlled acts authorized to R. TCMPs and R. Acs as required in the course of engaging in the practice of the

profession. They must not perform the authorized acts, or any exempted controlled acts, unless the conditions under the Regulated Health Professions Act, the Traditional Chinese Medicine Act and their respective regulations have been met.

Performance Indicators

R. TCMPs and R. Acs **must**:

- a) perform only those controlled acts that have been authorized, under the legislation;
- b) not perform any procedure which may result in serious physical harm, unless that procedure is within the scope of practice of the profession or the R. TCMP and R. Ac is authorized or permitted to do so by legislation;
- c) carry out assessment and treatment only with the informed consent of the patient, or the patient's substitute decision maker;
- d) use appropriate aseptic techniques and infection control procedures in the course of examinations and treatment;
- e) instruct the patient to remove only the clothing and items that would interfere with the examination or treatment procedures;
- f) provide use of appropriate draping materials to cover areas where clothing was removed;
- g) explain to the patient when and where the R. TCMP and R. Ac might touch the patient and why;
- h) touch the patient in only those areas needed to facilitate the carrying out the procedure;
- i) effectively perform a physical assessment of the patient for the purpose of health promotion, diagnosis and/or management that is relevant and accurate.
- j) effectively analyse the information to determine a diagnosis and establish an effective treatment plan; k) adhere to the World Health Organization (WHO) standard for the location of acupuncture points;
- l) apply safe and accurate procedures and processes in implementing the treatment plan;
- m) account for every needle that is inserted, removed, and disposed of during treatment;

- n) initiate emergency response procedures as required if a patient suffers any adverse reaction to a treatment;
- o) communicate a traditional Chinese medicine diagnosis identifying a body system disorder as the cause of a person's symptoms;
- p) assess the patient's condition during the course of the treatment or procedures and respond accordingly;

In addition R. TCMPs must:

- q) take into account all precautions and contradictions of the herbs and formulas recommended to the patient;
- r) select, recommend and combine herbal medicines based on the Traditional Chinese Medicine diagnosis and treatment plan and make modifications based on the patient's physical, medical and health history as necessary;
and
- s) advise patients about the use of herbal treatment including the dosage route of administration, and schedule for administration.



College of Traditional Chinese Medicine
Practitioners and Acupuncturists of Ontario

Ordre des praticiens en médecine traditionnelle
chinoise et des acupuncteurs de l'Ontario

705 - 55 Commerce Valley Drive West
Thornhill, ON L3T 7V9
Tel: (416) 238-7359 or 866 624 8483
info@ctcmpao.on.ca

www.ctcmpao.on.ca