

## Terms of Acceptance and Informed Consent

At our center we absolutely care about you, and our approach is to partner with you toward the same goal of addressing your concerns by striving for positive results to the very best of our ability; and it is therefore that we emphasize compliance with our careful and caring recommendations; and to ensure that you don't waste your time and money.

**Primary Care and Medical Records:** Neither acupuncturists nor doctors of Chinese medicine in the State of Virginia are, as of yet, primary care providers. We recommend that all patients have a primary care physician, and that patients provide medical records from that care provider upon our request.

**Qi\* Imbalance:** An imbalance in any of the 14 channels causes an alteration in the flow of Qi throughout the entire body and may lead to diseases. Chinese and Western medicine are two different approaches to medicine. Chinese medicine treats the patterns of illness as well as the symptoms; thus, Western diagnosis does not apply to Chinese medicine. We do not diagnose or treat a condition from the biomedical perspective; neither do we offer advice regarding treatment prescribed by others. We only focus on the quality, quantity and balance of Qi and the promotion of Blood and Body Fluids; for this can lead to a full expression of the body's innate wisdom and ability to heal itself.

**Acupuncture/Moxibustion:** Acupuncture is performed by the insertion of sterile acupuncture needles through the skin. Moxibustion is the application of heat to the skin at points on or near the surface of the body to trigger the normal flow of Qi through the meridians to address bodily dysfunction or diseases; to modify or prevent pain perception; and to normalize the body's physiological functions. Although Acupuncture is a safe method of treatment, there may occasionally be adverse side effects such as: bruising, numbness or tingling near the needling sites that may last a few days, 1 drop bleeding, ache or discomfort, and very rarely to never lung puncture or pneumothorax.

**Other Methods of Treatment:** Nutritional counseling, Qigong (energy healing), herbal formulas, cupping, and Shiatsu, Tuina or Thai massage. There may be adverse side effects consisting of bruising (from cupping) or muscle soreness or achiness (from Shiatsu, Tuina or Thai massage). Herbal formulas and other substances may be recommended to treat certain bodily imbalances or to modify or prevent pain and normalize the body's physiological functions. Patients must follow directions for administration and dosage. There may occasionally be adverse side effects such as: changes in bowel movement, abdominal pain and discomfort, and occasional aggravation of symptoms existing prior to treatment. If any of these occur, stop drinking the tea and come see us. The teas are recommended for the patient only and must not be shared with anybody else.

I read, or have had read to me, and understand all of the above information. If I have additional questions I will ask my practitioner for verbal clarification. Therefore:

- I request and consent to treatment with Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine for myself or the patient named below, for whom I am legally responsible.
- I understand there are no guarantees concerning results.
- I understand that I am free to refuse or stop treatment at any time.
- Do you allow us to pray for you?    Y    N

Patient or Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

\*Qi = life energy moving throughout the body, and the source of life and all things.