

Acupuncture/Dry Needling

The Nova Scotia College of Chiropractors (NSCC) recognizes the integration of acupuncture into the scope of chiropractic practice. This policy outlines the prerequisites and operational guidelines for members of the NSCC who wish to incorporate acupuncture, including dry needling, into their therapeutic practices. Members of the College may be granted approval to practice acupuncture as part of their therapeutics, subject to satisfying the following requirements:

- (i.) Acupuncture/dry needling is to be used in conjunction with the adjustment or manipulation of the spinal column and other articulations of the body, and not as a stand-alone treatment. Acupuncture is an adjunctive therapy, and therefore members may not list it as a specialty.
- (ii.) Members must provide evidence of completing a minimum of 200 course hours in an acupuncture training program recognized by the NSCC*. A minimum of at **least 50 of these hours must have been done in person (clinical part of learning)**. Proof of completion of said course must be available upon request (by Registrar).
- (iii.) Members must have and be able to provide proof upon request (by Registrar) that they have professional liability insurance to cover the acupuncture treatments.
- (iv.) Certificates of acupuncture and/or dry needling training must be visibly displayed at the practitioner's place of work.
- (v.) Acupuncture treatment requires specific informed consent, which may be combined with chiropractic informed consent forms. Conclusion This policy seeks to standardize the practice of acupuncture and dry needling within the chiropractic profession, ensuring safety, efficacy, and compliance with regulatory standards. Members are required to familiarize themselves with these guidelines to uphold the integrity of chiropractic care and patient welfare.

NSCC Approved Training Programs

Practitioners must complete an accredited program approved by the NSCC, encompassing a minimum of 200 hours (of which at least 50 hours in person) in both clinical and academic training, and pass a competency exam.

- Acupuncture Canada, Levels AA1 –3
- McMaster University Contemporary Medical Acupuncture Program, Units 1 – 5
- CMCC Clinical Acupuncture Certificate Program
- Integrated Seminar Series
- Or an equivalent program assessed and approved by the NSCC Board